The July 22, 1946 meeting of the Town Assembly of Arden, Del.

The meeting was held at Gild Hall, Arden, Delaware, and was presided over by Trustee Ware.

After the Chairman had declared a quorum to be present, the minutes of the June 24, 1946, meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read a financial report from the Trustees of Arden for the four month period ending July 22. The report, a copy of which is attached, was accepted.

Herman Kumme reported for the Civic Committee. He stated that a deficit had again been incurred in operating the swimming pool in spite of an increase in the cost of tags for residents from $1.00 to $1.50. In addition he reported that the Civic Committee had given considerable thought to various town projects which might be carried out as a means of improving the community, and that the committee's suggestions would be passed on to the Community Planning Committee and the Budget Committee. The report was accepted.

Samuel Freeman presented the unanimous report of the Board of Assessors which called

for an increase in the base rate of the rent of Arden for the next fiscal year from $1.41 3/4 to $1.85 per thousand square feet and for an increase of 10 percentage points to the present relative percentages, the total relative percentage not to exceed 100%. The report, a copy of which is attached, was accepted.

The Budget Committee, the By-Laws Committee, and the Sewer Committee presented no reports.

The Registration Committee reported progress.

Edith Ir are reported for the Community Planning Committee. The report, a copy of which is attached, was accepted.

H. J. Pressman reported for the Auditing Committee expressing the committee's opinion that the books and records of the Trustees were in proper order. The report was accepted. A copy of it is attached.

Mr. Pressman moved that a copy of the Trustee's financial report for the year ending March 25, 1946, be sent out to all residents but subsequently withdrew the motion with the understanding that the above action would be considered by the Trustees when the new rent list is prepared for distribution.

It was moved, seconded,

and approved that the Special School Committee be relieved of its duties with thanks.

Samuel Freeman reported for the committee of 5 which had been elected by the Town Assembly by proportional representation for the purpose of conferring with the Trustees in regard to selecting a nominee for the vacancy on the Board of Trustees. Mr. Freeman stated that the committee after considerable deliberation had met with the Trustees last August and had suggested the following persons for the nomination: J. B. Finklestein, a unanimous choice of the committee, and John Brocker, Samuel Freeman, Russell Peterson and Sylvan Levy, selections by a majority of the committee. At that time the Trustees suggested candidates for the nomination none of whom met with the approval of a majority of the Assembly's Committee. This meeting adjourned with the understanding on the part of the committee that the Trustees were to call the next meeting after considering the names which had been presented. The second meeting was held recently. At this meeting the Trustees announced that at least one of the Trustees had objected to nominating each of the individuals suggested by the Committee. Your committee

then asked the Trustees to reconsider the names previously presented by the committee as well as the name of William Morley. When it appeared that no agreement could be reached, the committee in line with its desire to serve the community suggested that an open referendum using a system of weighting preferred choices be conducted in which the residents of Arden could express their opinion as to who would best serve the community as a Trustee. Since the Trustees disapproved of such a procedure, your committee feels that it can contribute no more to the solution of the problem and therefore asks that it be discharged.

Henry Aughey and Joseph Sangemi praised the work of the committee and asked the Trustees what they planned to do about carrying out their obligation under the Deed of Trust to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Ware stated that the Trustees had not heard of the suggested plan for a referendum until the preceding day, July 21, and thus had not as yet weighed the plan. He blamed the committee for the failure to hold a meeting between last August and July 21, stating that

it was the Trustees' opinion that the Chairman of the Assembly's Committee was to call the next meeting.

Mr. Sylvan Levy, a member of the committee, defended the Committees' action and reported that at the July 21 meeting the Trustees ~~reported~~ proposed one person for the nomination to whose nomination the committee objected.

Mr. H. J. Pressman moved that the Assembly accept the report of the above committee and that the Assembly go on record as feeling that the committee has done everything possible to meet with the Trustees and has expressed the opinion of the community.

Trustee Cohen stated that he was surprised that no member of the Committee had objected to the committee Chairman's report, particularly in view of the fact that last evening a member of the Committee had suggested a distinguished man for the nomination, a suggestion which had met with the approval of the Trustees. Mr. Cohen stated that the Trustees planned to determine if the individual suggested would be willing to accept the nomination.

J. K. Jaffe suggested that the committee be asked to continue to meet with the Trustees.

Samuel Freeman said that the committee would continue to serve if the Assembly desired it to.

H. J. Pressman withdrew his motion and J. K. Jaffe moved that the Assembly accept the report as a progress report and ask the Committee to continue. The motion was seconded and approved.

Richard Pressman reported for the special Swimming Pool Committee. He stated that at present the committee was only planning to repair the ~~present~~ existing pool and maintain it in repair, but that at a later date plans would be formulated for creating an improved pool. The report was accepted.

The Committee which had been appointed to determine how to pay the bills incurred in carrying out the unauthorized Green Lane Extension project presented no report.

Russell Peterson moved that in order to obtain the required approval of a majority of the residents of Arden for the above project ~~that~~ (only 2 additional votes are required) the Assembly ask the Registration Committee to send out ballots for approval of the 1945-46 budget to those residents who did not vote in

the last referendum and to tally those ballots at a later date and add the result to the total obtained at the time of the last tally. The motion was seconded.

Considerable discussion pro and con as to the merits of the above motion followed. Trustee Coker stated that in view of the fact that the Registration Committee had already reported that they had failed to receive the required number of votes for the item in question, he would not feel free to sign a check to pay the bills in question if the town's approval were obtained by the mechanism outlined in the above motion.

Mr. Peterson withdrew his motion.

H. J. Pressman moved that the Assembly ask the Budget Committee to include in the forthcoming budget sufficient funds to pay the bills incurred in carrying out the unauthorized Green Lane Extension. The motion was seconded and approved.

David Bloom proposed an amendment to the By-Laws to provide for the conduction of balloting on town issues on a given day set for that purpose and to provide for deciding the issues at stake by a majority of those voting. He furthe

proposed that a resident of Arden be defined in a manner similar to the way in which a resident of Delaware is defined. At Chairman Ware's request the Secretary read Article VII of the By-Laws which relates the required procedure for amending the By-Laws. Mr. Ware then asked that any suggested amendments to the By-Laws be submitted to the By-Laws Committee.

The Chairman asked for nominations for the Community Planning Committee. The following were nominated:

Meyer Pressman
Robert Petry
Cecil Liberman
Raymond Billerbeck
Edith Ware
Frances Harrison
Warren Hambly

It was then moved, seconded, and approved that nominations be closed.

The Registration Committee conducted the balloting and found the following individuals to be elected:

Robert Petry
Cecil Liberman
Meyer Pressman
Edith Ware
Warren Hambly

It was moved, seconded, and approved that the meeting adjourn.

Signed: R. W. Peterson