

Community Planning Committee
Minutes, 30 April 2008

Present: Ron Meick, Danny Schweers, Ray Seigfried, Sally Sharpe. Absent:
Terry Colgan, Michael Falstad.
ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Danny Schweers, sub-convenor, called the meeting to order at about 7:30 p.m. He nominated Ray Seigfried as chair. Ron Meick seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Danny agreed to serve as Secretary. Sally Sharpe agreed to serve as publicist, to make sure our meeting times were properly posted. Danny then turned the meeting over to Ray.

LANDMARK STATUS

Ray mentioned that the Ardens are applying for a federal grant that will cover the costs of applying for National Historical Landmark status. Villagers working to obtain this status include Beverly Barnett, Shari Phalan, and Amy Pollock. They have been in touch with Robin Krawitz, National Register Program Coordinator, Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, 21 The Green, Dover, DE, (302) 736-7411.

FAA SUIT

Ray moved, and Ron seconded, that our committee serve as the liaison between the Village of Arden and the legal suit against the FAA. Motion was accepted unanimously. Ray thought it important that northern Delaware be heard on this issue and not ignored because other neighboring counties were heard.

SHOPPING MALL PLANS

Ray encouraged others to join him in attending a public hearing on a proposed shopping center. The Woodlawn Trustees and a subsidiary of the Stoltz Brothers Development Company want to develop the southwest corner of Concord Pike (Hwy. 202) and Naamans Road. The public hearing will take place Thursday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m. at Talley Middle School, 1110 Cypress Road, near Arden. This hearing is sponsored by the CCOBH (Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred). A summary of the heated debate so far can be found at www.ccobh.com.

WOODS CLEANUP

At the last town meeting, Ray agreed with the suggestion that the annual woods cleanup be left strictly in the hands of the Forest Committee. Nevertheless, an subsequent article in the Arden Page said the Community Planning Committee was still involved. Then Ray got a call from organizers wanting a list of volunteers. Perhaps by next year, it will be clearer this committee is no longer an organizer of this event. Ron noted that while Arden is the center of the universe, it is important that we recognize the importance of the rest of the universe. Yes, agreed Danny, we are only the hub.

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

A description of this committee and its duties is found on the Committees page of this website. The committee agreed to review this description and email alternatives to Ray, who will blend them together into one description which he will email back to members, who will make further comments. After hearing those comments, he will write a final description, which Danny will post on the website in place of the old one.

ADU ORDINANCE

The Additional Domicile Unit Ordinance was approved at the last town meeting. Now we will send out a letter to everyone in the village, inviting them to participate. Some extra domiciles may not qualify as ADUs because the owner is an absentee landlord. The committee is working with Alyson Byer in Ardentown and Pat Toman in Ardencroft to make this work for all three villages with New Castle County.

LEASEHOLD DIVISION

A leaseholder has asked to have his leasehold, with two separate homes, be divided so each dwelling sits on its own leasehold. Since the division would possibly create the smallest leaseholds in Arden, Ray will look first to New Castle County to see how its rules might affect the division. Besides the small size of the leasehold, the two dwellings now share a single driveway, one of perhaps several issues what would have to be addressed before division could be completed.

FUTURE MEETINGS

We tentatively agreed to meet on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p.m. at the Buzz Ware Village Center.

We adjourned at about 9:00 p.m.