

Village of Ardentown

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Notice of

Town Meeting

Agenda (Partial)

Candlelight Dinner Theatre
(Downstairs)

Monday, May 12, 2003
7:30 P.M.

- 1. Elections: Public Works and Safety Com. – 4 people, 2 year term**
Audit Committee – 3 people, 1 year term
- 2. Memorial Garden Report: Discussion of date for clean-up**
- 3. Playground Committee: Report of new playground equipment**

Please plan to attend!

Copies of the newly revised By-Laws will be available at the May Meeting. If you will not be there and would like a copy, please call Lisa at 475-7647.

Village of Ardentown

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

Ardentown, Del. 19810

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDENTOWN WAS
CONVENED AT 7:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2003, OLIVER
GUTSCHE, CHAIR, PRESIDING.**

In attendance were:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lisa Wilson Riblett | 21. Annie Gutsche |
| 2. David Scott | 22. Lesley Holden |
| 3. Robert DeNigris | 23. Hans Franke |
| 4. Betty Ann Themal | 24. Sheila Johnston |
| 5. Hardy Hoegger | 25. Gil Johnston |
| 6. Enno Krebbers | 26. Elaine Schmerling |
| 7. Joy Mulholland | |
| 8. Jerome Bischoff | |
| 9. Dotty Verne | |
| 10. Page Dwyer | Others: |
| 11. Cindy Cohen | 1. Jennifer Borders |
| 12. Marguerite Archer | 2. Danny Schweers |
| 13. Sally Decker | 3. Bruce Harter |
| 14. Harry Themal | |
| 15. Oliver Gutsche | |
| 16. Barbara Mondzelewski | |
| 17. Maureen Gordon | |
| 18. Drew Hansen | |
| 19. Terri Hansen | |
| 20. Richard Mondzelewski | |

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bruce Harter, Superintendent Brandywine School District
Oliver introduced Bruce, who provided a slide presentation regarding school programs and general information about the Brandywine School District. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

Communications: Oliver Gutsche, Chair

1. Oliver said that the CCOBH announced a meeting to take place on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7:00 P.M., at Brandywine High School regarding the Brandywine Schools and their performance if anyone would like to attend.
2. Oliver received a report from Wayne Smith, State Rep., on Airspace Redesign if anyone would like to read it.
3. Oliver reported an upcoming meeting of the Delaware League of Local Governments on February 27, at 8:00 P.M. regarding how local governments can help the environment. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Dover Hotel.

4. Oliver gave Page a report to follow-up on regarding storm water discharges and drainage from the Department of Special Services.

Registration Committee: Dotty Verne

No report

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Mondzelewski

Checking Account Balance: \$601.18

Savings Account Balance: \$7,643.47

Municipal Street Aid: \$6,106.65

Arden Building and Loan: \$39,165.86

Total funds available: \$53,517.16

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes were approved with the note that Enno Krebbers would submit revisions for the HRTCC report for the November meeting.

Budget/Assessment Report: Hans Franke, Chair

A copy of the Village of Ardentown Budget for 2003 is attached. It was unanimously accepted.

Marguerite Archer was appointed by Oliver Gutsche to finish the term of Jack Brandner, who passed on.

Trustees' Report: Bob DeNigris – Trustees' Budget for 2003

Bob said that there was a very big increase in school taxes that affected us. The complete six page report is on file with the Town Secretary for anyone who would like to read it.

Harry Themal – Vandalism

Harry reported that Ardentown has been having trouble with vandalism. We have had two cars with slashed tires in January, the Candlelight has been broken into two times, and lots of paintball damage has been reported especially at the Candlelight.

An employee of the Candlelight, P. J. Sickler, said that people were sledding off of the roof at the Candlelight and broke lights, the back door was broken into and liquor was stolen, and that the Candlelight was broken into for a second time later that same evening. A reward of \$250 is being offered for information.

In response to the above stated problems, Danny Schweers, Town Watch Coordinator, said he would like to have about ten patrols per month. He felt more than that would be difficult on a volunteer basis. Cindy Cohen asked Danny to contact the people who had signed up to do patrols whose names were on a previous list and who had not been contacted yet.

Page 3 Ardentown Minutes, February 10, 2003

Danny would like to have reports of problems available on the internet. He also said he would like to order signs announcing we have a Town Watch. Cindy told Danny maybe the three Town Reps could order the signs for each respective town.

Danny said he is not in a position to do investigative work. He noted that the purpose of the Town Watch is to be highly visible. Danny said he wants to see these vandals caught.

Hardy said he hopes Danny will not put the names, dates, and times of the people going on patrols on the internet.

Danny said the patrols are two hours long. David Scott said we need to encourage all of the residents to share this information and get it out to everyone. Danny said he is keeping a tally of all the problems. Danny was applauded for his work and efforts.

Omni Point Tower

Harry reported that the Hanby Trust would not approve the Omni Point Tower at the fire company on Marsh and Naamans Roads. The new thought is to locate it by the Arden water tower. Harry said the Arden Town Meeting may approve this. Harry will report back to us as decisions are made.

Revised By-Laws: Betty Ann Thernal

Betty Ann noted some changes like staggered elections, covering possible new standing committees, adding an Archives Committee, etc. Betty Ann said she left Jack Brandner's name on the Committee Report because he was an intricate part of the Committee and of the community. She said she knows everyone will miss him as she does.

Discussion about how to distribute the newly revised By-Laws resulted in Harry Thernal suggesting we have copies available at the May Meeting and putting a note in the Minutes saying to call Lisa if you will not be at the Meeting and want a copy.

The By-Laws were unanimously accepted.

Ardentown Archives Representatives

Terri Hansen will replace Lesley Holden as one of our three reps to the Archives Committee.

Public Works and Safety Committee: Page Dwyer, Chair

Page has purchased a new bench to replace the one on The Mall. She will ask Hal Godwin to install it when the weather gets warmer. Margery Rupert wanted to donate \$500.00 for the bench, which was gratefully accepted. Page feels that the

Smith and Hawkins bench is a good investment. The Town assembly requested a thank you letter be sent to Margery.

BWVC Report (summary): Marguerite Archer

1. Marguerite reported that the roof at the Buzz is leaking and said this is an old problem. The Committee is looking into budgeting regarding this expense.
2. The Committee was planning to wait until Archives moves out to do interior planning, but because of needed repairs the Committee may need to proceed sooner.
3. Marguerite said that \$4008.00 has been received in Dan Conner's memory. Memorial Doors are being considered.
4. Replacement windows are being researched.
5. Marguerite said if anyone sees any vandalism of the BWVC to please contact her or a member of the Committee. Small occurrences have been noted.
6. A contract with the YMCA After School Program is a strong possibility, which would be for three or four years.
7. February Coffee House will be February 14 at 8:00 P.M.
8. Couples Game Night will be February 15 at 7:15 P.M.
9. Day of Relaxation will be February 23 from Noon to 5:00 P.M.
10. BWVC Committee Meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M.

Old Business:

HRTCC: Enno Krebbers

Enno said Arden passed a motion very similar to ours regarding Harvey Road. Hardy asked about moving a particular speed limit sign.

Playground Committee: Elaine Schmerling and Annie Gutsche

Annie signed a copy of the playground grant and mailed it, but nothing has been received yet. Lesley moved that we authorize the Committee to spend the money and move ahead. It was unanimously approved. Elaine wants help to get ivy out of the playground area. Oliver asked to see a plan for trees and plantings before we give approval. Betty Ann noted that the planting plan should be such that the area is open and viewable. Elaine said this is the Committee's intention.

Avery Property: Harry Themal

Harry said the agreement is becoming more tentative again. The County is up in the air and changing their mind about ownership and various details. Oliver asked if we are willing to donate money for the Avery Property. Oliver said we should consider helping because from time to time we need each other's help. Oliver said we should think about it.

New Business:

A Variance Request was granted to a resident on The Mall. Hardy asked how this variance was approved. Harry said we are under the County's building rules. Harry said it is not up to the Trustees how a leaseholder chooses to build. Hardy said he is concerned about how this will give undo advantage to one leaseholder over

Page 5 Ardentown Minutes February 10, 2003

another. Harry responded it is between the two leaseholders and not the Trustees. Bob and Harry are both in agreement it is not a Trustee issue. Harry said it would be a great difficulty for people to get mortgages if the Trustees were to start to interfere with private leaseholders building decisions. Hardy disagreed. Harry said the leaseholder is leasing the land and Bob said as long as the plans are in agreement with the County, the Trustees will not interfere. Page asked if there was a way the Town could be made aware, i.e. Variance must be read at one Town Meeting. Barbara thought that might be an interference. Harry said he had no problem with a reading but does not feel it will necessarily make a difference.

Jack Brandner

The Town assembly requested a letter be sent to the family of Jack Brandner acknowledging his years of service to our Town and extending our deepest sympathy to his family. Hans made a motion on Betty Solway Smith's behalf to plant a tree in his memory. Hardy said he would speak to Rusty regarding planting a tree in the Memorial Garden. The Town did not feel a motion was necessary.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



**Lisa Wilson Riblett
Secretary**