

Village of Ardentown

Ardentown, Del. 19810

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

NOTICE

ARDENTOWN TOWN MEETING The New Candlelight Dinner Theatre

**Monday, May 12, 2008
7:30 pm**

AGENDA (partial)

1. Elections: Public Works & Safety Committee
3 members, 2 year term

Community Planning Committee:
2 members, 1 year term

Audit Committee
3 members, 1 year

2. Committee Reports

A quorum is needed at the town meeting, please come!

Village of Ardentown

Established 1922
Incorporated 1975

Ardentown, Del. 19810

The regular meeting of the Village of Ardentown was convened at 7:30 pm on **Monday, February 11, 2008**. Alison Byer, Chair, presiding. **A quorum was present.**

Attendance

1. Alison Byer
2. Joan Fitzgerald
3. Bob Miller
4. Steve Cohen
5. David Scott
6. Pam Cohen
7. Pat Lane
8. Hans Francke
9. Enno Krebbers
10. Richard Mondzelewski
11. Barbara Mondzelewski
12. Hal Goodwin
13. Dotty Verne
14. Hardy Hoegger
15. Janet Cosgrove
16. Bob DeNigris
17. Rusty Hoegger
18. Sandy Landerl
19. Betty Ann Themal
20. Harry Themal
21. Shari Phalan
22. Oliver Gutsche
23. Holly Custer
24. Shira Butt
25. Edmond Bischoff
26. Warren Butt
27. Maureen Gordon
28. Cindy Cohen
29. Sheila Johnston

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barbara Mondzelewski

Operating Accounts:	\$24,504.53
Municipal Street Aid:	11,894.05
Arden Building & Loan:	<u>22,591.37</u>
Total Funds Available:	\$58,989.95

TRUSTEES' BUDGET/LAND RENT RATE: Bob DeNigris

The Trustees presented the 2008 Budget and the 2007 Actual Expense reports. Copies were distributed at the meeting. Land rent has been increased 7.5%. See Bob DeNigris for a copy of the report.

TRUSTEES' REPORT: Bob DeNigris, Barbara Mondzelewski, Harry Themal

Nothing further to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Hans Francke, reporting
Members: Enno Krebbers, Betty Solway Smith, Betty Ann Themal, Barbara Mondelewski, Bob DeNigris, and Hans Francke
The Budget Committee met on January 30th 2008 to prepare the 2008 budget.

The income side of the budget includes \$12,000 in Municipal Street Aid, \$10,000 from the Trust, under a Trust grant (included \$5000 for snow removal), Funds for the speed sign program on Harvey Road -\$8,400- and the residual income from last year's Forest Management Grant for a total of \$35,815.

On the expense side, \$12,000 is earmarked for road repair, \$5,000 for snow removal, while contributions to Arden and local activities are kept constant. The Town's contributions to ACRA, etc. amount to \$3,525. Total expenditures are \$30,670.

This gives us a surplus of \$5,145.
Copies of the Budget are available from the Town Secretary.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Sheila Johnston
Kimberly Landis has moved from 2204 Loreley Lane
Debbie Simmons has moved from 1505 Harvey
Barbara Terrill has moved from 1501 The Mall
Beth Holloway has moved from 2203 Swiss Lane

Matt Zelaski has moved into his new house at 2312 Sconset Road
Heather Arden Matera has moved into 2203 Swiss Lane with her two children;
Madison Arden Matera and Tyler Julius Matera.

Patricia Cavanaugh and her son, Brett Cavanaugh have moved into 2306 Loreley Lane

William Dom has moved into 2201 Swiss Lane.

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Rusty Hoegger
Nothing to report

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Alison Byer presenting for Beverley Fleming
Buzz Ware continues to serve The Ardens by providing rooms for meetings, seminars, and workshops.

We are presently taking bids for new windows. Repairs have been made on the A/C and heating. The roof above front door and ceiling replacement inside front door will be finalized by September, 2008.

Ardens Waldorf School negotiations continue. We will have an updated report for the next Town meeting.

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT: Holly Custer
Nothing to report

PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY REPORT: Pat Lane

Paths/Trees/Compost Area - Elaine Schmerling:

1) CEPF Grant - we received payment for the last disbursement request of \$545 (Hal Goodwin cut down 7 large Norway maples deep in the woods down by the creek, down from Strange property) and the botany report; we have \$575 left for this spring, mostly for follow-up botanical study and walk-through forest assessment. We hope to use this assessment to help us plan future work.

2) TREE GRANTS - we will be putting out another tree grant application this year. Regardless of getting grant award, the trustees agree its time to plant some more street trees, which we will walk-through* and plan out in the spring time. The planting, which we will do regardless of the grant, will be match for this new grant application. Anyone who wants to be part of this walk-through let me know!

3) Compost area - not sure what to say, the bins all got full, they've settled down some. Hal did arrange (at his expense, part of his pay-back for using the site) to get a loader in and move around as needed, and he hauled out a load of sticks. (Remind people, no sticks, just leaves! However I think its contractors leaving sticks).

Hal Goodwin worked with Ron's Tree Service on 2 occasions recently to clean up downed trees at Appletree & Hilltop and also at Loreley & Orchard.

Hal Goodwin also repaired the town mailbox at the dinner theater.

Roads - Drew Hansen:

Downing has completed the work requested on Sconset, Millers and Swiss. We have received an invoice for the amount specified (\$12,700). Once the work is inspected and deemed satisfactory, the invoice will be delivered to Barb Mondzelewski for payment.

Signs - Cheryl Regan/Barry Wallace:

Not too much new with road signs. We have 12 that have been painted and glass bead has been applied for reflection. They need to be put up. Currently we do not have funds for more signs.

Snow/Sand - David Byer:

Nothing to report/

Sunnyside Tract - Barbara Conway

Steve Cohen, Alison Byer, Maura Lynch and I toured the Sunnyside Tract in late December. We were looking for signs of intrusion, damage, dirt bike trails, and also we wanted to see our way around. There is a trail that travels the circumference of the tract and it took us about 2 hours to walk it at a leisurely pace.

We found the property to be in good shape. Despite some complaints of dirt bikes invading and damaging the area from some folks in Radnor Green (Claymont), we saw no problems. It also appears that "Barry", the homeless man who was living under the Harvey Road bridge and on the Sunnyside Tract, has vacated the area. There was a small amount of weather beaten trash left behind by him, but there were no other signs of him there as there were before.

If anyone would like a tour of the area, please call me and I would be happy to show you around the trail. It is a beautiful space meant to be enjoyed by us all.

Town Watch - Holly Custer:

All has been peaceful

Playground - Nothing to report.

TOWN CHAIR REPORT: Alison Byer

In response to a letter of concern from CCOBH, Alison brought up for discussion the alleged practice of some members of the General Assembly blocking bills and not allowing them to come up for a public hearing or vote.

The Town unanimously voted to send a letter to Sen. Thurman Adams, President Pro Tem, requesting the General Assembly to open its legislative deliberations to public scrutiny and to end the practice of individual members' power to block bills.

Eileen Butler from DNREC will send Nature Preserve signs for the Sunnyside tract.

The Department of Land Use held a public hearing on January 2 and will recommend approval of the Amendment to approve existing ADUs.

Alison also thanked Steve Cohen for all of his work in coordinating the 'Your Speed Is' sign. Everyone also thanked Steve for his time served as Town Chair.

ELECTIONS:

Memorial Gardens Committee: Elected for a 2 year term
Rusty Hoegger and Betty Ann Themal

Archives Committee: Elected for a 2 year term
Betty Solway Smith and Katrina Nelson

NEW BUSINESS:

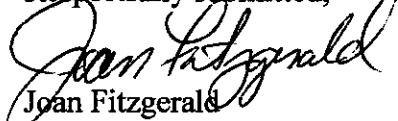
Janet Cosgrove reported Tom Nelson has seen 7 deer around his property. We need to find out at what point do we need to be concerned over population growth and how to handle it. Alison Byer will check into this.

Pam Cohen has been feeding and caring for the abandon cats and has requested assistance in the neutering of these cats. David Scott reported how quickly these cats can reproduce. Janet Cosgrove has volunteered to contact Forgotten Cats. The Town unanimously agreed to spend \$350.

Woods Clean up – watch for the date in the Arden Page.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joan Fitzgerald
Secretary

Joan Fitzgerald
Ardentown Secretary
2305 Loreley Lane
Ardentown, DE 19810



Cindy and Steve Cohen
2205 Loreley Lane
Ardentown, DE 19810