

Nov 2008
minutes

Village of Ardentown

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

NOTICE

ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre

Monday, February 9, 2009
7:30 pm

AGENDA (partial)

1. Trustees Budget/Land Rent Rate
2. Budget/Assessment Annual Budget Report
3. Elections: Memorial Gardens – 2 members; 2 year term
Archives - 3 members; 2 for 2 year term and
1 for 1 year term
4. Committee Reports

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, November 10, 2008. Alison Byer, Chair, presiding. **A quorum was present.**

Attendance

1. Betty Solway Smith
2. Barbara Conway
3. Joan Fitzgerald
4. Alison Byer
5. Jerome Bischoff
6. Teresa Fehlandt
7. Bob Lockerman
8. Steve Cohen
9. Cheryl Regan
10. Enno Krebbers
11. Harry Themal
12. Betty Ann Themal
13. Pat Lane
14. David Scott
15. Hardy Hoegger
16. Rusty Hoegger
17. Hetty Francke
18. Hans Francke
19. Janet Cosgrove
20. Dotty Verne
21. Joy Mulholland
22. Sharon Kleban
23. Jason Kleban, Intern
24. Bob DeNigris
25. Gil Johnston
26. Shiela Johnston
27. Elaine Schmerling
28. Sandra Landerl
29. Bob Miller

Guest:

Cathy Cloutier, State Senator

MEETING: Regular meeting called to order by Alison Byer, Town Chair. Alison opened the meeting by introducing Cathy Cloutier, our State Senator. Cathy was attending a meeting for the Candlelight Theatre and wanted to thank everyone for voting in the recent election. She is up for re-election in 2010. They are still working on the Airport traffic noise problem.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 8, 2008 meeting was approved with one correction.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Mondzelewski

Operating Accounts:	\$20,690.92
Municipal Street Aid:	5,989.82
Arden Building & Loan:	<u>23,239.09</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$49,919.83

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Janet Cosgrove reporting
As the new Chair, Janet will be looking into computerizing the list of residents.

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Rusty Hoegger reporting
Nothing to report

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: Elaine Schmerling reporting
Nothing to report

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Beverley Fleming reporting
No report

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT: Steve Cohen reporting
Steve introduced Jason Kleban. Jason is participating in the Village Internship program. The Path Grant this year is only \$900. This is not enough to keep up with the maintenance of our paths throughout the Village. Steve suggested we start a special fund to help with the upkeep. This special fund 'Love our Paths' is tax deductible. Please make your contributions to the Village of Ardentown and note in the memo section Love our Paths.
Steve opened the fund with a generous contribution of \$100 from Cindy and Steve Cohen.

PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT: Pat Lane reporting
Paths/Trees/Compost Area - Elaine Schmerling:

Paths - Hal is in process of cleaning up the paths for the winter. He specifically worked on path at end of Brae Rd., clearing off a fallen tree, and path parallel to and between Harvey Rd. & Millers. Used our remaining funds. CORRECTION to people who were confused by my Arden Page announcement: we still will have funds from our regular budget for paths next year (and are asking for a \$500 increase), but will be short the \$950 extra we've gotten from the State the last 3 years.

Tree Planting Grant - Thanks to volunteers with pick-up trucks Pat Lane, Nick Liberman and Edmund Bischoff, we picked up all the 84 trees and shrubs; and thanks to Hal Goodwin & crew, all got planted in the ground before the wonderful rains last week! Elaine mulched all with leaves and/or pine needles, and marked off many with branches to protect them from lawnmowers...If anyone is in touch with leaf-blowing crew, please tell them to leave these leaves around the trees! (While bark mulch should be pulled away from 2" of the tree trunk, leaves and pine needles can't hurt).

Elaine sent off the grant request, and soon all of the Villages expenses for this tree-planting effort will be paid in full! Hopefully we will enjoy them for years to come.

Compost information is now listed on a separate page on www.theardens.com. The Ardentown Composting Web Site (<http://www.theardens.com/composting.htm>) has also been updated, all thanks to Danny Schweers.

Options for Composting Leaves

Leaf season is upon us...as they fall in your yard, please first consider composting. Leaves may not be put out in the trash. We are fortunate to have many options in the Ardens for dealing with leaves, including curbside collection of yard waste and the Ardentown Compost site. Here is the suggested hierarchy of what you should do with your leaves:

- 1) USE LEAVES AS MULCH - Longwood Gardens and Mt. Cuba do it...leaf mulch is one secret to their beautiful gardens. Run the lawnmower over your leaves, place the chopped (or whole) leaves as mulch in your garden beds! The leaves will insulate your plants all winter and decompose to provide nutrients right back into your soil. Plus, you'll save money on purchasing bagged mulch.
- 2) COMPOST LEAVES IN YOUR OWN COMPOST PILE! If you don't know how to compost yet, visit the Ardentown Compost Demonstration site to learn.
- 3) The Ardens have curbside collection of four (4) yard waste bags per week. If you need more bags, call the DSWA at 1-800-404-7080.
- 4) The Ardentown Compost Site is open FOR RESIDENTS OF THE ARDENS ONLY for their remaining excess leaves. The first two bins (from the right side) are open for this fall as long as there is space (we filled up last year). Please, bring LEAVES ONLY. No sticks, no bags, no trash. Bag your leaves and walk them around the fence (or throw them over), empty them as far back as you can go into the bins, and take your bags home to re-use. Please, do your best to keep this area neat. It is a public service of Ardentown, and not a commercial operation.
- 5) For other yard waste, and if our site is full, DNREC's Yard Waste Drop-off site is free to the public. It is located near the intersection of Cauffiel Parkway and Philadelphia Pike, open Fri-Sunday from 8:30-4:30.

Roads – Drew Hansen:

Since our last meeting, we're continuing to monitor road conditions. Approximately \$5,000 remains in our Municipal Street Aid budget, which we'll use to address potholes in the spring, with any remaining funds to be rolled over into next year's budget.

Completed projects are:

- Repair at the intersection of The Mall and East Mall
- Drainage swale on Sconset Road in front of Bob DeNigris' house
- Repair of hole in pavement at intersection of Millers and Orchard
- Repair of several potholes on Woodland
- Repair of the pothole at top of Sconset, near Harvey Road
- Repair of the seam between the speed bump and road surface on The Mall

Signs – Cheryl Regan/David Scott:

22 more wooden signs have been purchased, and if the weather stays in the sixties, they will get painted and the reflective glass bead put on them prior to installation.

Snow/Sand – David Byer:

DOT sent the annual letter to renew the sand barrels and the appropriate forms for the same (12) locations as last year have been submitted. They'll start delivering any time after Nov 15.

Jim Burselm has been contacted regarding snow removal and the contract has been finalized. It was not put out for bid for this year since last year's cost was well under the amount usually budgeted. The only other issue would be at what level should he automatically start plowing? Right now, it's set for 2 inches unless otherwise requested, it probably not change.

Sunnyside Tract – Barbara Conway

Nature Walk Dates for 2009

January 11, February 8, March 29, May 31.

All walks start at 9am and the dates will be put in The Page.

Town Watch – Holly Custer:

Except for some toilet paper in the trees for Halloween, there is nothing to report.

TRUSTEE’S REPORT:

Nothing to report

TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Alison Byer

The Ardens list of the Multiple Domiciles should be presented to New Castle County in December.

Residents are asked to bring in their trash and recycle cans after pick up. Please don't let them remain on the street.

At the November Ardencroft Town meeting, Mike Kelley and Amy Pollock, will give an update on the Airport traffic noise. All are invited to attend.

Hetty Francke asked if the Town wanted to participate in the upcoming Wilmington Garden Day. This annual event will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009. Included in the tour will be the 'Composting Site in Ardentown'. Volunteers will be needed to help with the clearing of brush, weeds, etc. and if possible enclose the dumpsters.

A vote was taken and it was agreed to take part in the upcoming Wilmington Garden Day.

ELECTIONS :

Town Chair: Alison Byer

Town Treasurer: Barbara Mondzelewski

Town Secretary: Joan Fitzgerald

Community Planning Committee: Elected for a 2 year term

Drew Hansen and Gil Johnston

ELECTIONS – February Archives (1); Memorial Gardens (3)

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Hans Francke needs the budget information the various committees in December for the Budget committee to review.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Joan Fitzgerald
Secretary