

INSIDE: MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2006

All Village
of Arden residents
are encouraged to
attend the next

Town Meeting

Monday, March 27, 2006 in Gild Hall, 7:30 p.m.
2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

This meeting of the Town Assembly will include the

Election of Officers and Committee Members

Early voting, 6:15–7:15 p.m. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and voting will be one of the first matters. Ballots will be accepted throughout the meeting. Nominees are listed inside on page 2.

THE TOWN ASSEMBLY'S AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. News of possible changes by the State of Delaware to our election laws, of the Trustees' multiple domicile initiative, and, since spring is here, there will be news of electronic recycling day, bulk trash pickup day, Memorial Garden cleanup day, and woods cleanup day.
2. Committee reports in reverse-alphabetical order.
3. Snacks courtesy of the Playground Committee.
4. For details of anticipated topics, see the Advisory Committee minutes on-line at www.theArdens.com.

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.

Nominees for Arden Village Committees & Officers

Voting will take place at the Town Meeting on March 27, 2006, and will be one of the first orders of business once the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Early voting will be held 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Nominees are listed alphabetically • Blank spaces will be on the ballot for write-ins.

THIS IS NOT A BALLOT!

ARCHIVES

vote for 2

Barbara Macklem*
Rick Mulrooney
Ann Schmittinger
Sadie Somerville*

AUDIT

vote for 1

Cookie Ohlson*
Dan McNeil

BUDGET

vote for 4. Two will be elected for two-year terms; two more will be elected for one-year terms to replace members who were unable to complete their terms.

Robert Address
Roy Dean
Jack Dolmetsch
Milton Isaacs
Matthew Lo
Atul Shah
Barbara Shippy
Larry Walker

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER

vote for 2

Amy Hill*
Randy Hoopes
Pam Politis*
Laura Wallace

CIVIC

vote for 2

David Gerbec*
Rodney Jester
Warren Rosenkranz
Ann Schmittinger*

COMMUNITY PLANNING

vote for 2

Brooke Bovard
Michael Falstad
Sally Sharp
Wendy Schermer

PLAYGROUND

vote for 2

Walter Borders*
Robert Bryan
Deriel Milligan
John Stevenson*

REGISTRATION

vote for 3

Cynthia Dewick
Elaine Hickey
Natalie Hubbard*
Susan Madison
Debbie Theis*
Cecilia Vore*

SAFETY

vote for 2

Gabriel Hufford
Betty O'Regan
Clay Ridings
Bill Theis*

ADVISORY CHAIR

vote for 1

Elizabeth Varley*

TOWN ASSEMBLY CHAIR

vote for 1

Steven Threefoot*

TOWN SECRETARY

vote for 1

Danny Schweers*

*=incumbent

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden (corrected)

Monday, January 23, 2006

Gild Hall – Arden, Delaware

Sixty (60) residents were in attendance, as shown below. Of these, 42 attended the last meeting. 23 residents who attended the last meeting did not attend this meeting. In recent years, attendance at January meetings was 45 in 2005, 78 in 2004, 51 in 2003, 49 in 2002, 50 in 2001, 99 in 2000, 74 in 1999, 56 in 1998, 60 in 1997, and 56 in 1996.

Lew Aumack
Beverly Barnett
Ruth Bean
Samuel “Lou” Bean
Steven Blades
Lizzie Broadbent
Dale Brumbaugh
Alan Burslem
Maria Burslem
Terry Ann Colgan
Mike Curtis
Alton Dahl
Dorinda Dove
Carl Falco
Mick FitzHarris
Willard Glenn
Rachel Grier-Reynolds
Aaron Hamburger
Sally Hamburger
Heidi Hoegger
Matthew Hornick

Milton Isaacs
Rodney Jester
June Kleban
Lynda Kolski
Susan C. Madison
Mary Marconi
Connee Wright McKinney
David Michelson
Lisa Mullinax
Betty O’Regan
Denis O’Regan
Cookie Ohlson
Roberta Perkins
William Press
Gary E. Quinton
Elizabeth Resko
Pete Renzetti
Deborah M. Ricard
Hugh Roberts
Charles E. Robinson
Nanette B. Robinson

Shelley Robyn
Edward Rohrbach
Warren Rosenkranz
Sue Rothrock
Wendy Schermer
Ray Seigfried
Sally Sharp
Sadie Somerville
Steve Tanzer
Bill Theis
Steven Threefoot
Brittney Tooley
Elizabeth Varley
Mary Vernon
Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker
Laura Wallace
Tom Wheeler

Also in attendance but not voting was Sam Starr.

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Steven Threefoot, Chair of the Town assembly, called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Elizabeth Resko took notes in the Secretary’s absence.

2.0 MINUTES CORRECTED AND APPROVED

There were no corrections, and the minutes of the September, 2005, Town Meeting was approved unanimously.

3.0 FROM THE CHAIR

Steve Threefoot recognized new residents Matthew Hornick, Gary E. Quinton, David Michelson, Wendy Schermer, and Brittne Tooley.

Steven recognized departed residents, friends and family members: Cosette Morley, Maryellen Jobson, Sandy Downing, Anna Ponte and Theresa Duffy. The Town Assembly observed a moment of silence to remember them.

3.1 COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CHAIR

This Thursday, January 26, is a meeting of The Delaware League of Local Government. They meet on a monthly basis to discuss a number of topics.

Steven received a brochure from the US Census Bureau's new program in which they are contacting all the municipalities around the country to pass on to their constituents a way of gathering a lot more information by providing a long form. It is a rolling process in which one out of every twenty years, you will be picked. They will contact you by mail, then phone and possibly knock on your door. They need a high return rate. This is legitimate and it is a law. Bottom line is that you will be breaking the law if you do not respond.

The Town received a communication from DelDOT about signs along highway applicable to Harvey Road. Signs on the right of way can be taken down by DelDOT. If you have problems with signage, please contact Steve Threefoot. The subject was about flyers only.

On a quarterly basis, the County Executive, Chris Coons, is hosting a breakfast for all municipal leaders in New Castle County (NCCo). Steven says this meeting is a breath of fresh air because it is so very open. The value of this will show up in time to all of us.

4.0 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Liz Varley said, "This is the time of year we plead and beg for volunteers. We need your help to run the town nomination for our committees elected at March meeting. We need nominees for several committees. The Budget Committee has only one nominee so far. One member moved and another is moving shortly. Budget Committee is in crisis."

Tom Wheeler asks if he could put forth a name of a person for the Budget committee who is not a resident yet but will be soon."

Several people asked if they can nominate a person who is not a resident now but will be shortly.

Hugh Roberts: To be a nominee one must be a resident for six months.

Steve Tanzer: The question I have is about a person who may or may not be a resident is because the Budget Committee's work is backlogged and we are not going to be doing a whole lot of work until June or so.

Cecilia Vore: Can't help on the committee if not a resident.

No nominees put forth.

Steve Threefoot. Can I suggest if anyone knows someone, please either call Elizabeth or Cecilia, give them the name, and Cecilia will contact them and check to make sure it is OK with them. We need to get this through in the next few weeks. It is an important committee. It is a good place to understand how the village works, if you haven't had a chance to do that, see different committee and what kind of budget they have, what they are using the money for.

Liz Varley: Asked for other nominations. Received one.

5.0 TRUSTEE REPORT

Connee McKinney made the following report.

The Trustees had several items to report and a motion to consider.

5.1 Multiple Domicile Memo: On January 16, 2006, the Trustees sent out a memo ("Multiple Domiciles in the Village of Arden — Proposed Plan to Resolve Issues") to all Arden residents and leaseholders. You will find extra copies at the sign-in table for your reference.

The purpose of this memo was to remind our residents that, in 1998, New Castle County informed the Trustees that our extra domiciles were not "grandfathered" in 1954 as had been assumed by the Trustees when we incorporated and came under New Castle County Code. Some of our leaseholders have proceeded with the county process of legalizing their extra domiciles by paying the fee, applying to the Board of Adjustment for Certi-

fication of a Non-Conforming Structure, and making their case; however, many leaseholders have not for varying reasons.

We are concerned that, over time, this important part of the make-up of our community is diminishing. It is time to try to initiate steps to legalize these extra domiciles and, under certain criteria, find ways to allow for the creation of new extra domiciles. To that end, we have prepared a motion to present to this town meeting with the hope that the town assembly will offer their support to formally begin this dialogue with Community Planning, within our community, and with our County Council representative and New Castle County Land Use. The following motion was unanimously approved:

MOTION CONCERNING MULTIPLE DOMICILES

“The Town Assembly supports the efforts of the Trustees to work with the Community Planning Committee to develop a plan hopefully to resolve multiple domicile issues in the Village of Arden as (outlined in the January 16, 2006, letter from the Trustees to Arden residents. The proposed plan and supporting actions should be presented to the Town Assembly for discussion and approval by the September, 2006, Town Meeting.”

Steven Threefoot: As I understand this motion, I just want to set some ground rules. The motion is not debating the letter, the content. The motion is around whether the Town Assembly wishes Community Planning Committee to work with the Trustees to develop a proposal to bring back for discussion at the September 2006 town meeting. As we have discussion on this motion, that’s the motion on the floor not necessarily the content of the letter. So, please make this the focus of discussion.

Denis O’Regan: Would part of the process be an actual list of the residences affected by this? Of the 27 or so residences that are affected, how many are presently occupied, how many are empty, how long have they been empty? What are the addresses of those leaseholds? If I were a next door neighbor, I would want to be informed rather than be out of the process.

Connee McKinney: We will make sure that we have the material; we will have open meetings, discussions. Community Planning will refine this. We will make sure we are as accurate as can be. This is a dynamic situation. Denis: Would that be before the September Town meeting? Connee: Yes.

Steven: I would like to point out however the Trustees and Community Planning Committee plan on doing it to be successful in September. Hopefully it includes being very open about it. Unless someone wants to have open meetings, that’s appropriate.

Aaron Hamburger: Those multiple domiciles leaseholds are readily available in the land rent list.

Denis: It shows the 27 that you are talking about?

Steven: This is a little off subject. Bring it to the committee.

Alton Dahl: I just wanted to point out that the letter implies an open ended process, to think about how we would like things to be. That’s my understanding. It’s not that they are limited to 27 places. Do we want 27? Do we want 72? Or don’t we want any? This is where we are headed at the moment.

Steven: Please say whether you are for or against the motion.

Lynda Kolski: I think it is a great idea to get the discussion going. I hope the discussion includes a special look at multiple domiciles, owned by non residents, that have been condemned by the county and have been vacant for ten to twelve years. That situation should be handled. Probably 99% of the other multiple domiciles have been maintained well and occupied. Connee: It might not have been addressed as part of our plan but certainly in the discussions it will be. This has been an issue for awhile.

Charles Robinson: It seems there are three things here. Twenty seven of the thirty-two and then the last ones and possibly the new ones. To what degree are each of these

three categories represented? It seem to me 27 of the 32 are most significant but the other extreme would be very crucial question—do we increase the number of multiple domiciles?

Connee: I think that is what the town has to decide. That has to be part of the discussion. Charlie: Will we be taking up the full discussion of tax impact on multiple domiciles? Connee: That’s part of the discussion. Charlie: Will the town take up the significance of this?

Motion was accepted unanimously.

5.2 **Buckingham Green:** There has been little progress on this prolonged lawsuit that began mid-1997. As per Chancellor John Noble’s direction from September 14, 2004, the town’s engineering firm (LBG) and the defendant’s engineering firm (Duffield) are to complete a technical assessment of the water run-off problem and present a possible remedy to the court that is in the judge’s words a “practicable, cost-effective solution.”

5.3 **Lease Transfers:** There has been one lease transfer since the last town meeting in September and that went smoothly.

5.4 **Land Rent:** Land rent bills will be sent out in February and are due March 25, 2006.

5.5 **Finances:** The Trustees Financial Report (April 1, 2005 through January 22, 2006) is attached and copies are available at sign-in table.

6.0 ARCHIVES AND ARDEN CRAFT SHOP MUSEUM

Lisa Mullinax made the following report.

Archives celebrated its first anniversary in the Museum in October.

First priority is keeping the Archives open and staffed during normal operating hours: Wednesday evenings, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., and Sunday afternoons, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Archives has hosted several groups and anticipates hosting several more. That’s a good thing, getting word out to the community. We are working on some changes to the exhibit. You will find an announcement about exhibits in *Arden Page*.

Archives would like to thank the Arden Building and Loan for generously donating twenty folding chairs.

This report was accepted unanimously.

Trustees’ Report: Receipts and Bank Balances as of January 22, 2006

Checking/Savings	
ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN - TRUSTEE	\$160,853.04
TRUSTEES - WILMINGTON TRUST	5,498.13
VANGUARD	
FUND 30	4,414.85
FUND 33	6,319.26
MSA - FUND 50	<u>44,796.99</u>
Total VANGUARD	<u>55,531.10</u>
Total Checking/Savings	221,882.27
Accounts Receivable	
LAND RENT RECEIVABLE	<u>7,133.78</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>7,133.78</u>
Total Current Assets	229,016.05

Trustee Quarterly Report, April 1 through January 22, 2006

ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Income		
DONATIONS—Katrina Relief	1,097.29	
GRANTS	950.00	
Interest—Trustees Checking Acct.	108.74	
INVESTMENT INCOME	11,880.52	
LAND RENT	378,080.84	384,000.00
LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE	792.05	
MEADOW LANE ACCESS	683.92	
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS	3,313.00	2,000.00
RIGHTS-OF-WAY	29,120.87	<u>35,000.00</u>
Uncategorized Income	<u>2,914.52</u>	
Total Income	428,941.55	421,000.00
Expense		
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	182.04	300.00
ARCHIVES	1,000.00	1,000.00
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	187.38	50.00
BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEE	712.28	15,000.00
CIVIC	52,270.27	81,000.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING	0.00	1,000.00
CONTINGENCIES	0.00	2,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	4,700.00	4,700.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	1,200.00	1,200.00
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	0.00	100.00
LOAN PAYABLE	12,134.88	16,179.84
PLAYGROUND	1,723.00	1,750.00
REGISTRATION	839.83	1,200.00
SAFETY	1,883.29	5,400.00
TAXES	277,121.47	261,400.00
TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXP.	2,388.88	3,500.00
TOWN BOOKEEPING SERVICE Gross Wages	2,173.00	2,616.00
TOWN SECRETARY	5,364.00	6,456.00
TRUSTEE ADMINISTRATIVE	39,061.87	<u>52,508.00</u>
MEMORIAL GARDEN	<u>1,428.69</u>	
Total Expense	404,370.88	457,359.84
Net Ordinary Income	<u>24,570.67</u>	<u>-36,359.84</u>
Net Income	24,570.67	-36,359.84

6.1 ARCHIVES MEMBER RESIGNS, REPLACEMENT ELECTED

Lisa Mullinax reported that Roberta Perkins has resigned from the committee and thanked her for her services to the committee. She has done a wonderful job on the committee and will continue to be active on oral histories. Deborah Ricard has graciously consented to be nominated to serve out the rest of Roberta's term.

No other nominations were made. Deborah was elected unanimously to fill the vacant term.

7.0 ARDEN CRAFT SHOP MUSEUM

Alton Dahl made the following Report.

As you know, the Arden Craft Shop Museum, Inc. is the parent corporation that operates the business. It had an excellent year 2005. I would like to mention a few of the highlights.

All six apartments were fully rented. As a result we were able to add \$3,000 to the Reserve Fund for major repairs. As of now we have \$6,000 set aside for whenever we need a new heater or any repairs. Clearly that is not an adequate reserve but it is building towards an adequate reserve.

During the year we retired \$5,000 from our mortgage principal, that's good. We have a 15-year mortgage.

We added \$1,000 to the Archives Fund. This is a separate fund where we keep money just for the use of the Archives. We add money to the fund as we have it available and not needed for the operation of the building itself. The Archives fund is substantial enough so they now can think about some of purchases.

We received \$5,000 donation from a private donor during the year which certainly helped our finances and allowed us to do some of those things.

We painted about half of the exterior of the building and will paint the other half in the spring. We completed the floor in the Common Room. When we were doing the original renovations we were running out of money at the end, so we left a bare concrete floor. Now floor is covered with vinyl tiles.

Steven Threefoot: We do not accept this report because the ACSM is not a committee of the Town Assembly. Report is just an informative discussion that the Craft Shop Museum brings to the town.

8.0 ASSESSORS

Carl Falco made the following report.

Dennis O'Regan convened the 2006 Board of Assessors on January 10, 2006. All Board members were present. They are: Dennis O'Regan, Elizabeth Varley, Brooke Boward, Mary Marconi, Tom Wheeler, Walter Borders and Carl Falco. The Board elected Carl Falco chair and Elizabeth Varley secretary. Meeting dates for 2006 were set. They are:

January 31

February 21 (public hearing)

March 21

April 18

May 16 (public hearing)

June 6 (public hearing)

June 20

All meetings will be at the Buzz Ware Village Center and begin at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to Arden Residents and Leaseholders.

Rodney Jester: There needs to be a 7-day notice posted in advance of municipal meetings. One problem with the BWVC is there is no bulletin board outside in order to post notice of meetings. I recommend we tape it to the door of the Buzz until we find a

place. I also recommend we put out an agenda as to what occurs at that meeting. And that there should be an agenda set and posted within six hours of the meeting. Both need to be posted in a conspicuous place. All meetings should do that. It would make it simple.

Steven: I would like to point out that there are two official billboards in town. Announcements are supposed to be posted right outside the door here (Gild Hall) and over on the Village Green. I am sure you need to check with the BWVC Committee whether they want postings on the BWVC door. That is not considered an . . .

Rodney: It is the law!

Steven: I don't think so but we will check.

Aaron Hamburger: There are three official bulletin boards, the two that you mentioned and the third one is inside the BWVC. Rodney is wrong; you do not have to post it on the outside because that is a public building. That meets the requirement of the State Freedom of Information Act. Rodney disagrees, reads law.

Betty O'Regan: I would like to make a special request that no one tape any notices on the new hand-crafted wood BWVC doors.

This committee's report was accepted unanimously:

9.0 BUDGET

No Report

Aaron Hamburger expressed concern for the Budget Committee. Judging from the lack of nominations, it appears the committee is in abeyance. There is important work for the Budget Committee to be done this coming month, to prepare the 3-year financial forecast. The rest of the work they do over the summer. Is the committee going to be able to do that? It is a mandated work assignment.

Steven Threefoot: I will work with whatever members are left to the Budget Committee and also with Tom Frantz to make sure that we get from him to move forward. We have to make sure during transition periods that committees do not collapse.

10.0 BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER

Willard Glenn made the following report.

Good Evening. For those of you I may not have met, I am Willard Glenn of Hillside Road in Arden. I began as a member of the Buzz Ware Village Committee and co-chair with Amy Hill to the Building Renovation Committee last summer. As some of you may know Jane Frantz, Chair at the time, resigned this past September and at the October meeting I was elected Chair and Pam Politis unofficially filled the vacancy.

10.1 BWVC MEMBER RESIGNS, REPLACEMENT ELECTED

Willard moved that Pam Politis finish Jane Frantz's term which expires this March. No others were nominated. Pam was elected unanimously.

10.2 BWVC REPORT *continued*

I also submit the following nominees for the March Election: Pam Politis and Randy Hoopes. At present we are seeking two (2) more nominees for this election.

The past several months have been challenging. We are actively looking for additional renters. To date this has been no easy task. With the departure of the YMCA as a long-term rental, the financial loss has affected the Buzz dramatically.

With the focus being on aggressively increasing our rental base, I am happy to report that all present rentals have renewed their contracts for this year. More good news—Jeanne Orr has informed us that Ardencroft has approved a \$500 increase to the Buzz in its 2006 budget. Jeanne personally expressed an interest to have a weekly painting & drawing class at the Buzz. The BWVC is in the process of applying (thanks to Mary Marconi's know how)

for a \$2,500.00 grant that John Cartier, our 8th District New Castle County Councilman, encouraged us to pursue. In October, Cecilia Vore held "Tellabration," an evening of story telling. I heard from many that this was a wonderful evening and quite a success.

At this time the committee is struggling with what defines a community event versus a private rental and the committee approved "Tellabration" as a community-sponsored event, with donations at the door. This is just an example of the rental guidelines we are looking into to ensure important events are not discouraged because of a rental fee.

The Buzz Ware's Custodian, Keith Powell, has done a wonderful job and is a very diligent and dependable employee (hard to find; you know). He has assured us a clean and well-maintained facility. I would like to stress the importance of this position; how well it is carried out will be an integral part of the success of Buzz Ware.

The BWVC's Building Manger, Bev Fleming, is doing an outstanding job, communicating with our present renters and pursuing additional relationships. Recently, Bev Barnett and I met with representatives of Layton Preparatory School. We are encouraged in the possibility of a long-term rental agreement with the Layton School in the next couple months.

The Building Renovation Project has stalled due to leadership transition and Amy Hill's unforeseen outside commitments. It is our goal with the official election of two more committee members to shore-up the Renovation Sub-committee and have information for you all by mid-Spring.

As well as, the Renovation Sub-committee's goals for mid-spring include a BWVC brochure, construction of a Buzz website, and development of exciting fundraisers for 2006-2007, including fundraiser participation at the 99th Annual Arden Fair.

10.3 BWVC ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION

Willard thanked Aaron and Elizabeth for their help in preparing this presentation (found here on another page). I am using same format because it shows where we have been and where we are going. BWVC is not in good financial position. The figures you see here are as accurate up to January 17, 2006. I worked with Rete Archer and a great deal of time was spent to get it together.

The operating profit and the \$6,000 for renovation is income that is included here. That is for the rollover; so we actually have a figure that is \$1,022. Available to operating \$70. The correct amount should be \$1,093 not \$70. But what I am trying to reiterate is that \$6,000 in the Net Operating Profit is untouchable money. That is reserved for renovations.

Also what I found is the balance in the Arden Building & Loan is \$16,593.93 which is auction money raised by two auctions. One auction raised in 2001 and the other in 2004. It is not a complete figure from auctions. If you see the balance in the checking as of 1/20/06 (\$7,197) and the balance in the AB&L, that is also auction money not to be touched. The figure of \$16,593 is earmarked.

There was poor judgment when we purchased a computer for a committee member. That amount will be reimbursed. We cannot purchase computers for committee members.

10.3 COMMENTS ON BWVC

Beverly Barnett: What else can you tell us by the Layton Preparatory School?

Willard: It is a brand new school which is located presently in New Castle. It is for children who have learning problems grade level 9 through 12. Presently the school has nine students. In the next three or four years their goal is to have ninety-six students. They like the building very much but I really haven't heard from them. I am excited about the possibility of this happening. The gentleman who runs the school is Barton Reese. We are very encouraged by this because they just received a \$500,000 grant from a foundation. I am anxious to hear from them.

Connee McKinney: This is a committee in transition, working very hard, and making numbers here that I can understand having been a former member of the committee. I

Buzz Ware Village Center Account Reconciliation for Fiscal Year 2004–2005

The BWVC Operating Budget, a separate account, controls the revenues and associated expenditures relating to the daily operation and maintenance of the Center. The Town Assembly budget provides for administrative/programming expenses and for town authorized special needs.

REVENUES	Actual 3/25/03– 3/24/04	Actual 3/25/04– 3/24/05	YTD Jan 2006/ Projected	Projected 3/24/07– 3/24/07
Interest				
Bank Interest - Wilm. Trust	\$ 39.10	\$ 29.08	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00
Bank Interest - AB&L	833.15	840.40	873.18	910.00
Subtotal:	872.25	869.48	893.18	925.00
Misc. Income				
Auction 2004	0.00	13,576.79	0.00	0.00
BWVC Activities	1,650.47	1,167.00	694.54	700.00
Donation, Ardencroft	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Donation, Ardentown	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Donations, other	404.00	488.00	367.00	500.00
Donation, restricted: Dan's door, etc.	1,000.00	427.00	0.00	0.00
Town money: renov & prog	7,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Subtotal:	12,154.47	26,758.79	12,161.54	12,300.00
Rental Fees				
Archives	2,366.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
YMCA	13,140.00	13,110.00	1,380.00	0.00
Other Rentals	5,848.50	5,315.00	6,578.40	7,000.00
Subtotal:	21,354.50	18,426.00	7,958.40	7,000.00
TOTAL INCOMES:	34,381.22	46,053.27	21,013.12	20,225.00
DISBURSEMENTS				
Admin/Program	2,181.92	735.70	621.84	736.00
Maintenance/Custodial & Supplies	18,805.41	21,807.57	8,541.49	8,500.00
Small Equip/Improve.	21,156.11	18,358.45	527.87	500.00
Utilities				
Electricity	1,826.66	2,246.71	1,494.88	1,650.00
Oil	3330.57	4086.63	2,190.89	2,200.00
Water	370.34	469.65	214.45	250.00
Phone	433.08	383.47	398.50	400.00
Subtotal:	5,960.65	7,186.46	4,298.72	4,500.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	48,104.09	48,088.18	13,989.92	14,236.00
NET OPERATING PROFIT	-13,722.87	-2,034.91	7,023.20	5,989.00

Current liabilities: window project/auction money	26,509.00
Balance in B&L as of 1/20/06	16,593.93
Balance in checking as of 01/20/06	7,197.01
*** Reimb. from town money of \$2,287.72 still due to BWVC	2,287.72
*** Reimb. For computer expense still due to BWVC	500.00
*** Available to operating	70.00
Town money being rolled over from FY05 for roof	12,000.00

can get the financial picture. I can't speak for the town but I think there are people who are on your side and want you to be a successful committee in this transition. I am available to assist and provide information. It is a tough year ahead and I wish you well.

Betty O'Regan: Want to offer my help in "wooing" the Layton School because Bart and Pattie are colleges of mine. I would be glad to help to represent the BWVC, answering questions and acting as an intermediary. [Betty is a former chair of the committee.]

Cecilia Vore: When you are talking about the Layton school, are you talking about a possible all-day tenant of the entire building like we had with the Montessori School?

Willard: It is a strong possibility. They will not use the whole building at first, probably Rooms 1, 2, and 3. We will let them know that it is a community center and the building does get used for meetings and other events at this point in time. If they were to sign on at a really nice profit, then we would have a full-time renter, we could try to make sure there were some rooms left for outside renters.

Cecilia Vore: We want to actually use the BWVC as a community center rather than just being landlords. I am just very leary of surrendering the whole building to tenants. Where are we looking to go from here?

Willard: The committee is concerned also that the BWVC remain our community center. That will be discussed with prospective tenants. They do know that we have summer program. This is developmental. If they are really interested, we will have to sit down and talk.

Rachel Grier-Reynolds: What are you going to do about parking for rentals?

Willard: That is an issue to be addressed.

Steven Threefoot: Do you have a feeling that this is slated for a year from September, in that sort of time frame?

Willard: Yes. Only Barton and Patricia have seen the building. I am sure, just like any school, they will have to have their entire board look at it.

Cecilia Vore: Does an agreement of this magnitude need approval by the town assembly?

Willard: I would think so.

Sam Starr: If the town assembly has to approve it, how is this different from the Y? Does it require town assembly?

Steven Threefoot: Yes. Any contract actually by the village is committed by the Town Assembly Chair, and the Secretary with our seal stamped on it. Our policy is that any contract greater than a \$5,000 a year through this process.

Willard: Right now I think it is the unknown factor. Lets just say hypothetically, that in a year the Layton Preparatory school came in and they had twenty-five students. If it worked for two years, that would be great. They might be re-evaluating themselves also. I think I heard that they are looking to build. That is their long-term goal. I do not think they will be here forever.

Bill Press: Is this the kind of organization we want to invite into Arden?

Willard: Yes, this is a great opportunity. The two representatives we showed the school to loved Arden as a setting with its history.

Aaron Hamburger: I am sensing some negativity about this potential school. I want to counter that it would be terrific for the town. The village is pouring \$15,000 a year into BWVC for programming, capital expenses, repairs. A full time renter would presumably assume that \$15,000. We have dealt with full time renters successfully—YWCA and Montessori. Building was still available for community activity. It was available to ACRA. Parking was never a problem during the Montessori days. They used the Gild Hall parking lot.

Willard: It is very exciting. We do approach it with a lot of caution. We will keep the town informed of the possibility.

Lynda Kolski: The discussions are very preliminary. I think it boils down to- the town has to decide what they want the BWVC to be used for. Ideally, the village center is strictly a village center to be used at all times. It's a wonderful thing but that means then we have to foot the bill for the operating program, maintenance, renovations, etc. Having a full time tenant in there takes a huge chunk of that financial burden off of us. What it boils down to, I think, is the town deciding how much a dedicated town center is worth to them financially? These years, as we struggle with the loss of the Y, is an opportunity to see what it would really cost us to keep the BWVC strictly as a community center. If we can get the other Ardens to up their donations a little, increase rental rates, have fund-raising events, and apply for grants, this may not be the financial drain we fear it will be. At the end of the day, it is up to the town to decide if they are willing to pay, through land rent, enough to keep the BWVC as a dedicated town center.

Alton Dahl: We have decided several times as a town that we did not want to support all the expenses of that building and we have look for somebody to cover those cost. We have been successful. We have lots of experience with successful tenants and using the building as a community center. In terms of whom we want as a tenant, the building does not lend itself to a whole lot of activities without modifications. It was built as a school, it works as a school and all of our tenants have been schools. It is very reasonable to be looking for a tenant who is a school.

Beverly Barnett: As a neighbor of the building, I miss activity at the building, of having the building filled all the time. I really miss going by there and seeing people in the daytime.

Tom Wheeler: A few years ago we had a day care which kept us afloat for some time. There was an issue of the tenant truly having year-round use. Regarding the \$16,000, I would check to see if that money is all auction money. I remember moving \$7,000 or \$8,000 of the town money. So it might not be all town money.

Liz Varley: The \$16,000 is not all auction money.

The committee's report was unanimously accepted.

11.0 CIVIC AND FOREST:

Sue Rothrock introduced a guest from Ardentown, Hetty Francke, to talk about the Ardentown compost site.

Heidi: I am representing Maryann Nelson from Ardentown's Public Works Committee. There is a compost site in Ardentown behind the New Candlelight Theater. There are two components. 1) Education Center which is available to all three Ardens and the public at large. That can be used for any education purposes 2) Three bin units. They are for yard leaves and public waste of Ardentown. Through the grant that we requested it specifically for Ardentown. but as it is our first year, we are open and flexible and make it available to all three Ardens. Bring your bagged leaves and fill the bins up rather than sending them to the landfill. Our major goal is to reduce the size of landfill with all the leaves. That is the big issue here and that is why we asked for the grant.

Sue Rothrock then made the following report.

On November 15, the recycling representatives for each of the Ardens were invited to the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to honor our villages for their success in the curbside recycling program. Each village was awarded a plaque and given a bench made out of 2400 recycled milk jugs. Arden's bench is located outside the door at the Buzz Ware Village Center. Congratulations!

At the last Town Meeting there was a motion to create an ordinance to close Arden's forests from dusk to dawn. The motion was seconded and approved. Therefore I will give the first reading of the ordinance: The land known as the Arden Woods and the Sherwood Forest will be closed at dusk and opened at dawn. Permission for special events

can be granted by the committee responsible for the forests and the Town Secretary.

The Civic Committee would like to thank Senator Catherine Cloutier and House of Representative Wayne Smith. We have received a grant from their Community Transportation accounts to assist the Village of Arden with road repairs.

11.1 CIVIC MEMBER RESIGNS, REPLACEMENT ELECTED

Deborah Kenney has resigned from the Civic Committee. The Civic Committee nominated Dale Brumbaugh, who was the alternate at the last election, to the remainder of Deborah's term, until March, 2007. No other nominations were made. Dale was elected unanimously.

11.2 CIVIC COMMITTEE REPORT *continued*

We need one nominee for the elections in March. If you are interested in the Civic Committee you can call or e-mail me, Sue Rothrock, and I will discuss what is involved with the committee.

After discussion with the Forest Sub-Committee, the Civic Committee, and the Advisory Committee, the decision was made to keep the Forest Sub-committee as a sub-committee of Civic for the following year. The Civic committee recommends keeping the same appointees to the sub-committee until the election of March 2007.

The Ardentown composting site opened on Nov. 5, 2005. There is a composting demonstration site as well as leaf and wood chip recycling bins. As of now the site is open to all three Ardens. There will also be a "composting in your own back yard" session on Saturday, Jan. 28th from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Please sign up on the clipboard on the table or call Hetty Franke for more information.

This committee's report was accepted unanimously.

12.0 COMMUNITY PLANNING

Terry Colgan made the following report.

At our January meeting, Ruth Bean, Memorial Garden Representative, reported on the state of the Memorial Garden. She will present that report after mine. The members of the Community Planning Committee unanimously voted for Ruth to continue as the Representative to the Memorial Garden for another four-year term.

Our committee is very eager to work with the Trustees on the proposed plan for multiple domiciles, as it's congruent with many of the other issues the committee has been discussing—chiefly, how to encourage economic diversity within our village, while maintaining a harmonious blend of buildings and open space, and whether it's desirable to pursue the Hometown Overlay to help us achieve these goals. We'll want to study the optimum ratio of building to open space, and the effect that increased population could have on the existing infrastructure of the village.

We were joined at the January meeting by Trustee Mike Curtis, as well as two Arden residents whose views were welcome. We'd like to hear what other residents have to say at upcoming public meetings, the dates to be announced.

The terms of two members of the committee will expire in March: Jeanne Corman and Michael Falstad. Jeanne, who is co-chair of the committee, will not run for re-election. We'd like to thank her for her past service and continued service through March. Michael Falstad has agreed to run for another term, for which we're really grateful as his credentials in architecture and historic preservation, and deep knowledge of the county land use code, will be tremendously important to the work the committee will be doing this year. We'd also like to nominate Sally Sharp, who is currently our alternate, to run for committee member. As an alternate, Sally has attended every one of our meetings and provided the cookies for tonight's meeting. Brooke Bovard has also agreed to run for the Planning Committee. We need three more nominations.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:30.
This committee's report was accepted unanimously

12.1 MEMORIAL GARDEN:

Ruth bean made the following report.

Cynthia Dewick has agreed to take Ruth Panella's place as assistant to Memorial Garden Representative. Thanks to Ruth Panella for a great job.

Archives has agreed to take on the sponsorship of Remembrance Day. We did not have one this last year. We will now be able to highlight Ardenites from all three Ardens and it is more appropriate that Archives take this on since it is really a historic celebration of Ardenites who lived long ago, many people that you might not have met or heard about them. We are starting off on October 15, 2006 at the Gill Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m. We will be celebrating the lives of two sisters, Rosalie Shore and Estelle Frankel, and their families. I may continue leading the meetings but Archives will be there as a resource because they have the material.

Memorial Garden Volunteer Clean-up date is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon with a rain date of May 7, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We have been trying to have families provide a permanent grave marker for grave sites within six months of burial. The map of the Memorial Garden is being brought up to date. Christmas decorations need to be removed from grave sites.

The Community Planning Committee has suggested making the correct memorial garden rules available to the community at this meeting. They are included here and are also now available on www.theArdens.com.

This report was unanimously accepted.

13.0 LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

Elizabeth Varley made the following report.

I am not on Legislative Reference, I am the Advisory Chair. There is no official report for this committee. This is a committee over seven years that has had some difficulty functioning. They were formed a number of years ago with a very specific purpose in mind. They were charged with going through past town minute meetings and finding pertinent pieces of information like motions and resolutions that affect the way we do business in the village of Arden and to put them into some kind of form, so that if we had questions, we could find the information. The first committee elected to serve chose to start their work by creating what they call the *Red Book*. The *Red Book* was valuable because it contained a list of all standing committees of the town and their duties and ordinances of the village of Arden, as well as other pertinent information. This book is still handed out to the residents. But the actual task of doing the index of pertinent information was started but never completed. This committee has not functioned for two years. It is difficult to find volunteers. There are no nominees for the March election. Two vacancies, five positions and three people remain currently. With that in mind and having talked to the three remaining members of the committee, we have a motion:

13.1 MOTION TO DISSOLVE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Reference Committee shall be dissolved effective with tonight's meeting. The duties previously assigned to this committee shall be reassigned as follows: The Town Secretary shall codify new governing documents as they are created. A copy of this Handbook shall be available for quick reference at the Town Meeting.

Volunteers will codify past documents. The Town Secretary will add them to the Handbook as the past records are organized.

The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall act as parliamentarian at Town Assembly Meetings. The chair shall offer for review and interpretation any codified refer-

ence pertinent to the discussion on the floor and shall provide points of parliamentary procedure as they arise during meeting.

The document known as the *Red Book*, which contains descriptions of committee duties and Arden ordinances, shall be maintained by the Registration Committee for dissemination to new residents.

This motion was accepted unanimously.

14.0 PLAYGROUND

Larry Walker made the following report.

Since the last Town Meeting, the required November, 2005, Playground Equipment Inspection was made, and the equipment was adult tested for safety. The necessary equipment repairs have been made. The January inspection will be made later this month. All equipment appears to be in good and safe condition.

Additional comment: Broken bench down on the Arden Green needs attention. The report was accepted unanimously.

15.0 REGISTRATION

Cecilia Vore made the following report:

The Registration Committee conducted the annual Budget Referendum and the Election of the Board of Assessors on Tuesday, Nov. 8. At that time there were 343 residents eligible to vote in these elections. We received 241 valid envelopes containing ballots; a 70.3% participation. Under the rules for approval, the budget needed 172 YES votes to pass. We received 179 votes for “Approve Entire Budget,” thereby passing the entire budget. We also received 6 “Disapprove Entire Budget” and 50 ballots with itemized disapprovals. There were 2 invalid ballots. The town secretary was given a copy of the final tally for all items for the records. These individual disapprovals were as follows:

Advisory Committee	1	Safety Committee: General	5
Archives	9	Safety- Town Watch Coord.	17
Board of Assessors	2	Safety- HarveyRd Speed Enf.	22
Buzz Ware Village Center:		Salary- Secretary	4
Program/Administration	7	Salary-Bookeeping: Town	1
Maintenance	2	Town Admin Expenses	1
Renovations	11	Donations - ACRA	2
Roof Renovations	6	Donations - Arden Page	1
Civic - Roads,Commons,Forests	3	Donations - Arden Library	2
Civic - Trash & Special Pickup	2	Donations - Fire Companies	4
Community Planning	6	Gild Hall Rental	19
Legislative Reference	2	Contingencies	2
Playground Committee	2	Special Ardencroft	
Registration Committee	1	Parkland Acquisition	2

The following residents were elected to the Board of Assessors in this order: Denis O’Regan (convener), Carl Falco, Mary Marconi, Elizabeth Varley, Walter Borders, Brooke Bovard and Tom Wheeler. Election results were posted the following day on bulletin boards, the website, and were delivered to the Town Assembly Chair, Town Secretary, and Secretary to the Trustees.

This report was accepted unanimously.

Memorial Garden of the Village of Arden - RULES - Revised 01/22/06

The Memorial Garden, started in 1937, is Arden's private cemetery, located on the south side of Harvey Road next to the old Grubb family burial ground. The Community Planning Committee administers the Memorial Garden through an appointed volunteer Memorial Garden Representative.

ELIGIBILITY

- Residents of the Village of Arden are eligible for burial in the Memorial Garden.
- Former residents of Arden may be considered for burial on a case-by-case basis.
- Ashes of a non-resident spouse, next-of-kin, or domestic partner may be buried in the same grave site as that of an eligible individual. Requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Residency is determined by the current Registration Committee criteria.

APPLICATION FOR SITE

- Survivors may apply through the Memorial Garden Representative for a site in accordance with the long-term plans for the Garden and the survivor's agreement to abide by the rules governing the Garden.
- Burial of ashes is encouraged, given the space limitations of the Memorial Garden, but whole body burials can be accepted. Plots for ashes are a maximum of two feet by two feet, while whole body plots conform to the size of the coffin.
- All final decisions on burial applications will be made by the Memorial Garden Representative with the concurrence of the Community Planning Committee.
- Copies of these rules will be furnished to the survivor(s) at the time of selection. A copy will also be furnished to the funeral director involved.

BURIAL

- Before excavation, the funeral director or survivor(s) must make detailed arrangement with the Memorial Garden Representative.
- Any damage done to other grave sites or to the Garden in general must be repaired immediately and approved by the Memorial Garden Representative.
- If a coffin is used, a concrete vault must be provided to meet current County code.
- A firmly embedded, flush-mounted marker must be provided for each grave. A temporary marker shall be provided by the funeral director or the Memorial Garden Representative.
- A death certificate, or certification of cremation, must be given to the Memorial Garden Representative.
- Pre-planning of burials may be arranged with the Memorial Garden Representative. Specific sites may not be reserved, but consideration will be given to area preferences.

DECORATIONS

- No artificial flowers or unauthorized permanent plantings are allowed. Memorial plants may be considered with authorization by the Memorial Garden Representative.
- Grave decorations must be removed promptly by the donor when no longer attractive.
- Routine mowing of the Memorial Garden is handled by the Arden Civic Committee. Maintenance of individual graves is done by survivors and volunteers.

FEES AND DONATIONS

- There is no set fee for burial sites, however, we do expect a donation at the time of burial for maintenance of the Garden. All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the Arden Memorial Garden Fund, and send them to the Memorial Garden Representative.

Memorial Garden Representative: Ruth Bean, (302) 475-6140
2123 Meadow Lane, Arden, DE 19810-4140
Alternative Representative: Cynthia Dewick - (302) 529-5577

16.0 SAFETY

Denis O'Regan reported that things have been quieter in the winter. Vandalism is down. Last crime in town was December 18, 2005. It was a federal crime where mail was stolen. Gas odor was reported in front of Zylkin's house. We will be ordering speed limit signs in the month of February. If any one notices a sign past its prime or if you think a sign is needed somewhere (down or broken), please call us.

Lynda Kolski: There is a sign on Inn Lane at the entrance way where cars pull in to park. I think it is a new parking sign. It's been lying along side of the road for at least a year if not longer.

Ruth Bean: Harvey Road traffic zooms. Are we going to have other kinds of police to get people think about driving at least 30 miles per hour instead of 40-50?

Denis: Generally we spend our budget on Harvey Road speed enforcement in the spring and late summer. Obviously rush hour is a problem. We have seen the best results when we ask the state for two officers, a "hit squad" type of thing. Costs more money but we got good results having two two-hour shifts back to back with two officers. Also when you can have them out there for a half day you see the difference. We don't have the budget to do it all the time. The year before last, we had two-hour shifts here and there, and we saw better results in 2005.

Sue Rothrock: Request the Safety Committee to look at the signs located at the intersection of Miller, Lower and Walnut Lane. They are hard to see. Don't see stop sign and the "Do Not Enter" sign going into Lower lane is hard to see. People are trying to go up Lower and pull out onto Harvey. It is a very, very dangerous place.

Denis: Are you talking about reengineering the sign location? Sue: Yes.

Cecilia Vore: The light at Orleans and Harvey once had a dedicated WALK signal. If it was pressed, it was red in all directions. When they installed the new stop light, they changed the operation. Now you will get a WALK but you will get a green light in same direction. People are making left-hand turns while people are trying to cross. I personally would like to see it go back to the way it was.

Denis: That is probably a DelDOT issue.

The report was accepted unanimously.

17.0 OLD BUSINESS:

Steven Threefoot: At September town meeting we noted the possibility that T-Mobile may put an antenna on top of the water tower. I do not have any official correspondence. But T-Mobile and United Water are in negotiations now. Hopefully by the March Town meeting we will have a proposal. The proposed antenna is to go on top of the water tower, similar to the ones up there now. Probably one more module sitting on the ground inside the fence line that would be for T-Mobile's electronics. We would expect to see the same sort of return that we see from Sprint, approximately \$4,900 a year. Hopefully that will become forward at the March Town meeting for approval.

Alton Dahl: Status on Comcast negotiations?

Steven: That is in a hold period until we get both Comcast and Verizon synch'd up.

Alton: When does the current agreement expire?

Steven: Arden's has expired. Ardentown has another seven months. ArdenCroft has expired. We want to coordinate all three so we can have one legal negotiation.

Liz Broadbent: Thanks the town for cutting down tress surrounding her house. Offers pictures of the trees cut down which shows the condition of the tress. Passes around pictures.

Bill Press: The answers that Mike Curtis wrote about unoccupied properties; what does it do or what does it tell us?

Mike Curtis: I would probably like to sit down with Bill and talk about it. Does anyone else want to hear? Unanimously: No.

Alton Dahl: Relating to abandoned buildings. I would like to have someone address it. Perhaps a town ordinance relating to abandoned buildings.

Steven Threefoot: do you want to put it to one of the committees to address?

Alton: Community Planning should be charged.

17.1 HURRICANE RELIEF

Connee McKinney reported that the ad-hoc Hurricane Relief Committee of The Ardens has raised \$1,097.29 and has had \$132.04 in expenses, for printing costs and “cause” bracelets. Had hoped to raise twice that. The committee sponsored three 50/50 Raffles at Buzz Coffeehouses, a raffle of a Burslem Stoneware pot (won by Ellen Dolmetsch), an on-going sale of Russ McKinney prints, the sale of bracelets, and a general appeal for donations. Upcoming is a Bingo Night (Feb. 11 at the Buzz). Our main fundraiser will be the “Bow Wow Ball” on Saturday, September 30 at the Buzz. Our hope is to raise \$3,000 from that event and that our total raised will be \$5,000. Also, Connee encouraged people to write checks directly to “The Village of Arden” with “Hurricane Relief” on the memo line. They may be mailed to 2119 The Highway, Arden, DE 19810. Connee then made the following motion.

17.2 MOTION: DONATION TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Village of Arden approves the Hurricane Committee’s recommendation that the funds collected by our committee be donated to Habitat for Humanity, New Castle County, restricted for use in its Hurricane Relief efforts.

The motion was passed unanimously

18.0 NEW BUSINESS

Sadie Somerville: Geogist Guild Tomorrow night Mike Curtis is giving a presentation all about economic depressions and recessions, BWVC, 7:30 p.m.

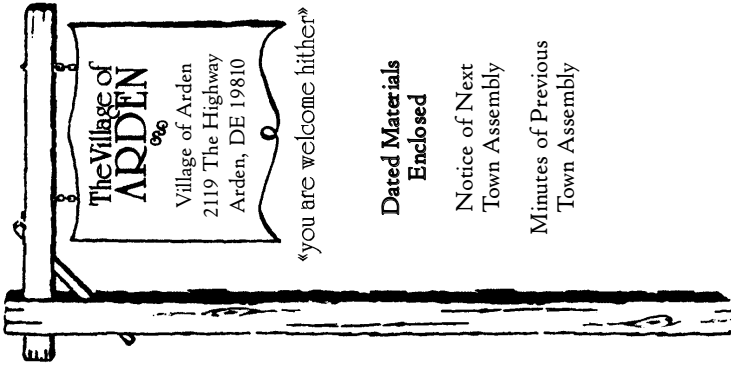
19.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Danny N. Schweers, Secretary



«you are welcome hither»

**Dated Materials
Enclosed**

Notice of Next
Town Assembly

Minutes of Previous
Town Assembly