

Village of Ardentown

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Established 1922

Incorporated 1975

NOTICE

ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre

Monday, February 14, 2011
7:30 pm

AGENDA (partial)

1. Trustees Budget/Land Rent Rate
2. Annual Budget Report
3. Elections: Archives - 1 member; 2 year term
Memorial Gardens – 3 members; 2 year term
4. Committee Reports
5. Proposed changes in our 1975 Act of Incorporation

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 Sunnybrook (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.**

Your vote is needed, please bring your neighbor and come!
Light Refreshments

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The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:35 pm on Monday, November 8, 2010 at the Buzz Ware Village Center
Alison Byer, Chair, presiding. **A quorum was present.**

Attendance

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Alison Byer | 16. Pat Lane |
| 2. Joan Fitzgerald | 17. Janet Cosgrove |
| 3. Enno Krebbers | 18. Holly Custer |
| 4. Steve Cohen | 19. Sheila Johnston |
| 5. Barbara Mondzelewski | 20. Tom Parisi |
| 6. Cheryl Regan | 21. Ray Campbell |
| 7. Virginia Gotides | 22. Edmond Bischoff |
| 8. Hardy Hoegger | 23. Dotty Verne |
| 9. Hans Francke | 24. Drew Hansen |
| 10. Betty Ann Themal | 25. Maureen Gordon |
| 11. Harry Themal | 26. Barbara Conway |
| 12. Joy Mulholland | 27. Maura Lynch |
| 13. Bob DeNigris | 28. Elaine Schmerling |
| 14. Bob Lockerman | |
| 15. June Kleban | |

MEETING: Regular meeting called to order by Alison Byer, Town Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 13, 2010 meeting – approved
With the addition of Hardy Hoegger in attendance

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Janet Cosgrove
No report provided. Tom Parisi introduced, attending first meeting since moving in.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Mondzelewski

Operating Accounts:	\$30,889.25
Municipal Street Aid:	8,742.64
Arden Building & Loan:	<u>25,307.46</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$64,939.35

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Betty Ann Themal reporting for Rusty Hoegger

Last month Hal and crew took down some large bent over limbs of one of the Leyland Cypresses; damage caused by last winter's snow storm. They were alive, so left them alone for some months hoping they might spring back into shape but they never did.

One of the Spice Viburnums planted a few years ago was found dead and broke off (not cut) at the base. A second one of the three seems to be dying in the middle. Third one is still robust. All three bloomed beautifully in the spring.

Hal removed a large pile of sticks, dead branches, and a large downed limb from a ginkgo and took to the dump. One rail of east side fence is down and rotted; Hal is replacing. Hal also reinforced two uprights on east fence in two places.

The bill was \$88.00 for above work, including fence rail.

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Dotty Verne reporting for Beverley Fleming

Buzz is doing very well with rental for special events as well as long-term renters. Please check our online calendar on TheArdens.com

For all classes, workshops, availability and community meetings.

Due to rising costs and updating utilities at the Buzz, we have had to increase our rental rates; beginning November 2010.

Our Peddler, Potions and Practitioners Fund Raiser the Arden Fair was very well attended and we made over \$3000 for the Buzz' Restoration Fund.

Once again, we will be having our popular New Year's Day Brunch. This will be reservation only, with limited seating. Cost this year will be \$15. per person before December 15th, \$20 after that date, once payment is received tickets will be distributed by Beverley Fleming. Only tickets/reservations will be taken at the door. Please come and support the Buzz for this fund raising event. Great Food, all homemade, and we have added baked salmon as well as a pastry buffet to the menu.

We will be having our own Buzz Ware Website for more information in the near future. Watch for our new web address on TheArdens.com

Thank you from the Buzz Ware Village Committee for all your support...

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT: Steve Cohen

Steve announced he will be stepping down as chair of the Community Planning committee. Steve has been very busy since being elected President of the Arden Club. Alison Byer has agreed to chair this committee.

PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT : Pat Lane

Paths/Trees/Compost Area - Elaine Schmerling:

TREE PLANTING

We thank the Delaware Department of Forestry for funding the purchase and planting of 16 new trees and shrubs: 2 more dogwoods each in The Mall and East Mall; 2 yellowwoods off Sconset Lane to beautify the entrance and fill in the empty spaces there; 2 new winterberries to replace dead ones, and 10 more trees and shrubs to fill out the Pettit Green. The Pettit Green species include 4 large "Legacy" variety of sugar maples; one more black gum (for a total of 3), one more crape myrtle (to total 7), and one more dogwood.

Funding also included gatorbags for the large trees. New trees should have 1" of water a week, especially in warmer weather. These bags can be filled and the water drips slowly for deep roots. Another benefit: they will protect the trees from the lawnmowers!

Funds are matched 50%. For this we thank Ailleen Flanery, whose son planted a beautiful Franklinea tree at her corner. Also I had many volunteer hours. Thanks to Allan Kleban and Nick Liberman for picking up trees from the nursery, and Pat Lane for lending her pickup truck several times (and Nick for his).

Other match funds - Warren & I just paid to remove dead trees (spruce and elm) at the end of Springhouse Lane on right. We planted pines and American Holly's to replace them.

We hope this is the last of our tree grants for a while! This brings the total that we've purchased and planted with Dept. of Forestry funding to 165. In total including 3 other grants, that brings the total to 314! Although a few didn't make it and we also have donated plants (mostly seedlings), so we have at least 300 new trees & shrubs this decade from various grant sources. Disbursement paperwork is being completed.

For the educational component of the grant, Elaine wrote an article in the Arden Page, and is offering a tree walk Sunday, November 14 at 1 pm for all residents of the Ardens and the Arden Club Gardeners Guild, highlighting our tree plantings since 2006. Elaine will show people first-hand the differences between the newly-planted sugar maples, and already established red maples, and compare them to the weed Norway maples throughout our village. First 5+ to show up get a free redbud seedling!

Compost

Hal has turned the compost pile. Residents can take compost from bin #5 and leaves are to be dumped in bins 2 and 4 counting from the end near the gate. The Bins are labeled.

Paths

Steve Cohen had some trees trimmed on his property and used the chips for the path next to his house. Hal Goodwin restored the path from the bottom of Brae Rd. to the creek and cleaned up various other paths.

Roads – Drew Hansen/Joan & Hugh Phibbs:

We've received notice from DelDOT that the funds offered by Rep. Bryon Short and Senator Cathy Cloutier are now available. The amount is \$10,165. DelDOT is expected to send 10% automatically and then we'll provide receipts and other information to obtain final funds. Drew Hansen and Pat Lane are meeting with Bruce Downing of Downing Paving on Tuesday, November 2 to review the bottom of Hilltop and Loreley between Harvey and Millers. Woodland is the highest priority given the potential safety hazard. Funds remaining after Woodland is addressed will be applied to Loreley.

Signs – Cheryl Regan:

Paul and Cheryl worked on 29 wooden road signs and completed the following:

Replaced 2 Loreley Road and 1 Millers Road (missing one Millers - my bad)

Replaced 2 Loreley Road and 2 Orchard Road

Replaced 2 Hilltop Road and 2 Woodland Road - straightened the pole.

Replaced 2 Brae Road and 1 The Mall - straightened the pole.

Replaced 2 Springhouse Lane and 1 Orchard - removed the bent metal (no outlet) sign. It will be removed from the metal pole and screwed onto the wooden sign post.

Replaced 1 Millers and 2 The Mall - removed the bent metal (one way) sign. It will be removed from the metal pole and screwed onto the wooden sign post.

We have some spares that need to be ordered for matches to complete a pole.

Here is what planned to be ordered for the next round, depending on the available budget.

2 Swiss Lane/2 Millers Road

1 Millers Road (for the one missing at Loreley)

2 Swiss Lane/ Harvey

2 Millers / Harvey

1 Loreley Road / Harvey (I have 1 Loreley)

2 Sconset Road / Harvey

1 Sconset Road / 2 Valley Road

2 Valley Road (have the one Brae road)

1 The Mall (have the 2 Sconset)

2 Appletree Lane / 2 Orchard Road

Snow/Sand

The snow contract for this winter has been submitted.

Sunnyside Tract - Barbara Conway

On October 29, 2010, I toured the Sunnyside Tract to check for campers and to cut invasive vines.

No campers were observed within the Sunnyside Tract. The condition of the tract was good. It was observed that several large rocks within Naaman's Creek, and near Radnor Green Park, were painted with graffiti. There were also two large trees in the Sunnyside Tract near the same area that had been spray painted with graffiti.

Many large vines that had engulfed native trees were cut.

Birds observed were: Red Tailed Hawk, White Breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush

Other notable birds observed in the area during the last quarter were: Northern Rough Winged Swallow, Tree Swallow, Eastern Towhee, Hairy Woodpecker, Black Vulture

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

Nothing to report.

Playground - Elaine Schmerling

We needed more mulch but there were no funds available. The Trustees approved the extra funds.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Harry Themal

The Trustees have been interviewing for a new trustee, replacing Bob DeNigris. Bob announced at our last town meeting his resignation after 22 years.

TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Alison Byer

The Green stimulus money of \$20,000 will be used to insulate the New Candlelight Theatre.

Steve Cohen wanted to acknowledge and thank Alison for her contribution during the past 3 years a Town Chair. Steve also wanted to acknowledge Joan Fitzgerald as secretary and Barbara Mondzelewski as treasurer.

ELECTIONS:

Town Chair: Enno Krebbers

Town Secretary: Joan Fitzgerald

Town Treasurer: Barbara Mondzelewski

Community Planning Committee: Elected for a 2 year term
Drew Hansen and Gil Johnston

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

OLD BUSINESS: The minutes of the May 10, 2010 meeting – approved

NEW BUSINESS:

Ray Campbell and Tom Parisi shared their concerns over the parking on the East Mall area. It was also expressed the 'No Outlet' signed be moved further down the road.

Steve Cohen wanted to remind everyone of the needed upkeep of our pathways and to please make a tax deductible donation. Checks payable to the Village of Ardentown.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joan Fitzgerald
Secretary

**Joan Fitzgerald
Ardentown Secretary
2305 Loreley Lane
Ardentown, DE 19810**