

Sept 2011  
minutes

# Village of Ardentown

Established 1922  
Incorporated 1975

Ardentown, Del. 19810

## NOTICE

### **ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre**

**Monday, November 14, 2011  
7:30 pm**

### **AGENDA (partial)**

1. Elections:  
Town Chair, Secretary and Treasurer  
1 year term  
Community Planning Committee:  
3 members, 2 year term
2. Committee Reports
3. Representative Bryon Short will take your questions

***Come meet our new Ardentown Information Officer!!***

**A quorum is needed at the town meeting.  
*Please come and bring your neighbor!***



# Village of Ardentown

Established 1922

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Incorporated 1975

The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:30 pm on **Monday, September 12, 2011**. Enno Krebbers, Chair was presiding. **No quorum.**

## Attendance

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Enno Krebbers         | 16. Janet Cosgrove         |
| 2. Pat Lane              | 17. Robert DeNigris        |
| 3. Hans Francke          | 18. Rhys McClure           |
| 4. Harry Themal          | 19. Drew Hansen            |
| 5. Betty Ann Themal      | 20. Barbara Conway         |
| 6. Rusty Hoegger         | 21. Oliver Gutsche         |
| 7. Hardy Hoegger         | 22. Gil Johnston           |
| 8. Steven Cohen          |                            |
| 9. Joy Mulholland        |                            |
| 10. Ann Balogh           |                            |
| 11. Susan Mearkle        | <b>Guests:</b> David Scott |
| 12. June Kleban          |                            |
| 13. Dottie Verne         |                            |
| 14. Joan Fitzgerald      |                            |
| 15. Barbara Mondzelewski |                            |

**MEETING:** Regular meeting called to order Enno Krebbers, Town Chair. Enno welcomed David Scott, longtime resident of Ardentown, to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the May 9, 2011 meeting – approved with one correction

**REGISTRATION COMMITTEE:** Janet Cosgrove

### New Leaseholders:

- 2203 Swiss Lane: Heather Plymer  
2204 Sconset Road: Jeffrey and Pamela Politis  
1512 The Mall: Janet S. Cosgrove

### New Residents:

- 1503 The Mall: Hal Goodwin (moved from 1512 The Mall)  
2306 Loreley Lane: Amy Hill  
2303 East Mall: Rhys McClure Apt 1 (was in Apt. 3)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Barbara Mondzelewski

Operating Accounts:	\$35,386.28
Municipal Street Aid:	19,074.92
Arden Building & Loan:	<u>25,307.46</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$79,768.66

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** Enno Krebbers reporting for Holly Custer

The Audit Committee reviewed the financial records of the Ardentown trustees and of the Village of Ardentown. The trustee records are maintained by Betty Ann Thernal and the village records are maintained by Barbara Mondzelewski (treasurer). Both sets of financial records passed the audit. Only one minor discrepancy in the village records, of a missing receipt for the purchase of a book of stamps, was found. The receipt was made available after the audit. All of the income and expenditures for the past 12 months were reviewed along with the accompany bank statements.

A recommendation that our books be maintained by computer has been submitted. It was also recommend that all invoices and receipts are filed in same month as posting.

Committee members: Holly Custer, Hans Francke, June Kleban

**MEMORIAL GARDEN:** Rusty Hoegger

Nothing to report at this time.

**BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER:** Drew Hansen reporting for Beverley Fleming  
The Buzz Fund Raiser – ‘Peddlers, Potions and Practitions’ was very successful and al profits wen to the Buzz Restoration Fund. We appreciate the much needed donations for the Buzz.

I (Beverley) would like to have the town approve Teri Hansen as our new Ardentown representative for the BWVC Committee. She would join me and Elise Kidd as the reps from Ardentown. I am continuing to be Building Manager as well.

We will have another Fund Raiser on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm. This will feature wines from Peco’s, delectable hors d’oeuvres and a Speakeasy theme. Flyers are available. Please come and support the BWVC!

**COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT:** Enno Krebbers reporting for Alison Byer

The committee met and will begin to work on a master plan for our tree planting.

We are ready to begin our 6th internship. Any residents between 13-18 years old are encouraged to call Alison Byer 475-2384 to sign up.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT:** Barbara Conway

The Public Works Committee is a committee of volunteer residents of Ardentown. As chair, I am still learning about the operation of the village and the copious amounts of volunteer work that keeps it running. Our committee operates in a collaborative manner with a desire to achieve win-win solutions, with safety and following the law as the top priorities. Our committee meets on the Tuesday or Wednesday before each of the four town meetings to discuss and decide on Public Works business. If you have any issues for the committee to address, it is best to email your issue to [barbaraconway@comcast.net](mailto:barbaraconway@comcast.net), or, if that is not possible or prudent, call a member of the committee.

**Snow Removal** – David Byer

**IT WAS SUMMER!!**

From Barbara - from discussion at the Public Works Committee meeting, it was decided that sand barrels would be requested of DelDOT this year since they are helpful on the hills of Ardentown. The barrels will be turned on their sides to prevent them from being filled with rain/snow and trash.

**Roads** – Joan Phibbs

From Enno - Our municipal street aid allocation for July 2011- June 2012 appears to be \$8263.73 in regular municipal street aid and a further \$2065.85 in restricted funds. The restricted funds must be dedicated to improvement specific to roads and bridges, which we interpret as meaning they must be used for improvements and not for snow removal or similar activities. That would not be a problem for us – I'm sure we can easily find \$2000 in improvements. By way of reminder, we budgeted \$8500 in income for the 2011 budget, and received \$8743 in 2010. These amounts do not include the special funds from Bryon Short and Cathy Cloutier.

From Joan - It appears that the East Mall is the road in the worst shape in Ardentown. I have enclosed 5 photos (by email) of the deterioration that is mostly caused by the water runoff down the street. This is one of the only streets with cobblestones lining the roadway which serves as a barrier for all the water to run down the street- it may protect the houses along the way until the end of the street. The water cannot make the corner onto Woodland and has taken off the car pad of 2401 East Mall and as it flows down the road it is taking chunks of road tar with it. There is water damage to the leasehold of 2401 (ours) as a result of this run-off. The water at times looks like a river coming down the road. There should be some type of elevated surface created to steer the water down into the stream off Woodland. I have been told this problem was to be addressed years ago but never was completed. Other areas of concern are: 2 potholes out front of Candlelight, 1 pothole near the corner of the Mall and Candlelight, 1 pothole on Orchard and Springhouse Ln, 1 bad pothole on Loreley and Millers, 1 pothole on Loreley and Appletree, and 2 on Orchard near Woodland. I have not enclosed the photos for the other 8 potholes but I can do if requested. Also, water collects at the end of Brae Rd.

From Barbara - at the Public Works Committee meeting we decided that the problems on East Mall are the most critical need. Estimates and ideas will be gathered from contractors. The other potholes can and will be patched by Hal Goodwin and his crew. The speed bumps are scheduled to be repainted as soon as the weather cooperates. The road work on Swiss and Loreley has been on hiatus due to bad weather but should resume soon. This work has already been budgeted for with the special money received from Bryon Short and Cathy Cloutier.

Also, special thanks to Hal Goodwin, Hal Jr., and Ricky, who went out early Sunday morning during Hurrican Irene to clear the roads of Ardentown of the many branches that had blocked numerous roads.

**Playground** – Elaine Schmerling

Nothing to report.

**Trees** – Elaine Schmerling

Cheryl Regan and I worked this morning (July 10) on the Henry George Green. We put either landscaping cloth or newspaper (experimenting) under the winterberry hollies, itea and a few serviceberries, and then followed by mulch. Cheryl donated the cloth and mulch (and her time & tools!). They will for sure be protected from the mowers and whackers, and it is easier for them and easier on the eye to have them clearly defined. There are lots of sprouts of winterberry hollies, which I will cut out in the fall and plant to start new shrubs in place of dead ones at the corner near Cheryl 's house (hence the "dead" shrubs were still mulched out).

We noticed that the sign posts for "Henry George Green", where we have the 2 iteas, were nicked by the weed whackers (as well as sprouts from the itea). So we clothed that whole area. I have plans to fill it out in the fall including: coreopsis (low) in front/underneath

the sign; more itea as they spread out; some tree in the middle (I have baby dogwoods & redbud).

I also sprayed some of the poison ivy and other weedy vines growing up trees in the pine tree area. That area is a huge mess; however, we saw 4 or 5 redbuds which had seeded in, amidst the poison ivy, and a maple-leaf viburnum! Cheryl had a great idea to get a quote from Hal to clean up that area. Let me know if the trustees want to spend that money...I haven't yet heard from the state about any forestry grants. Given all the budget crises I don't know if they'll be back, but if they are, I could add that to a tree mgmt grant, along with cutting out lots of dead tree limbs many places.

I cut & dug out two sprouts from winterberry hollies on the corner closest to me, and planted them in the holes near Cheryl's where they had died. Hopefully, with all this rain, they'll have plenty of time to get adjusted!

The Public Works Committee had a question for Elaine regarding the need for money to remove hazardous trees, which can be quite cost prohibitive, but also very dangerous if not removed as we have seen with the recent storms and hurricane. Elaine's response: The tree grants can pay for tree removal of HAZARD trees. We missed the deadline for this year (before the hurricane), can keep in mind for next year. Maximum \$2,500, with 50% match (I used my time for plantings, but tree removal is less likely my volunteer time will count - but we could count weed-n-walk as match). So let's identify hazard trees for next year.

#### Compost –

Due to the lack of funds and the lack of volunteers to maintain the area, the compost demonstration site will be dismantled. Hetty Francke has requested that the signs and other materials be passed on to her for use at a new such site being assembled at the Delaware School for the Deaf.

#### Signs – Cheryl Regan

I ordered more wooden street signs. That should finish up replacement of the remaining old signs.

From Barbara - The complaint about the "No Outlet" sign on The Mall by East Mall continues. Cheryl and I will discuss it and decide how to proceed.

#### Safety – Holly Custer

We have had complaints of ring and runs on Brae Rd. A reminder to lock cars and doors, and watch for suspicious behavior is suggested.

From Barbara - an unlocked car was ransacked on East Mall within the past few weeks.

#### Sunnyside Tract – Barbara Conway

No report, except birds observed/heard:

Barred Owl (twice, in July and Sept.) Great Horned Owl Tree Swallows

#### **TRUSTEE'S REPORT:** Harry Thernal

Eden Rock is no longer in operation as an Assisted Home facility.

The estate has not been settled.

Ardentown has 3 leaseholds in a flood zone. The leasehold on Marsh road was flooded with 2-5 feet of water and will probably be a complete loss.

Between the earthquake and Hurricane Irene the old swimming pool is gone.

**CHAIR REPORT:** Enno Krebbers

Enno thanked Steve Cohen for organizing another successful Arden Fair! The Resolution Of The Town Of Ardentown To Adapt The New Castle County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved. Enno reviewed the recent letter sent out by Steven Threefoot in reference to the Energize Delaware energy improvement incentive program. All paperwork must be submitted by September 10<sup>th</sup> to qualify for the State portion of the rebate.

**ELECTIONS:**

**Registration Committee:** Elected for a 1 year term

Alison Byer

**Budget Committee:** Elected for a 2 year term

Betty Ann Themal, Barbara Mondzelewski, Hans Francke

**Elections for November:** Town Chair, Secretary, Treasurer  
Community Planning (3)

**OLD BUSINESS:** None


**NEW BUSINESS:**

Enno Krebbers will call Beverley Fleming in reference to the request she made in the BWVC report of adding Terri Hansen as an Ardentown rep.

Barbara Conway asked about an internship program for the Trustee's position. Enno suggested serving on as many committees as possible, serve as a chair of a committee and the Town Chair position. This would give someone a very good understanding.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joan Fitzgerald  
Secretary

Joan Fitzgerald  
Ardentown Secretary  
2305 Loreley Lane  
Ardentown, DE 19810