

Village of Ardentown

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Notice

Ardentown Town Meeting
at the Candlelight Dinner Theatre

Monday, November 11, 2002
7:30 P.M.

Agenda (partial)

- 1. Elections: Town Officers – Town Chair, Town Secretary, Town Treasurer; one-year terms**
- 2. HRTCC: Update and Recommendation from the HRTCC, Report by Enno Krebbers**
- 3. By-Laws for the Town Meeting of the Village of Ardentown: Updated copy enclosed, discussion, voting February 2003, Report by Betty Ann Themal**
- 4. Save Sherwood Forest! : Update from the Village of Arden**
- 5. Bob Weiner, New Castle County Councilman: To speak about Claymont Renaissance**

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The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:30 P.M. of **Monday, September 9, 2002**, Oliver Gutsche, Chair, presiding. **A quorum was present.**

In attendance were:

1. Lisa Wilson Riblett
2. Oliver Gutsche
3. Robert E. DeNigris
4. Beverley Fleming
5. Marguerite Archer
6. Hardy Hoegger
7. Rusty Hoegger
8. Doris J. Boller
9. Sally Decker
10. Peter Coburn
11. Sue Coburn
12. Chris Coburn
13. Annie Gutsche
14. Cindy Cohen
15. Steve Cohen
16. Harry Themal
17. Betty Ann Themal
18. Gilbert L. Johnston
19. Sheila Johnston
20. Hans Francke
21. Richard Mondzelewski
22. Sue Cherrin
23. Janet Cosgrove
24. Maureen Gordon
25. Betty Solway Smith
26. David Scott
27. Dotty Verne
28. Barbara Mondzelewski
29. Katrina Nelson
30. Beth Holloway
31. Richard S. Cropper
32. Joy Mulholland
33. Ted Tomasi
34. Elaine Schmerling
35. Page Dwyer

Guests:

1. Judy Morris Armstrong
2. Dave Brady, 8th District Rep.
3. Beverly Barnett, Arden
4. Wayne Smith, State Rep.

Communications: Oliver Gutsche, Chair

1. Oliver gave Page a letter regarding **funding for street improvements** from Wayne Smith, State Rep.
2. We received a letter from **United Water** regarding the "good" quality of our water.
3. Oliver said a question and answer meeting is coming up regarding our **storm water drainage**. Oliver gave letter with the details to Page.
4. Oliver noted an upcoming meeting of the **Delaware League of Local Gov.** on Sept. 29. See Oliver if you are interested in attending.

Registration Committee: Dotty Verne, Chair

1. 2206 Sconset Road from Raymond and Honor Lavoie to David and Alison Byer
2. 2316 Sconset Road from Christopher and Hope Barnes to Hope Zucker
3. 1511 Woodland Road from Lisbeth Solway Smith to Lisbeth Solway Smith and H. Robert Solway

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4. 1519 Woodland Road #2 new resident Patty Kolski

5. 1707 Harvey Road new resident Debby Ricard

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Mondzelewski

Checking Account Balance: \$558.85

Savings Account Balance: \$13,918.13

Municipal Street Aid: \$15,625.60

Arden Building & Loan: \$37,969.56

Total Funds Available: \$68,072.14

Elections:

Registration Committee: 2 members, 2-year terms

Maureen Gordon and Sheila Johnston and Lesley Holden were all nominated to fill these two positions. A vote was taken and Maureen and Sheila were elected.

Budget/Assessment Committee: 2 members, 2-year terms

Jack Brandner and Betty Solway Smith were unanimously elected to fill these positions.

Approval of the Minutes:

The Minutes were unanimously approved.

Trustees' Report: Bob DeNigris

Bob said it would be announced tonight at 9:00 P.M. if Barbara Mondzelewski has been confirmed as our new trustee. (Barbara was confirmed.)

Betty Solway Smith thanked Chris Coburn for his service to our Town. Betty requested that a letter be sent to Chris thanking him.

Public Works and Safety Committee: Page Dwyer, Chair

1. Page noted that there is **\$40,000.00 of funding available for road work**. We have received **\$13,200.00 from this fund at this time**. Page said it took many phone calls to get this money. We still have more DeIDOT money to spend. Page feels we should spend this before the Municipal Street Aid money.

2. Page said that Steve Cohen is trying to watch where the **storm water** goes. However, with the drought, there isn't any water to watch.

3. Page has not authorized payment for work on **Swiss Lane** yet. Downing did the work and Page is concerned about the lack of quality.

4. Betty Solway Smith asked if the Town was going to **collect leaves** on our streets again this year. Harry Themal answered yes and said the Trustees will hire a lawn care company to do the job.

5. Betty also asked if the Town could pay to **clean the drain** by her house. Page said usually the leaseholder or resident cleans the drains. Page feels that the collective residents should fix it. Betty said she hires someone to do this work from time to time. Steve Cohen volunteered to clean this drain. Betty to call him when needed.

6. Page hopes to have **Sconset Road fixed** and is **getting bids**.

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Audit Committee Report: Steve Cohen

Steve reported for Lesley Holden. Steve said the **Trustees' accounts** and the **Town's accounts "are in exemplary order"**. Hardy said it was a very good report and he is grateful for this report being completed.

Sunnyside Steward:

Hardy Hoegger accepted the position of steward filling the vacancy left by Chris Coburn. This position is appointed by the Town Chair which Oliver did upon Hardy stating he would accept. Hardy did say he would need help to maintain this property. Richard Cropper said he would be willing to help. Bev Barnett said she is willing to give Hardy the names of people outside of the Ardens who are willing to help.

Old Business:

1. Annie Gutsche said the **grants for playground** money are being reviewed and we should know something this month.
2. **HRTCC** – Bev Barnett said DelDOT seems open to the following ideas: geogrid on shoulders on some parts of the road, directional diverter by Wilm. Monte. Sch., short median by Sconset Road, and a gateway aspect. Hardy said three or four years ago, he contacted DelDOT about the poor location of the speed limit signs on Harvey Road. He enlisted Wayne Smith's help. Bev said she would be willing to try to help with this issue.
3. **BWVC** – Marguerite reported that the building has just been painted, the Buzz has been receiving memorial money for Dan O'Connor and that donations will go toward a special purchase, there is a new preschool program by the YMCA at the Buzz and you do not have to be a member of the Y to use it, and the Coffee House starts again this Friday.

New Business:

1. **Bench on The Mall** – Page reported that Hal Godwin said it is in poor condition and he feels we should get a new one. Page said the old bench could be used somewhere else if it is carefully and gently used. Harry knows of a web site for benches and will give info to Page.
2. **DelDOT trimming Harvey Road** – Page said Cheryl Regan has called many times and DelDOT might clean by October. Harry added that Mark Ross of Eden Rock will be doing yard work in the Fall.
3. **Save Sherwood Forest!** – Bev Barnett, member of the Save Sherwood Forest! Task Force gave the following report: The Ardens and others in the Perkins Run Watershed for the past year have followed a two-pronged approach regarding five acres of forest adjoining Arden's Sherwood Forest, five acres owned by a developer named Marsha Avery:
 1. Insuring that the strongest protection for the environment available under the laws of the USA, Delaware and New Castle County were applied.
 2. Seeking to protect the land forever from development.

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I would like to alert you to a change in activity regarding the Avery property. Ms. Avery asked her lawyer to seek ways to sell the property. Because it has so much land that is riparian buffer and natural area, he approached both the state and Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and New Castle County about purchasing the land as a permanent open space.

We do not know what action we, the county, the state, or the seller will take. The outcome depends on a lot of unknowns. However, we always welcome the support of our sister communities. We are always stronger when we present a united face. You are invited to attend an informational presentation and tour in our woods on Sunday, September 22 beginning at 2:00 P.M. at the BWVC.

Hardy asked what the chances are that it will sell. Bev said she does not know. Bev said there are too many variables to tell. The task force is committed to keeping ourselves informed. Pete Coburn wanted to know if the Nature Conservancy is applicable. Bev said they are not applicable to help but have been giving advice and direction which has been very helpful.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Wilson Riblett".

Lisa Wilson Riblett
Secretary

BY-LAWS FOR THE TOWN MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDENTOWN

INTRODUCTION

The basic document for the government of the incorporated village of Ardentown is the Act to Incorporate the Village of Ardentown as passed by the 128th General Assembly and signed by the Governor of Delaware on June 20, 1975, or as it may be hereafter amended by the General Assembly (two-thirds vote).

These by-laws are the basic structure for administering the business of the incorporated Village of Ardentown.

STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT - TOWN MEETING

The government of the Village and the exercise of all powers conferred by the Act of Incorporation except as otherwise provided herein, shall be vested in the Town Meeting of the Village of Ardentown.

SUFFRAGE

Qualified voters shall be all residents 18 years of age or over who have resided in the Village for a preceding period of six (6) consecutive months.

MEETINGS

REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Town Meeting shall be held in a suitable place in the Village available to the public on the second Monday of February, May, September, and November.

Written notice of the time, date and place of all regular meetings of the Town Meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary of the Town Meeting to all residents and leaseholders of the Village at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date.

At all meetings of the Town Meeting twenty-five (25) qualified voters shall constitute a quorum for the enactment of all ordinances, the adoption of all resolutions and motions, and the transaction of all business properly before the Town Meeting.

Each qualified voter attending a meeting of the Town Meeting shall have one vote on each matter brought before each meeting. A majority of yeas shall be sufficient to pass all ordinances, resolutions and motions at any meeting of the Town Meeting and to transact all business properly brought before the meeting.

No ordinance of the Village shall be voted upon by the Town Meeting unless submitted to the Town Meeting in writing and read at the two consecutive meetings, whether regular or special, and including the meeting at which such ordinance shall be voted upon.