

The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:35 pm on Monday, May 8, 2017. Annie Gutsche, Chair, presiding. A quorum was present.

In Attendance:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Andrew Hansen | 10. June Kleban | 20. Chris Monson | 29. Maureen Gordon |
| 2. Terri Hansen | 11. Dotty Verne | 21. Cindy Cohen | 30. Shelley Robyn |
| 3. Harry Themal | 12. Annie Gutsche | 22. Bev Bizup | 31. Stuart Craig |
| 4. Betty Ann Themal | 13. Anne P. Lutz | Hawkins | 32. Mhairi Craig |
| 5. Cheryl Regan | 14. Judy Glenn | 23. Lindsey Sherwood | 33. Terri Harvey |
| 6. Joan Fitzgerald | 15. Janet Cosgrove | 24. Hardy Hoegger | 34. Elaine Schmerling |
| 7. Barbara Mondzelewski | 16. Christiana Dobreznski | 25. Steve Cohen | 35. Alison Wakelin |
| 8. Hans Francke | 17. Cathleen Malone | 26. Cindy Cohen | 36. Collee Kearns |
| 9. Pat Lane | 18. Katrina Nelson | 27. Sue Cherrin | NCCPD, guest |
| | 19. Holly Custer | 28. Peter Slattery | |

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the February 2017 meeting were approved as written. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

SPECIAL GUEST: Colleen Kearns, NCCPD came to talk to residents about crime trends and reporting procedures. She informed the room that she had pulled a crime report and found no unusual activity in the Ardens. With the return of warmer weather and the local increase in heroin usage, residents are encouraged to keep cars and houses locked and to report any suspicious cars, people, or behavior to NCC police. This can be done through the crime tip line (800)TIP-3333, through the NCC smart phone app, online direct to NCCPD (<http://www.nccde.org/1315/Crime-Tips>), or by calling the NCC non-emergency number, 302-573-2800. All tips are entered into a database the police department uses in monthly meetings to review crime trends and allocate officers and other resources. There were questions from the floor about the increased presence of heroin in North Wilmington. Officer Kearns informed the room that if an individual overdoses and receives medical intervention, that is not reported to police. If residents suspect that there is drug activity going on, they should submit a tip to police. Your identity can remain completely anonymous. Additionally, there are many community programs available through the police department. For more information, please go to the following web page, <http://www.nccde.org/297/Community-Programs>

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Alison Wakelin reporting: no new residents to report.

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE: Betty Ann Themal reporting.

The bids for fixing the split rail fence are expensive, so the committee is considering options.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Holly Custer reporting:

Operating Accounts:	\$ 57,170.91
Municipal Street Aid:	\$ 1,510.42
<u>Arden Building and Loan:</u>	<u>\$ 23,488.45</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$ 82,169.78

The town has taken over paying Waste Management bills, a monthly electronic transfer of \$2,529 is being taken from the village account. For a check greater than \$500, typically a second signature would be required but we are not requiring this for an electronic transfer. There were no objections raised.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Andrew Hansen reporting: Website: The Dover team helping us with our website has all of the information needed to do the first phase of design, we will review the first draft once it is available.

Paths: A draft plan is available for comment at <http://www.wilmapco.org/ardentown/>. The paths committee is working with WILMAPCO on funding. Drew has met with WILMAPCO, Wilmington Montessori School (other?) representatives to discuss potential participation in the "Safe Routes to School" program, in order to improve the safety of the Harvey/Sconset intersection.

PUBLIC WORKS: Roads: Road work will be done on two intersections and a few isolated large potholes. The Mall / Millers by the Candlelight and Via Italia / Loreley Lane. These are one day repairs and detour signs will be placed as needed.

Signs: A one way reflective road sign was placed on the post at Brae Road and The Mall. We have some of the original road signs and will install where needed. In the meantime a new list will be sent to DCI for the next batch of wooden road signs. 20 MPH signs will be posted on the Harvey Road posts of Swiss Lane, Loreley Lane and Sconset Road. The new bulletin board is being built at DCI.

Trees: We have another free tree from State Forestry office through Tree City USA. Planning to plant another saucer magnolia near Scanlon's where a tree was removed on town land. This will be our Arbor Day .

Paths: Hal Goodwin built a new bridge in The Glen at the end of Appletree Ln. and between Brae Rd and Sconset Rd (where there had been plywood). The Bridge lower down before the creek has washed away twice in the heavy rains.

Sunnyside: We made some progress in January/February saving at least 100 trees from ivy with Hal and company. We had a walk through Sunnyside and Dave Nordheimer and I stayed and rescued about 10 more trees. There is still lots more to do! We will pick up again mostly in November/December when the poison ivy goes dormant. The Redtail Restoration group will also go out a few times.

Compost area: We are looking to get thick sheet plastic to put over the compost bins to bake the weeds. The plastic will need to have the water shaken off after any rainfall.

Reminder to everyone to eliminate standing water as it's going to be a bad mosquito year. Be aware of flexi-drain pipes and empty them out after each rain. If they are buried, the only things to prevent mosquitos from breeding are to tie pantyhose with a rubber band to the ends. Stores sell screens now to prevent rodents from going in, but mosquitos can still get through the holes.

Additional: Thanks to Joan Warburton-Phibbs, Sue Merkle and Allan Kleban for their service on the Public Works and Safety Committee.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: Steven Curley reporting: Nothing to report.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Harry Themal reporting: Nothing to report.

BUZZ COMMITTEE: Terri Hansen reporting: The BWVC Committee is waiting for a proposal from ACRA to replace the mural on the rear of the building. ACRA is currently working with Linda Celestian on the project. Rentals are going well, community events continue to be fairly well attended.

TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Annie Gutsche reporting:

At the last meeting, the town approved a change to the language in our by-laws in order to be consistent with the state law. The state law requires 30 days for residency, but our by-laws currently require 6 months. There is a complication, because the Ardens appear to be exempt from the state law. We are double checking with our legal counsel and state representatives regarding the intent and language of the law. A motion was made to change the by-laws, pending legal approval. The motion was unanimously accepted.

ELECTIONS:

Public Works and Safety- Cheryl Regan, Chris Monson, re-elected.

Christiana Dobrzynski, Cathleen Malone, Anne P. Lutz nominated, elected unanimously

Playground- elections will be held at the September meeting, current committee members could not attend.

Audit- Hans Francke re-elected unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Hansen