

Feb 2011  
minutes

**Village of Ardentown**  
Ardentown, Del. 19810

Established 1922  
Incorporated 1975

## **NOTICE**

### **ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre**

**Monday, May 9, 2011  
7:30 pm**

### **AGENDA (partial)**

Elections: Audit, Public Works & Safety, and Playground

Committee Reports, including discussion of:

- Security issues
- Absentee voting
- Memorial Garden Contributions
- Snow removal budget impact

**A quorum is needed at the town meeting, please come!**  
Light Refreshments

# Village of Ardentown

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The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:30 pm on Monday, February 14, 2011. Enno Krebbers, Chair, presiding. **Quorum present**

## Attendance

1. Maureen Gordon
2. Pat Lane
3. Barbara Mondzelewski
4. Dotty Verne
5. Ann Balogh
6. Steve Cohen
7. Robert DeNigris
8. Alison Byer
9. Enno Krebbers
10. Joan Fitzgerald
11. Harry Thernal
12. Betty Ann Thernal
13. Sandra Landerl
14. Janet Cosgrove
15. Rusty Hoegger
16. Hardy Hoegger
17. Cheryl Regan
18. Page Dwyer
19. Rhys McClure
20. Joan Phibbs
21. Annie Gutsche
22. Serena Gutsche, guest
23. Joy Mulholland
24. Kathleen MacRae, New Resident
25. Holly Custer
26. Robert Custer
27. Shelly Robyn
28. Edmond Bischoff
29. June Kleban
30. Barbara Conway
31. Maura Lynch
32. Gil Johnston
33. Katrina Nelson
34. Elaine Schmerling

**MEETING:** Regular meeting called to order by Enno Krebbers, Town Chair.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the November 8, 2010 meeting - approved.

**REGISTRATION COMMITTEE:** Janet Cosgrove reporting  
New Leaseholders: Beverly Schilling-Gillis – 2204 Millers Road  
New Resident: Kathleen MacRae – 2311 Hilltop Lane  
Kerry Orr – 2305 Orchard

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Barbara Mondzelewski reporting

Operating Accounts:	\$27,650.01
Municipal Street Aid:	8,742.64
Arden Building & Loan:	<u>25,307.46</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$61,700.11

**TRUSTEE'S BUDGET/LAND RENT RATE and TRUSTEE'S REPORT:**

Bob DeNigris presented the Trustee's 2010 Budget. There will be no increase in land rent this year. Copies are available from Bob DeNigris

**BUDGET/ASSESSMENT ANNUAL BUDGET REPORT:** Enno Krebbers reporting

The Budget for 2010 was presented and opened for discussion.

Budget approved as presented. Copies are available from the Town Secretary.

Holly Custer has agreed to replace Enno on the Budget Committee

**MEMORIAL GARDEN:** Rusty Hoegger reporting

Nothing to report

**BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER:** Beverley Fleming reporting

No Report

**COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT:** Alison Byer reporting

Nothing to report

**PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT:** Pat Lane

**Paths/Trees/Compost Area - Elaine Schmerling:**

**TREE PLANTING**

Nothing to Report

**Compost**

Nothing to Report

**Paths**

2 large trees were removed from the paths in the Glenn and branches were cleaned up at the end of Brae Rd. Generally cleaned up low hanging branches on the roads.

**Roads – Drew Hansen/Joan & Hugh Phibbs:**

Due to the inclement weather, all road repairs have been suspended until conditions are better.

**Signs – Cheryl Regan/Paul Romagano:**

Nothing to Report

**Snow/Sand - David Byer**

Due to the overwhelming snow/ice storms, year-to-date we have spent \$6085. Jim Burslem has not only plowed the roads, but has salted/sanded the hills and intersections to make them safer. He also cleaned up a pile of snow at the end of Swiss at Harvey Rd, thereby eliminating a safety hazard when trying to enter Harvey Rd.

**Sunnyside Tract - Barbara Conway**

The Naaman's Creek Watershed Association is putting together a grant request for Americorps volunteers to help with ivy removal. Barbara would like to ask for about 3 days (about the most she can supervise) cutting ivy from the trees in Sunnyside visible (on the right as you come off the highway onto Harvey Rd). If that is successful in a reasonable period of time portions along Harvey Rd. near Sconset and near Eden Rock at Millers and Harvey will be addressed. It will be determined if the efforts can be extended for two more days with another supervisor and whether the Candlelight can be used as a base for snacks and washing up.

The following birds were observed:

A small flock of Snow Geese flying low  
Pileated Woodpecker

Last winter there was a problem with illegal hunting in the Sunnyside Tract. Because of its designation as a Nature Preserve, hunting is not permitted in the tract. Also, because of the proximity to homes, hunting would never be permitted in the tract. If you see illegal hunters in or around Sunnyside Tract or any of the Arden, Ardentown, or Ardencroft woods, please call the DNREC Fish and Wildlife officers at the following numbers:

800-523-3336

302-836-4682

302-739-9913

Last year, DNREC said that it would only send officers if Ardentown agreed to prosecute the illegal hunters. A vote was taken and Ardentown residents voted to prosecute.

#### **Public Safety - Holly Custer**

There have been several burglaries in the Ardens this winter and computers as well as other items of value have been stolen, in some instances, while the owner was home asleep. Please remember we need to lock our doors and windows and take more precautions. We also need to watch out for one another and the community a little more. If something is suspicious, call the police.

The problem of unauthorized parking still continues and due to the snow/icy conditions represent a serious safety hazard. In some cases there is not sufficient access to plow and/or salt the street. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE STREETS, PARTICULARLY IN BAD WEATHER.** Ardentown Ordinance 91-1, dated February 9, 2004 in accordance with Delaware House Bill No. 172 passed July 25, 2003 states:

**Section 1,** "There shall be no parking on the roads or greens of Ardentown."

**Section 2,** "Every leaseholder in Ardentown shall provide space on the leasehold and off the roads or greens of Ardentown to accommodate every vehicle regularly using the leasehold."

**Section 5,** "Violation of Section 1 shall be punishable by a fine of \$10 for each offense."

**Section 6,** "Violation of Section 2 shall be punishable by a fine of \$100 for each complaint."

#### **Playground - Elaine Schmerling**

Nothing to report.

#### **TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Enno Krebbers**

Fire Safety reminder after the unfortunate fire at Paul Romagano's residence. While his home was destroyed, we are glad Paul is ok.

Energy grant is in progress, we are properly registered, contract signed, first report in, currently working with Chris Alberts on bids for a new roof for the Candlelight Theatre. Paul Clark is now the New Castle County Executive, elected January 13, 2011.

#### **ELECTIONS :**

Memorial Gardens Committee: Elected for a 2 year term

*Gil Johnston, Cheryl Regan, Jerome Bischoff*

Archives Committee: Elected for a 2 year term

*Dotty Verne*

**ELECTIONS – MAY:** Public Works & Safety Committee, Playground, and Audit

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Harry Thernal presented proposed changes to the 1975 Act of Incorporation. The town meeting voted to approve the changes as specified below:

House Bill 487 signed by the governor June 30, 1975 entitled an Act to Incorporate the Village of Ardentown. We suggest the following changes

Section 2(a) Add the boundaries of Sunnyside (Description of the bounds will be specific)

Section 5 (g) now reads:

The Town Meeting shall elect a qualified voter to serve as Chairperson of the Town Meeting who shall preside at all meetings thereof. The Chairperson shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until a successor is duly elected by the Town Meeting in accordance with provisions hereof, provided that no chairperson shall serve more than three successive terms.

This would be changed to: **The Chairperson shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is duly elected by the Town Meeting in accordance with provisions hereof, provided that no chairperson shall serve more than two successive terms. The Chairperson shall be elected in every odd-numbered year. The first two-year election shall be in November 2011 and the current chairman shall be eligible for the new provisions of this section.**

Rest of the language gets picked up from the present law.

Section 5 (h) now reads:

The Town Meeting shall elect a qualified voter to serve as Secretary of the Town Meeting for a term of one year or until a successor is duly elected by the Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions thereof.

This would be changed to: **The Town Meeting shall elect a qualified voter to serve as Secretary of the Town meeting for a term of two years or until a successor is duly elected by the Town Meeting in accordance with provisions thereof. The Secretary shall be elected in every even-numbered year. The first two-year election shall be in November 2012 and the current secretary shall serve until then.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

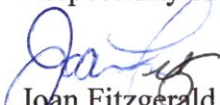
**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

Leaseholders age 65 years and older should contact NCC for an application requesting the senior tax credit for school and property taxes. 302-395-5520

Betty Ann Thernal announced the confirmation of Pat Lane as the newest Ardentown Trustee, replacing Bob DeNigris after serving as trustee since 1988. The voting of eligible leaseholders was held this evening at 7pm.  
Congratulations – Pat!

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joan Fitzgerald  
Secretary