

INSIDE: MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2003

All Village of
Arden residents
are encouraged to
attend the next

TOWN ASSEMBLY

Monday, June 23, 2003, at 7:30 p.m. at the Gild Hall,
2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

THE TOWN ASSEMBLY AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. Proposed T-Mobile cellphone pole installation at Hillside Road right-of-way adjacent to Water Tower site.*
2. Update on Harvey Road Traffic Calming and DelDOT's plans.
3. Update on negotiations to purchase the Avery property.
4. Committee Reports in reverse-alphabetical order including good news of our financial situation, a report about road repair, a report on small changes in voting procedures for the March Village elections, and announcement of a second woods cleanup in late summer.
5. Cookies courtesy of the Legislative Planning Committee.

ALL ARE WELCOME HITHER

Please note: Those attending town meetings are eligible to vote only if they have resided in Arden six consecutive months prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.



Information meeting and site visitation
on T-Mobile pole proposal:

Sunday, June 22, 3:00 p.m., Buzz Ware Village Center.

Minutes of the Town Assembly for the Village of Arden

Monday, March 24, 2003

Gild Hall - Arden, Delaware

One hundred and one residents were in attendance, as shown below. About half of these voted and left before any reports were made, so that attendance was actually normal for the business portion of the meeting, about 55 people. Except for five people, everyone who attended the last meeting attended this meeting, if only to vote.

Frank Akutowicz
Lew Aumack
Beverly Barnett
Elizabeth Bean
Ruth Bean
Samuel L. Bean
William R. Berry, Jr.
Steven Blades
Jennifer Borders
Walter Borders
Lizzie Broadbent
Dela Bryan
Bill Busch
Judy Butler
Marianne Cinaglia
Richard Cohen
Joann Colameco
Alton Dahl
Chris Demsey
Cynthia Dewick
Ellen Dolmetsch
Jack Dolmetsch
Dorinda Dove
David Ewing
Carl Falco
Joan Fitzgerald
Jane Frantz
Tom Frantz
David Gerbec
Stephen George
Rachel Grier-Reynolds
Rick Grier-Reynolds
Charlie Hahn
Aaron Hamburger
Sally Hamburger

Barbara Henry
Amy Hill
Sylvia Hilliard
Heidi Hoegger
Frank Holodick
Rodney Jester
A. Barnes King
Yvonne King
Allan Kleban
June Kleban
Sharon Kleban
Lynda Kolski
Barbara Anne Macklem
Mary L. Marconi
Albert Marks
Mary Anne McClemens
Connee Wright McKinney
Russ McKinney
Irene O'Conner
Betty O'Regan
Denis O'Regan
Ronnie Ozer
Ruth Panella
Sam Panella
Pam Pearson
Robert Perkins
Jeffrey Politis
Pamela Politis
Al Pompper
Bill Press
Peter A. Renzetti
Liz Resko
Hugh Roberts
Marjorie Roberts
Charles E. Robinson

Nanette Robinson
Ed Rohrbach
Rick Rothrock
Sue Rothrock
Kate Sayer
Marvin Sayer
Johanne Schroeder
Christina Schubert
Danny Schweers
Alex Scala
James W. Scott
James N. Semenick
Sally E. Sharp
Sadie Somerville
Jannie Stearns
Ken Sutton
Steve Tanzer
Mark Taylor
Debbie Theis
William Theis
Kate Threefoot
Steven Threefoot
Elizabeth Varley
George Vernon
Mary Vernon
Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker
Leah Walker
Jan Westerhouse
Tom Wheeler
Mark Zylkin

ALSO PRESENT:
Grady R. Jones
Nancy Ravert-Ward

- 1. Meeting called to order:** Steven Threefoot, Town Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
- 2. New Nominees.** Steven asked for nominees from the floor. At 6:30 p.m., nominations were closed, none having been submitted.
- 3. Voting.** Voting began for village offices at 6:30 p.m. and continued for an hour, at which time it was halted while the business portion of the meeting began. This earlier-than-usual voting hour was an attempt to encourage more residents to vote in the election of Village officials and was quite successful.
- 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting.** At 7:30 p.m., the minutes of the previous meeting were approved with corrections. Rodney Jester, a Georgist of keen perception and intelligence, complemented the Village Secretary for successfully making the minutes of the previous meeting so readable and asked those assembled to give a round of applause. In response, Mr. Schweers considered standing on the table and doing a victory jig but his sense of decorum and good sense prevailed.
- 5. New Residents:** Pam and Jeffrey Politis introduced their seven-week-old son, Jackson.
- 6. Voting Resumes:** Cecilia Vore, Chair of the Registration Committee, passed out ballots to those who had not yet voted.
- 7. Deceased Residents.** Larry Walker noted that Flo Masci's husband, Ed, died about three weeks ago. His remains are to be interred in the Arden Memorial Garden in the same gravesite as Flo. She was once active in the Arden Players. Steven Threefoot asked for a moment of silence, not only to honor Flo's husband, but also to respect those killed in the current war in Iraq.
- 8. Student Visitor.** Nancy Ravert-Ward, a student from Widener University, was in attendance, researching town meetings. We trust she learned a lot by our example.
- 9. T-Mobile Visitor.** Grady Jones, representing T-Mobile Communications, rose to talk about the monopole site his company wishes to lease from the Village. He noted they had first tried other locations which proved unacceptable, both at the Odd Fellows Hall at the corner of Marsh and Grubb, and at the fire station at Marsh and Naamans. The first site was too controversial; the second site turned out to be governed by the Hanby Trust, which does not allow commercial development of any kind. Mr. Jones passed out two plans, A and B, to locate the monopole near and at the present site of the water tower in Sherwood Forest. Betty O'Regan, who lives near that site, asked how big the pole would be and was told it would be about twenty inches in diameter and 120 feet tall, with antennas on top. Alton Dahl, after asking some questions, noted that the site would be in a good place and would produce a healthy income stream for the Village. Rodney Jester preferred that the site use the same site as the water tower without any expansion. Frank Akutowicz complained that this monopole will stick out, unlike the water tower, which blends into the forest. This comment caused many in the audience to laugh. Ron Ozer noted that the drawing was not to scale. **Aaron Hamburger moved that the Town Assembly authorize the Civic Committee and the Town Chair to continue to negotiate with T-Mobile for erection of a cell phone pole near the water tower.** Cecilia Vore seconded. Marianne Cinaglia was told there would be no light on top of the pole, since it is the same height as the water tower; that, yes, T-Mobile might sublease space on the pole to other cell-phone providers, which would increase the Village's lease payments; that the new fence would be like the old, though a stockade fence could be

erected instead; that, no, the pole cannot be painted to look like a tree trunk; that there would be no guy-wires; that birds flock to some poles but not others—why is unknown; that this pole will broadcast at 1935MHz, much less powerfully than poles broadcasting at 500 or 800 MHz; that the pole will arrive in three parts and be put into place with a crane; that T-Mobile would do a pre-construction walk-through with neighbors to reassure them that erection of the pole will have minimum impact; and that people can look at existing poles at Naamans and I-95 or on behind Concord High School off of Naamans. Johanne Schroeder wants new monopole to use same site as water tower, wants a permeable base for building, doesn't want something that will look like an "amusement park of the absurdly ugly." She was told T-Mobile will need a 10x18-foot pad three inches thick on which to put their equipment, which will be the size of a large refrigerator and keyed for security. Only the tower goes into the ground. The question was called. Alton, on a point of order, says the question cannot be called until the person calling it is recognized. Steven agrees. In response to a further question, it was noted that the pole will be sunk forty feet into the ground. The motion was then approved.

10. Avery Task Force. Lynda Kolski, chair, submitted the following report.

"Very little has happened since the last town meeting. The county is willing to consider owning one third of the Avery property in exchange for their one-third contribution to the purchase price. Since by law, the county is only allowed to pay fair market value for property, they are trying to find a way to justify valuing one third of the property at their agreed on contribution. The county attorney feels he can do this by carving out the most developable third of the property for county ownership. However, this has to be approved by Tom Gordon before we can move forward."

Bev Barnett noted she has been conducting tours of the property. Those interested should call Bev at 529-0271. Lew Aumack asked why our discussion has gone from owning all the land to owning only two-thirds. Lynda replied that New Castle County must own whatever property it pays money for, unlike the State of Delaware, which is giving us a grant. Steven Threefoot noted that even if the County owns the land, they will give us a 99-year lease. Rodney Jester wants to see the property purchased but utilized in accordance with Georgist principles. Cecilia Vore would rather not have the County involved but recognizes it would be difficult for the Village to afford to purchase property without the County's help. Yes, agreed Lynda, who noted that the Village's share would jump from \$300,000 to \$600,000 without County help. One possibility is that the County would own the land along Marsh Road, furthest from Arden. A tall resident (unfamiliar to this chronicler who would like speakers to identify themselves) suggested strong prohibitions on the use of the County's portion, that these be incorporated into any agreement with the County. Lynda noted that the State requires no development for fifty years and that Arden would have first right of refusal on purchase of the New Castle County (NCCo) land, should the County decide to sell it. Betty O'Regan noted that if we don't buy it, someone might develop all of it. Jeff Politis moved that the report be accepted, which it was, unanimously.

11. Harvey Road Traffic Calming. Lynda Kolski, Committee Member, reported that, "The HRTCC met with the design group from DelDot and Urban Planners, the engineering firm hired to do the design. Although a very preliminary meeting, it was encouraging to find that one of the planners who will be working on this project has a strong interest in the Arts and Crafts period and is excited about trying to develop a design for Harvey Road that will reflect some of the influences of that period." Lynda's report was accepted unanimously.

12. Claymont Renaissance. Jane Frantz, our Town Assembly representative to the

Claymont Renaissance Committee, reported the following:

“The Claymont Renaissance Committee continues to meet on the third Thursday of each month. The meetings start at 5:00 p.m., they are open to the public, and dinner is provided to all attendees. I strongly urge anyone from Arden who is interested in the plans to revitalize Claymont to attend one of these meetings.

“The Renaissance committee celebrated its second anniversary at the meeting on March 20th. The first workshop to discuss plans to rehabilitate Claymont was held on March 21, 2001. As I reported at the January Town Meeting, the Committee is feeling some pressure to start showing results of all the planning and meetings that have taken place over the past two years. As a result, there has been considerable work on both the street plan, which involves redesigning Philadelphia Pike, and the build-out plan, which involves the redevelopment of certain streets and neighborhoods in the Claymont Center area.

“The build-out plan being put together by Thomas Committa Associates, Inc., Claymont’s town planner, and is impressive in its scope and design. The first presentation by Committa Associates was given on February 20th. A slightly revised version was presented at the March 20th Committee meeting, and there will be two more meetings to discuss the build-out plan—one on April 17th and the other on May 15th—after which the idea is to present a build-out design concept to the residents of Claymont and the public. One of the major elements of the build-out plan is the redevelopment of the Brookview Apartment complex. The plan calls for the current apartment complex to be replaced by a mix of structures from inexpensive townhouses to more upscale single-family homes. The idea is to provide diversity in both the type and style of structures, as well as the price range. The current residents of Brookview Apartments who choose to stay in the redeveloped community will be provided assistance in securing mortgages so that renters can become first-time homeowners instead. Given that the apartments in Brookview rent for anywhere from \$600 to \$800 a month, the Committee feels that these folks could easily afford to pay mortgages if they were given help securing down-payments. The Committee was adamant that they feel a “legal, moral and ethical obligation” not to needlessly displace people from their homes, but to provide as much help and encouragement as they can in persuading people who want to, to stay and become homeowners.

“The other major element of the build-out plan is the creation of a central commercial district which links up educational and community activities with parks and recreational areas with business and commercial interests. The plan calls for connecting Greene Street to Darley Road, which will link the Claymont Community Center on Greene Street with the Woodshaven-Kruse recreational area on Darley Road. The third point on this triangle will be the commercial district known as the Claymont Center between Seminole and Manor Avenues.

“As part of the effort to develop the Claymont Center, the Committee has hired David Wilk, president of Greystone Realty Advisor, Inc., to come up with a strategic marketing plan to attract potential developers to the Claymont Renaissance and to assist with fundraising.

“The traffic plan for the redesign of Philadelphia Pike will be presented by DelDOT on April 14, 4:00–8:00 p.m., at the Claymont Community Center. There will be a presentation by staffers from DelDOT at 6:00 p.m., and folks from DelDOT and Committa Associates will be available to answer questions. The meeting is open to the public.

“The outstanding issues regarding the redesign of MacDonald’s and the plans by Wawa to open a store at the old Brosious-Eliason site are still not resolved. MacDonald’s will be giving a presentation at the next Claymont Renaissance meeting. Representatives from Wawa were at the Renaissance meeting on March 20th. They are still interested in opening a store on Philadelphia Pike, but insist on putting gas pumps out in front of the store, which is not consistent with the Renaissance plans nor with recent decisions from

New Castle County. Because of a combination of factors, from the sagging economy to strong support from the County and State, Claymont has had a strong hand to play in its dealings with both of these corporations. As a result, both companies have had to change their strategies in dealing with Claymont by becoming more flexible in their plans and actually working with the community.

“The next Claymont Renaissance Committee meeting is April 17 at 5:00 p.m. at the Claymont Community Center.”

Ruth Panella then talked about the Sunoco and other industries on the Pennsylvania border just north of Claymont. She mentioned the shut down of seven boilers, three in Delaware and four in Pennsylvania, and conformance with the Coastal Zoning Act. Steve Tanzer asked whether the Claymont Renaissance was a grass-roots effort. Jane responded by saying that nine of ten negative letters to the editor in local papers are from people who have never attended a meeting, which are open to everyone. In fact, Jane said, the representation at Committee meetings is broad, with many long-time residents. Frank Akutowicz thought the Renaissance was a good idea, but wondered how many fewer people would live in the renovated area once the Brookview Apartments were demolished. Jane responded that 800 new units would replace the 1,000 there now. The present apartments, she said, are an eye-sore, discouraging upkeep and inviting crime and drugs. The present owners want to see the area renewed. Once it is, State and Federal mortgage and down-payment programs with assist current residents in their move from being renters to being owners. Jane has drawings for people to see.

Jane’s report was accepted unanimously.

13. Trustees Report. Marianne Cinaglia, Senior Trustee, presented the Quarterly Financial Report, as follows:

“Land Rent is officially due tomorrow, March 25. It is constantly being received and deposited by our Administrative Assistant.

“Our attorney for the Buckingham Greene suit has informed us that the date for the non-binding mediation that the court is requiring that we undertake will be held Tuesday, May 6, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. The session will be held in the law office of former Chancellor Grover Brown. There is no legal obligation to settle the case at the mediation. The Trustees will meet with our lawyer, Roger Akin, in April. If anyone has recent information to add to the case, please forward it to me for consideration as new evidence.

“The Trustees held two meetings to obtain the views of village residents and leaseholders on Arden land rent issues. The meetings were announced at the last meeting and publicized in the Arden Page. About twenty residents participated in the sessions. The comments at the sessions indicated that there is a broad range of opinions about land use and also, straying a little from the topic, about Town Meeting and Arden Committee attitude and actions.

“Trustees land-use issues included:

- opinions about the fairness of land rent as is structured at present;
- whether we needed more, less or different guidelines for land use than are presently defined by New Castle County Code;
- the domicile issue and its relevance to economic diversity;
- the meaning and value of open space;
- the real consequences of splitting lots;
- the knowledge of Henry George’s principles by current residents;
- the fact that Henry George’s principles are only one of the bases of our community;
- and the sense that not enough residents in the Village retain a vision of a utopian community.

Some participants saw the Village as working as planned, others felt we were straying from or losing our vision. The concept of allowing residents to use their lot as they please but

adding an additional factor, a landscape factor, which would add land rent for total hardtop cover since the hardtop was interfering with the natural function of land, was suggested.

“There will be other meetings scheduled after the Trustees have sorted out the input from the two initial meetings.”

Alton Dahl rose to observe that people are mistaken in thinking that improvements to residences greatly raise everyone’s taxes. The recent additions to his house, he claimed, will raise the taxes on each leasehold only eighteen cents a year, by his calculations. Factors other than increased residence value, he contends, are responsible for rising or falling land rents. Rodney Jester agreed and encouraged everyone to come to the next meeting of the Georgist Guild. [The Georgist Guild normally meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Call Sadie Somerville at 475-1745 for details.]

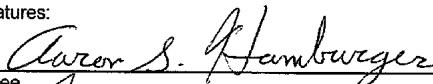
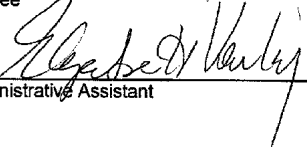
14. Trustees Financial Report. Aaron Hamburger, Trustee, presented what is nearly an end-of-the-fiscal-year report, as shown on the following pages. He noted that slightly more than ten thousand dollars of income were in donations for the purchase of the Avery property. In general, spending is down, taxes are up.

Jeff Politis suggested that the Avery donations should not count as reducing deficit. Steven Threefoot noted that the Avery donations are not totally restricted; if the property is not purchased, the Village still retains use of the funds.

Alton Dahl asked if the Craft Shop Museum, now off the tax rolls, will result in a tax refund. He was told no, that it doesn’t come off the rolls until next year.

New Task Force Approved. Bev Barnett asked the Village to study options to New Castle County’s Uniform

Development Code. She believes those codes are not a good match for Arden’s land use and she moved that “a limited term task force be appointed to study options to New Castle County’s Uniform Development Code for Arden’s land use.” She noted that Arden has lost 20 of the 60 rentals we had in 1964. Rodney Jester suggested this was premature; better would be to let the Trustees continue the work they’ve started, then appoint a task force. Trustee Connee McKinney echoed Rodney’s remarks, saying the sessions at the moment are informal with an emphasis on simply listening. Alton Dahl noted that zoning is a town function, not a Trustee decision. The Town Assembly, and the people of Arden, are getting left out of the decision-making. Bill Press noted that

03/21/03		Trustees of Arden Balance Sheet As of March 21, 2003	
ASSETS		<u>Mar 21, '03</u>	
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN - TRUSTEE		120,048.44	
TRUSTEES - WILMINGTON TRUST		107,857.94	
VANGUARD			
FUND 30		105,347.59	
FUND 33		32,198.37	
Total VANGUARD		<u>137,545.96</u>	
Total Checking/Savings		365,452.34	
Accounts Receivable			
LAND RENT RECEIVABLE		5,592.44	
Total Accounts Receivable		<u>5,592.44</u>	
Total Current Assets		<u>371,044.78</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>371,044.78</u>	
Signatures:			
			
Trustee			
			
Administrative Assistant			

Village of Arden
Income and Expenses Against Budget
March 25, 2002 to March 21, 2003

Expense	Apr 1, '02 - Mar 21, '03	Budget
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	110.00	375.00
ARCHIVES		
RENT	1,638.00	
ARCHIVES - Other	715.78	4,000.00
Total ARCHIVES	2,353.78	4,000.00
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	0.00	50.00
BOOKEEPING SERVICE	2,201.87	2,402.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE		
RENOVATIONS	5,721.30	6,000.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE - Other	999.60	1,000.00
Total BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE	6,720.90	7,000.00
CIVIC		
COMMONS & FORESTS	14,634.92	20,000.00
ROADS	17,110.85	16,000.00
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	1,768.47	1,500.00
TRASH	40,640.95	39,000.00
Total CIVIC	74,155.19	76,500.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING		
AVERY TASK FORCE	1,725.74	2,000.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING - Other	225.18	1,000.00
Total COMMUNITY PLANNING	1,950.92	3,000.00
CONTINGENCIES	422.50	2,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	4,050.00	4,050.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	850.00	850.00
GRANT EXPENSE		
DOT 03-P-Prog-17	12,000.00	
DEL DIV ARTS I	338.64	
ONE-TIME-AID TO LOCAL GOVERN.	2,895.00	
TRAILS RENEWAL FUND	1,530.00	
Total GRANT EXPENSE	16,763.64	
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	53.28	50.00
PLAYGROUND	947.25	1,800.00
REGISTRATION	515.15	1,200.00
SAFETY		
HARVEY RD. SPEED ENFORCEMENT	1,000.00	2,000.00
TOWN WATCH FEE	756.00	2,268.00
SAFETY - Other	0.00	1,000.00
Total SAFETY	1,756.00	5,268.00

Village of Arden
Income and Expenses Against Budget
 March 25, 2002 to March 21, 2003

Ordinary Income/Expense	Apr 1, '02 - Mar 21, '03	Budget
Income		
DONATIONS		
RESTRICTED DONATIONS	5,000.00	
DONATIONS - Town Watch	850.00	
Total DONATIONS	5,850.00	
GRANTS		
DOT 03-P-Prog-17	12,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU I	2,272.69	
NCC PASS-THRU II	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU III	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU IV	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU V	5,000.00	
TRAILS RENEWAL 2002	951.00	
TRAILS RENEWAL 2003	951.00	
GRANTS - Other	0.00	20,000.00
Total GRANTS	24,174.69	20,000.00
INTEREST-BANK	119.78	
DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD		
FUND 30	1,180.46	
FUND 33	1,538.05	
Total DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD	2,718.51	
TRUSTEES'S AB&L INTEREST	7,300.99	
Total INVESTMENT INCOME	10,019.50	
LAND RENT	320,029.67	323,000.00
LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE	1,357.23	
MEADOW LANE ACCESS	619.94	
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS - restricted use fund	3,010.00	
RIGHTS-OF-WAY		
CABLE TV	5,318.89	
ROADS	5,537.50	
UNITED WATER ANTENNA AGREEMENT	4,543.00	
Total RIGHTS-OF-WAY	15,399.39	
Uncategorized Income		
ARDEN CENTENNIAL BOOK INCOME	49.00	
EXCAVATION PERMITS	10.00	
FIELD THEATER RENTAL	300.00	
INSURANCE PAYMENT	700.00	
REFUNDS	22.53	
TRAFFIC FINES	198.80	
Other - Pass-thru of '02 MSA funds from state to Vanguard Fund 50	24,076.09	21,000.00
Total Uncategorized Income	25,356.42	21,000.00
Total Income	405,936.62	364,000.00

the current series of meetings held by the Trustees are not legal meetings, which the Town Assembly is. Let's wait, he said, to see what issues arise. Marianne Cinaglia said the Trustees' lawyer says that the County code governs the land because of the lease agreement. The trustees can raise the floor of the County code, through the lease. As for a Town Assembly task force on the issue, why now when the Trustees already have a process in motion? The Town Assembly could have at any time; having it now will only adversely affect the Trustees efforts. Lynda Kolski agreed, that the discussions with the Trustees have been valuable and should continue as started. Cecilia Vore supported Bev's motion, saying what the Trustees is doing is good but a Town Assembly task force would be good as well. After a counting of raised hands, the motion passed. The Trustees report was then accepted.

15. Archives Committee Report. Sadie Somerville reported that the Arden Archives had three recent acquisitions—an incredible scrapbook of Estella Frankel's filled with newspaper clippings, photos, and letters from 1929-1935, donated by Sonya Sloan; an oil painting by Louis Scott of Marion Bloch's house, donated by Hetty and Hans Francke in memory of Marion Bloch to Ardentown Archives (It had hung in Marion Bloch's house and was given to Hetty by Danny Bloch, M.B.'s son.); and a Miriam Hetzel pottery piece, donated by Pat Philips. This report was accepted unanimously.

16. Arden Craft Shop Museum Report. It was reported that, at a New Castle County variance hearing on the previous Thursday, the ACSM is allowed to retain the current eleven spaces rather than being required to have as many as eighteen. If it turns out we need more, every effort will be made to make such additional parking invisible except when in use. A contactor, Ardencroft resident Ken Morrison, has been hired. Sub-contractors are now giving bids, many of which are higher than expected, so the budget is tight and the scope of the project might have to be reduced somewhat. This report was accepted unanimously.

17. Assessors Report. None was made.

18. Audit Committee Report. None was made.

19. Budget Committee Report. Mark Zylkin, chair, presented the Three-Year Budget Forecast as seen on the following pages, with these notes.

Notes: Three-Year Forecast
FY 2004-2005 —FY 2005-2006 —FY 2006-2007
March 24, 2003

General. After the substantial increases this year (2002-2003), carrying on to our Projected Costs for next budget year (2003-04), the really good news is that the overall Forecast Spend for the next three years, (out to 2006-07) is expected to be below the current inflation rate of 2% p.a. Indeed, the 3-year increase is approx. 4.5% over that period. As a result the following notes only refer to something out of the ordinary.

Property Taxes:

- (a) County Taxes: Represents a 1% yearly increase.
- (b) School Taxes: Represents a 2 to 3% yearly increase.
- (c) Over the 3-year period the projection is for a 6 % increase

Archives Committee: The \$700 one-off increase for 2004-05 represents re-location expenses from BWVC to the new Arden Craft Shop Museum.

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee: New item, Roof Replacement. Over time the

various patchwork repairs have delayed the inevitable need to replace the roof. The Project and cost is anticipated at \$12,000 spread over two years. Any under spend in the first year would be rolled over into the second year. In addition \$2,000 is added as a general contingency for loss of rental income (previously paid by Archives) to the extent BWVC are unable to obtain any new rental for the space vacated by Archives.

Civic Committee: The 5% increase here is on Roads, Trash and general Clean Up. Certainly the severe weather will mean more expense in repairing roads. Also, Civic anticipates spending more on Commons & Forests trimming and restitution, because of the age of so many trees.

Community Planning Committee-Avery Task Force: The Task Force is requesting an annual \$2,000 for expenses to complete the stewardship of Arden's proposal to purchase the five-acre Avery property. It also anticipates that by 2006 it will have concluded it's responsibilities, so no further funds are needed.

Town Expenses: The 3 year increase is 10%, mainly to reflect:

(i) The annual increase in part-time salaries for Secretarial and Bookkeeping duties.

This increase is at the annual rate of 3 to 4%.

(ii) In addition the Town Chair has taken the view that we need to further support our local fire companies, as it is believed their importance to Arden will increase. Thus the suggested 50% increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Comments: Alton Dahl noted that the \$1900 drop in Archives should be offset by a \$1900 increase for the Buzz Ware Village Center. This report was accepted unanimously.

**March 24, 2003
THREE YEAR FORECAST
FY 2004-2005, FY 2005-2006 & FY 2006-2007**

NON-BUDGET EXPENSES:	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
Property Taxes:						
County	56,782	57,227	58,000	58,500	59,000	59,500
School	152,889	184,904	191,500	197,000	203,000	205,000
Sub-Total: Property Taxes	\$209,671	\$242,131	\$249,500	\$255,500	\$262,000	\$264,500
Trustees Administration:						
Audit	4,470	\$4,250	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,500
Insurance	6,241	6,750	8,500	8,500	8,500	9,000
Legal	4,896	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Miscellaneous/Operations & Fees	9,174	6,500	6,500	6,500	7,000	7,000
Office Rent	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,160	2,200	2,200
Payroll Taxes	1,482	1,600	1,650	1,700	1,750	1,800
Salaries:Administration	9,084	9,180	9,420	9,600	9,840	10,000
Sub-Total: Trustees Administration	\$37,447	\$45,380	\$48,170	\$48,460	\$49,290	\$50,500
Other Non-Budget Expenses:						
Grants - State of Delaware						
State Grant (Arts) to BWVC Comm.	1,361					
State Grant for Roads to Civic Committee	12,185	10,000	12,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads	17,240	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Sub-Total: Other Non-Budget Expenses	\$30,786	\$30,000	\$32,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

“This has also been a busy time for renovation planning. We have gutted a major portion of the boys’ bathroom and have pinpointed problems with the roof. We are planning to re-do the entire flat area over the bathrooms. Once the architectural assessments have been made for the bathrooms, we will be bidding out the project to general contractors. Our goal is to have this project completed within the next three months.

“The next phase will be the new entrance doors and to address the roof problems over the entranceway. This will most likely require a structural design change in that area of the roof. The remainder of the roof will be tended to over the next two years. Our forecasted three-year Arden budget reflects this in the footnotes.

“The window renovations are in early planning stages. Currently there are two options:

- Hold the money for the time being to use as a match should we find grants for which to apply, or
- Go ahead and do one section of windows with the money we have already raised at the auction and later on do another section, after having held another fund-raising event.

It is still too early to decide which path we must choose. In the meantime we still have people working on acquiring estimates for the work and checking on grants.

“We are very pleased to have Jamie Campanella working as our janitor/maintenance person now. The YMCA has already expressed their appreciation of his work and we are elated to have someone such as himself on our staff.

“Upcoming events are:

- March 30th: Taqsim in concert at 7:00 PM
- April 21st: Greenwillow Folk Club concert
- April 12, 13th: Art Exhibit: Kyla Rafert: Small Portraits in Oil & Linoleum Block
- May 10th & 11th: Russ McKinney: New Copper works
- June 14th & 15th: Allen Spetnagel: Painter/Cartoonist
- April 14th: next BWVC Committee meeting at 7:30 PM; the following months our meetings will be the third Monday of every month. As always, all are welcome to sit in on our meetings.” This report was accepted unanimously.

21. Civic Committee Report. At Bev Barnett’s request, a two-page list of birds found in Sherwood Forest has been included in these minutes, on the following pages. The list is printed front and back so it can be easily clipped out and used for future reference. Sue Rothrock, Chair, gave the following report.

“The Civic Committee would like to start by thanking several people who have volunteered their time to benefit Arden. We would thank Walter Broadbent and Aaron Hamburger for their terms on the Civic Committee. Aaron will continue to be a Civic volunteer and advisor on several matters. We would like to thank Civic volunteers Beverly Barnett and Alton Dahl for their work on the Sherwood Forest Survey. The final report is amazing and available for viewing in the Arden Library. One note of interest is that our woods are on the migratory path of many birds. The biologist suggests that, especially during the time of migration, we should keep all cats and dogs from running wild through the woods.

“We would also like to thank Civic volunteer Jane Frantz for writing the grant to obtain funding for the Arden Woods Survey. We have received notice that Arden has been approved to receive the grant. This grant requires that Arden residents donate more volunteer time, which counts as matching funds. One way to volunteer is through helping with the woods cleanup on April 12. This includes picking up trash as well as pulling invasive plants such as ivy. Lynda Kolski will have more details about the woods cleanup in her report. Anyone who wants to volunteer can contact Lynda or myself for details.

“We have received a check from the trash company to repair the bridge that was damaged on Meadow Lane. The repairs will start when the weather permits.

“The annual special trash pickup (a.k.a. “the Arden Free Yard Sale Day”) will be on April 19th. A special notice will be sent out to all leaseholds with all the facts.

“Please come out for the woods clean-up. If you would like to organize an ivy pull in

LIST OF BIRDS OBSERVED IN SHERWOOD FOREST
 ARDEN, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE, 2002 FIELD SURVEYS

STATUS

ST = state threatened
 SE = state endangered
 S1 = DE heritage 1st priority rank
 S2 = DE heritage 2nd priority rank
 S3 = DE heritage 3rd priority rank
 S#B = breeding status
 S#N - non-breeding status

NESTING

N = probably nests in Sherwood Forest
 ? = may nest in or near Sherwood Forest
 X = does not nest in Sherwood Forest

OCCURRENCE

FO = fly over
 M = migration
 R = year-round resident
 S = summer
 W = winter
 * = observed by Arden resident only

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS	NESTING	OCCURRENCE
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		?	R
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>		?	R
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>		X	M,W
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>		?	R
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>		X	FO
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		X	FO
Rock Dove	<i>Columbia livia</i>		N	R
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaidra macroura</i>		N	R
Eastern Screech Owl	<i>Otus asio</i>		N	R
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>		N	M,S
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>		N	M,S
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Caryle alcyon</i>		?	R
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>		N	R
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>		X	W
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>		N	R
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	S3	N	R
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>		N	R
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	S3	?	R
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>		N	M,S
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>		N	M,S
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>		N	M,S
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>		?	S
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>		?	M,S
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		?	M,S
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>		N	R
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>		N	R
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>		?	R
Carolina Chickadee	<i>Parus carolinensis</i>		N	R
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Rarus bicolor</i>		N	R
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	S3	N	R
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	S1B	X	W
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>		N	R
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>		N	S
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>		X	M,W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>		X	M

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS	NESTING	OCCURRENCE
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Poliophtila caerulea		?	M,S
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis		?	R
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	S2B	N	M,S
Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus		X	M*
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus		X	M,W
Wood Thrush	Hylocichia mustelina		N	S
American Robin	Turdus migratorius		N	R
Gray Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis		N	S
Northern Mockingbird	Mimus polygottos		N	R
Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum		N	S
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla garrulus		X	R
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris		N	R
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus		N	M,S
Northern Parula	Parula americana	S1B	X	M
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia		?	M
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica pensylvanica	S1B	X	M
Magnolia Warbler	Dendroica magnolia		X	M
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Dendroica caerulescens		X	M
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata		X	M,W
Black-throated Green Warbler	Dendroica virens		X	M
Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca		X	M
Palm Warbler	Dendroica palmarum		X	M
Blackpoll Warbler	Dendroica striata		X	M
Black and White Warbler	Minotilta varia	S3B	X	M
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	S1B	X	M
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapillus		N	S
Louisiana Waterthrush	Seiurus motacilla	S3B	?	M,S*
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas		N	S
Canada Warbler	Wilsonia pusilla		X	M
Scarlet Tanager	Piranga olivacea		N	S
Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis		N	R
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus		X	M
Eastern Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus		N	R
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	S3N	N	M,S
Fox Sparrow	Passerella iliaca		X	M,W
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia		N	R
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis		X	W
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis		X	W
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus		?	R
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula		N	R
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater		N	R
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula		N	S
Purple Finch	Carpodacus purpureus		X	W
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus		N	R
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis		N	R
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus		N	R

All birds listed in the table were observed by Jim White during the field surveys, unless otherwise noted. Status listings are in accordance with the Delaware Natural Heritage Program April 1999. *Delaware's Rare Animal Species of Conservation Concern.* Occurrence symbols indicate the species' presumed usage of the study area.

the forests at a later date, please contact me.”

22. Community Planning Report. Lynda Kolski, chair, presented the following report.

“Memorial Garden. The annual Spring Memorial Garden clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to noon. The raindate is Sunday, May 4, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. We are always looking for extra hands to pull weeds, rake, prune and just do some general spring clean-up. Even if you can stop by for just an hour or so, your help would be much appreciated.

“Remembrance Day is scheduled for Sunday, May 25, at Gild Hall. This year we will be remembering the Whiteside Family, including Bertie Brooks, Anne Smock and Jannie Stearns and family; and Pat Press.

“The committee will be reimbursing the village for some or all of the fall leaf clean-up in the Memorial Garden from the Memorial Garden budget. This is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$300-400. The Memorial Garden budget is funded by donations from families of those buried there and is used to pay for maintenance costs. Currently, our budget is healthy and in light of the high costs for snow removal this year we felt we could cover that cost on behalf of the village.

“Woods Clean-up. The annual woods clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 12. Groups will start at 9 p.m. at either the water tower in Sherwood Forest or by Marsh Road on the Naamans Creek side. Alton Dahl will lead the Sherwood group, and Tom Frantz will lead the Naamans Creek crew. Afterwards everyone is invited to meet at Pete Renzetti’s house for refreshments. We’re hoping for a good turn out to get the woods in shape for the summer, with all the snow and rain, there’s been a tremendous amount of water running through the woods and there’s a lot to do. If you still have energy after cleaning the stream, there’s lots of ivy to pull. It’s important for everyone to keep track of their time and hours this year and give them to Sue Rothrock. Civic Committee needs to keep track of volunteer hours for an inkind match on their grant.

“Plane Noise. As I’m sure many of you have noticed, the plane noise, which is sporadically better and then worse, has been much worse recently. Jane Scott in Senator Biden’s office has asked that we call her and report the noise when it is happening, so they can track it and address it when it occurs. Her number is 573-6345.

“Landmark Status. Pictures have been taken of the Will Price houses for the nomination.

“Arden Dreamers. Despite a snowy evening, a very motivated group met and had a good discussion. The next meeting is April 9 at 7 p.m. at BWVC with light refreshments. All are invited and encouraged to come and take part in the discussion.”

This report was accepted unanimously.

23. Legislative Reference Committee. No report.

24. Playground Committee. Larry Walker, Co-Chair, made the following report.

“During the past four months, the two required Playground Inspections were conducted, and all equipment was “adult tested” to ensure safety. Additional ‘playground wood chips’ were installed under equipment to restore the shock absorbing surface at the playground behind the BWVC. All equipment is in safe condition.

“The repainting of the structures will continue during the coming year. This will not only protect the steel pipes, but it will make the equipment more attractive.”

This report was accepted unanimously.

25. Registration Committee. Cecilia Vore, Chair, made the following report

“Results of tonight’s election of committee members and town officers will be counted tomorrow afternoon and results will be posted on town bulletin boards and the town

website [www.theardens.com] by Wednesday. Thank you to all residents who have agreed to run for election.

“Since last June, nine Welcome Hither packets have been distributed to new residents. Eight more are currently in progress. We have 385 eligible voters. The latest list of residents is available to see tonight. At the end of the meeting it will be given to the secretary.”

This report was accepted unanimously.

26. Safety Committee. Denis O’Regan, Chair, reported that speed enforcement is underway. He reported working with on emergency preparedness, noted that hazards exist for our village from 19 of 24 hazards listed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and expressed hope that we would one day have refrigerator magnets available on which would be printed emergency contact information.

Rachel Grier-Reynolds suggested that a list of local resource people be put together. June Kleban, noting recent nightclub fires in the news, asked about fire protection in Gild Hall. Denis noted that while there are no sprinklers in the hall, we have lots of exits and do not permit flammables. Betty O’Reagan asked for a show of interest in a comprehensive emergency plan. Eight people raised their hands. Denis said the Safety Committee will do this, will schedule a meeting and discuss human resources. Alton Dahl, who is responsible for Gild Hall maintenance, noted that there are now five new exit signs and new emergency lights upstairs and down. Planned are panic bars on all exit doors and an updated fire alarm system. He also noted that the Arden Craft Shop Museum will have a sprinkler system. Dela Bryan encouraged the Arden Club to put sprinklers in Gild Hall.

Danny Schweers, Town Watch Coordinator, reported that since the last town meeting there had been several patrols and several incidents, including the burglary of a shed in Ardentown, two windows shattered in a car parked on Sherwood Road, a series of thefts of items from unlocked cars along Harvey Road, and a smashed windshield near Millers Road in Arden. Those wanting to patrol should tell Danny what date they want to patrol. He can be reached at 475-0998. These reports were accepted unanimously.

27. Old Business. Bill Press wondered how to get more people to come to meetings. As it is, only about 55 of 385 eligible voters attend.

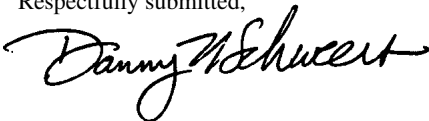
28. New Business. Rachel Grier-Reynolds proposed the following resolution, which received numerous seconds:

“Be it resolved that it is the sense of the Town Assembly of Arden that:

- Because we love our country and acknowledge the resources and freedoms it provides,
- And because we love and care about our brothers and sisters who, at great peril, represent our country in the armed services,
- We will not be silent and condone the use of war as a way to achieve enduring peace, security, freedom, and hope for the people of Iraq.” The resolution passed.

29. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



Danny N. Schweers
Secretary for the Village of Arden