

Feb 2012
minutes

Village of Ardentown
Ardentown, Del. 19810

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

NOTICE

ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING
The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre

Monday, May 14, 2012
7:30 pm

AGENDA (partial)

Special Guest Speaker

Dr. Tom Moran of the Delaware Mosquito Control Section
Should we or shouldn't we – come hear the facts!!

Trustees to report on Eden Rock

Elections: Audit and Public Works & Safety

Committee Reports, including discussion of:

- Security issues
- Parking

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

Light Refreshments

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The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:30 pm on Monday, February 13, 2012. Enno Krebbers, Chair, presiding. **A quorum was present.**

Attendance

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Cheryl Regan | 16. Barbara Mondzelewski |
| 2. Enno Krebbers | 17. Sandy Ianderl |
| 3. Steve Cohen | 18. Maura Lynch |
| 4. Janet Cosgrove | 19. Barbara Conway |
| 5. Joan Fitzgerald | 20. Maureen Gordon |
| 6. Harry Themal | 21. Shelly Robyn |
| 7. Betty Ann Themal | 22. Elaine Schmerling |
| 8. June Kleban | 23. Kathleen MacRae |
| 9. Joy Mulholland | 24. Robin Lewis |
| 10. Edmond Bishoff | 25. Warren Butt |
| 11. Alison Byer | |
| 12. Drew Hansen | |
| 13. Terri Hansen | |
| 14. Pat Lane | |
| 15. Hardy Hoegger | |

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the November 14, 2011 meeting were approved.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Janet Cosgrove

Tenants

July, 2011

2305 Sconset Road: Kimberly & Ellwood Truman, Jr. and Marissa, Crystal, RJ, Elwood
September, 2011

2204 Sconset Road: Alexander & Jennifer Irwin and Simon. Sheryl Palmer, her mother
March 1, 2012

1512 The Mall: Suzanne Winkler Maguire

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Mondzelewski

Operating Accounts: \$ 9,599.76
Municipal Street Aid: 19,074.92
Arden Building & Loan: 25,041.03
Total Funds Available: \$55,415.71
(Reimbursements pending.....\$22,557.50)

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

Harry Themal and Pat Lane presented the Trustee's 2011 Budget. There will be an increase of \$0.10 in land rent this year. There has not been an increase in land rent in 3 years. Brandywine taxes expect to increase 15% and NCC expects no change.

In addition, more trees are coming down. Copies of Budget are available from Pat Lane.

1975 Act of Incorporation: Bryon Short will be introducing our change any day and he is not expecting a problem (adding Sunnyside and extending the term of Town Chair and Secretary to 2 years)

Eden Rock: No offers at this time

BUDGET/ASSESSMENT ANNUAL BUDGET REPORT: Enno Krebbers reporting for Holly Custer

The Budget for 2011 was presented and opened for discussion.

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

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Rusty Hoegger

Major surgery done was on the (John Brander Memorial) Weeping Snow Fountain Cherry by Hal Goodwin and supervised by Gil Johnston. Looks much better now and we hope it will survive and bloom this spring.

Trash collected by several committee members on our stretch of Harvey Road.

Noted tracks of something (ATV?) left on open grassy area beyond the Hemlock trees. Gate often left open. If anyone sees or knows of strange activities, please contact a committee member.

DP&L will soon be cutting down and trimming trees in the Ardens and particularly along Harvey Road. We hope something can be done to protect the row of (rare) Linden trees in the Memorial Garden along Harvey that were trimmed so horribly some years ago.

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Beverley Fleming

No report.

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT: Alison Byer

The instant ticketing by NCC has been put on hold.

ELECTIONS :

Archives Committee: Elected for a 2 year term

Katrina Nelson and June Kleban

Memorial Gardens Committee: Elected for a 2 year term

Rusty Hoegger and Betty Ann Themal

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

PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT: Cheryl Regan
Roads – Joan Wharburton-Phibbs:

The road work (patch) in front of 2321 Sconset has been repaired (per Enno).

Drew Hansen is still working out the invoices from Downing and DeIDOT for work on Loreley and Swiss Lane, which was complicated because the work done deviated slightly from the original plan. This will be resolved.

Joan and Hugh did a walk around with Bruce Downing. There are numerous potholes that have reached beyond the 'patching' stage and will require more substantial work. One major area of concern is the run off from both sides of East Mall that is fast deteriorating the end of the road. Another large area is on Woodland just past Orchard where the left side of the road is breaking away.

Signs – Sue Mearkle / Cheryl Regan: Two no dumping signs were ordered and Hal installed them at the bottom Brae road by Shari Phalan, and the other in front of the composting site. There are now enough wooden signs to finish the replacement, and when the weather breaks, the work will begin.

Snow/sand – David Byer: We have not received an invoice for the plowing from the snow a couple of weeks ago. Our roads did look much better than Arden's, theirs was practically impassible.

Town watch: There is currently no town watch, however on 1/10/12 and 1/11/12, Kendra Murry reported that her daughter's car was broken into and had the radio stolen. The next day, the work truck had gasoline siphoned and the hose was left hanging out of the truck's gas tube.

Ardentown Natural Lands Steward – Elaine Schmerling:

ARDENTOWN Invasive Grant: We have finished the part of the invasives grant from DE Dept. of Ag, Urban & Community Forestry, covering Hal & Crew's sawing invasives. They have cut down all the Norway maples we identified in Sunnyside, and many invasive vines. He cut them and cleared that path into Sunnyside (including up the steps from the Cropper leasehold, right before the RR tracks), and the path from the RR tracks down into Sunnyside. They had all been covered by oriental bittersweet vines, multiflora rose, and others. In November he also cut the invasives covering the path across the Power Line swath, it had been impassible. This really helped us open up the paths in areas that had become impenetrable.

Greg has started his work through Redtail Restoration. He has spent a few days cutting the huge multiflora patch (which also had plenty of bittersweet, Japanese honeysuckle,

and others) in the “good” part of Sunnyside which concerned me the most. I have been out with him, and a few volunteers joined us, Carol Larson, and this last time also Helga Melton & Katrina Streiff, both from Arden and regular. We have a new revised “Weed-n-walk” group for the weekdays, as weather permits (we’ve had some great weather!). All of our volunteer time counts as match. The biggest single amount of volunteer hours came from the very successful first “Ivy League Party”. Eleven volunteers spent 2 hours cutting ivy from the playground, and around Eden Rock on Millers Rd. Since then, Alex Rudzinski of Arden (the new “Ivy League” maniac!) has continued cutting ivy off many trees behind Eden Rock, into the Ardentown Memorial Garden, and off Millers and Harvey Rd.

ANYONE ELSE who is cutting ivy, or other invasive weeds, keep letting me know! Every hour counts toward our state match! We are anticipating a great 2nd Ivy League Party, hosted by Barbara & Maura Saturday February 25, (plenty of street trees and backyard trees to save from ivy from 1-3), snacks to follow at their house. I anticipate sending the first reimbursement for \$3,000 after this, we will have that much match I’ve accounted for! This is a total of 125 hours so far to date (and hope to be at least 150 by end of the month)! You should soon be seeing the ivy wither and die off many of the trees we walk/drive by every day. It is so much easier to do with a group of people!

Soon we will be working on cutting ivy to save hopefully over 100 trees in Sunnyside. We got approval for an Americorps crew! They will be here for 3 weeks in March: March 12-31. We will work in Ardentown during the first and last weeks. The first week Mon-Fri; the last 2 weeks, they will be here Tues-Sat, so that community members who wish can join in a Saturday work party. Hopefully we’ll have good weather...they have to work full days. We have a back-up with the Food Bank of DE for rainy days.

The Arden Club has graciously agreed to let them “hang out” in the Gallery Room at the Gild Hall. Carol Larson will open it up in the morning and make coffee. Any community members who would like to help out and bake or bring breakfast, snacks or lunch are welcome! I am making up a schedule, please contact me, and help show appreciation for these young workers who will really help us preserve Sunnyside.

COMPOSTING AREA: The bins were filled up with leaves but...contractors and others dropped leaves off IN FRONT of the bins, dropped a huge amount of sticks covering 1-2 parking spaces, and most recently, last week, a contractor ploughed through the gate (breaking it), to drop off leaves. Large tire ruts show that it was a pretty big truck. Hal has removed the sticks, fixed the gate, and pushed the leaves back into the bins. We are awaiting some type of surveillance/motion detector lights, to help improve the situation. Holly has agreed to work with the Candlelight staff on this issue.

COMPOST DEMONSTRATION SITE: Hetty arranged for the materials from this to be taken to a new site, where the information can be shared with others. I would like to plant

with water-loving plants where it is outlined. Thoughts are: 1-2 river birch trees, shrubs like winterberry holly, clethra & itea (can get little babies from other sites). If anyone has any ideas AND PLANT DONATIONS that would be much appreciated.

TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Enno Krebbers


The Town was asked if we wanted to participate in mosquito control this year. It was reported the EPA has approved the chemicals. Since some residents expressed some concerns, Enno will continue to review. There may be a guest speaker from the state mosquito control section at the next town meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Betty Ann Themal has the Land Rent bills available this evening and if not picked up will be mailed.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joan Fitzgerald
Secretary

Joan Fitzgerald
Ardentown Secretary
2305 Loreley Lane
Ardentown, DE 19810