

# Arden Advisory Committee Meeting, 3 January 2006 (uncorrected)

Present: Ruth Bean, Terry Colgan, Mike Curtis, Williard Glenn, Aaron Hamburger, Lynda Kolski, Connee McKinney, Lisa Mullinax, Sally Sharpe, Steven Threefoot, Elizabeth Varley, Larry Walker, Danny Schweers

Elizabeth Varley called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

**TOWN ASSEMBLY CHAIR:** Steven Threefoot reported that the Local Services Function Application (LSFA) with New Castle County (NCCo) has changed, part of the process to determine NCCo's services to the Village and the associated tax rate to the Trust. The fiscal year 2007 application is complete. The line item breakout for the Civic Committee's 2006/07 budget, approved by referendum last October, was changed from previous years to make it easier for the committee to handle shifting in expenditures. The details are now in notes on the budget. As a consequence, we will need to do more work than in the past to complete future LSFAs for NCCo.

A lawyer from United Water has reached an agreement with T-Mobile to add antennas to water tower, similar to arrangement with Sprint. We have contacted our lawyer (Lasko) to negotiate, the same lawyer who drew up the Sprint agreement, who should be at Town Meeting when we vote, to inform us of the facts before we vote. If approved, Village would get a steady income from this agreement.

There will be a Delaware League of Local Government meeting later in the month, January 26, reviewing state legislation affecting municipalities. All are invited to the Dover Sheraton; meeting includes a meal. New election laws may affect the way we vote. Registration and Community planning may be interested, as may one of the Trustees.

New Castle County Executive Chris Coons has a quarterly meeting with municipalities. His administration is much more transparent, especially financially.

**TRUSTEES:** Aaron Hamburger talked about the issue of multiple domiciles. A letter will be sent to all leaseholders. Historically, our community has had mixed land use. We would like to have that continue but, with respect to multi-domiciles, most are technically illegal at the moment. We have struggled with this for years, that these leaseholds have no legal protection. For example, if one burned down, it could not be rebuilt. The other problem is that we are losing leaseholds with multiple domiciles. Will propose that we negotiate with NCCo about the 27 illegal leaseholds. (Five others are legal, including the Craft Shop Museum.) Also, want to allow former extra domiciles to come back in. Also, want to allow new extra domiciles. Our target is to have the Town Assembly approve a series of proposals to be made to NCCo. Problem is finding records or, as in the case with Alan Burslem, getting affidavits, that multiple domiciles existed before 1954. Discussion ensued. At Town Meeting, Community Planning Committee will be asked to look at this issue.

**ARCHIVES:** Lisa Mullinax says they will change exhibit soon and are struggling to keep regular hours with volunteers.

**CRAFT SHOP MUSEUM:** Board will meet just before Town Meeting says Aaron Hamburger.

**AUDIT:** no one in attendance

**BUDGET:** no one in attendance. Committee needs a chair soon, as Tom Frantz is moving. Three-year forecast work begins in the next month. Besides Larry Strange is moving.

**BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER:** Willard Glenn shows a budget for 2006-2007 with a huge change due to the loss of the YMCA as a tenant. Discussion ensues, especially about restricted funds raised at two auctions, for windows, and from town budget, for roof repair. Lynda Kolski requests budget for current year. Pam Politis will be nominated to serve in Jane Frantz's place on Committee.

**CIVIC COMMITTEE:** - no one present. Dale Brumbaugh will be nominated to replace Deborah Kenney.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING:** Terry Colgan says they will meet this month before Town Meeting. Will be talking about Trustees' multiple-housing proposal. They have been approached by a woman interested in co-housing. (Discussion of free housing and free love ensued, with laughter.) A grant has been applied for an aerial survey of impervious cover, working with an architect who is familiar with alternatives to macadam such as cinder. Committee is considering proposals for land rent incentives to replace impervious with permeable cover. Cynthia Dewick has volunteered to assist Ruth Bean in managing the Memorial Garden. (Ruth recently found an unmarked vault. Others remarked on stories they'd heard of impromptu and undocumented burials.)

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE:** Christine could not be here.

**PLAYGROUND:** Larry Walker says inspections done.

**REGISTRATION:** Ruth Bean says they are keeping committee-member list current. Committee may move to disband Legislative Reference at next town meeting with duties, such as Parliamentarian and Red Book, given to others.

**SAFETY:** no one present. (Some find themselves amused that Bill Theis, who recently lost the ends of two fingers when he unjammed his snow blower, is on that committee. According to Bill, he was a victim of an ADA - an Attention Deficit Accident.)

**COOKIES:** Budget did it last time, meaning the BWVC would do it this time.

**OTHER:** Steven Threefoot was approached recently by Ardentown resident wondering why we have three different governments, especially since we all have difficulty finding people to serve. Are there certain areas where the three towns can share more responsibility?

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danny Schweers, Secretary