

Community Planning Committee
Minutes, 19 January, 2011

Present: Committee members Cynthia Dewick, Ron Meick, Danny Schweers, Ray Seigfried (chair), and Sally Sharpe. That's everyone!

Ray called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 2 of the Buzz Ware Village Center. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously with one correction.

Memorial Garden Wall

Cynthia reported that efforts continue to get the new mortar to match the old. At present, the repaired wall has smooth mortar, which does not match the old wall.

Long-Vacant Houses: Letters & Fees

The committee reviewed a letter to be mailed to owners of leaseholds that have been vacant one (1) year or older. We unanimously approved distributing a sample letter at the January Town Meeting, along with a description of our process for

mailing it.

After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Town Assembly, at its January meeting, should be asked if it wants this committee to pursue registration fees for long-vacant houses. Cynthia has done good research on this, and fees can be imposed if the Village wants to do so. Wilmington has done so for years, and has won every court case brought against it.

Speed Tables on Harvey Road

Cynthia presented several pages of emails between her, State Representative Byron Short, and Delaware Department of Transportation. Nothing was the least bit encouraging about the possibility of speed tables, so the committee voted unanimously not to pursue the issue further for the moment, that is, speed tables were tabled.

Request for Changes in County Land-Use Codes

Ray reported that County Representative John Cartier expects this to come to a vote

in April.

Impermeable Surfaces

Sally would like to see impermeable surfaces discouraged in Arden. We will examine this issue at our next meeting.

Water Main Breaks

A recent accident by the water company, while flushing the water tower, resulted in many water main breaks (15 or so). One basement got flooded. Also, some customers were billed double their usual amount because the water meters malfunctioned.

Nominees Needed for March Elections

Ray, Ron, and Sally are up for re-election in March, 2011 and have agreed to be nominated again. Six nominees are needed to fill three positions. The other three nominees are Nancy Ellis, Harold Kalmus, and Lillian Shah.

Next Meeting, Adjournment

Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 16, 7:00 p.m. at The Buzz. This meeting

adjourned at 8:51 p.m., that's when it happened.

Respectively submitted,
Danny Schweers, Committee Secretary