ARDEN TOWN MEETING JUNE 24 1991

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Those present were:

Yvonne King	Elizabeth Varley	Irene O'Connor
Bill Press	Rae Gerstine	Sally Hamburger
Ruth Estes	Hugh Roberts	Betty Knott
Eugene Shaw	Frances Trench	Betty Cirker
Sally Thurston	William Bailey	Barbara Fanini
Tim Colgan	Russ McKinney	Shaul Gladstone
Connee McKinney	Drew Burslem	Albert Marks
Betsy Roberts	Ethel Monfort	Harold Monfort
Don Holcomb	Aaron Hamburger	Stuart M. Smith
Chris Demsey	Alex Sykulski	Mary E. Irons
Ruth Bean	Leon Tanzer	Cy Liberman
Lee Starr	Pat Patterson	Maryellen Jobson
Joe Patterson	Debbie Theis	Peggy Aumack
Jean Brachman	A. Barnes King	Bernie Brachman
Susan Rohrbach	Edward Rohrbach	Samuel Bean
Judy Butler	Barbara Fenske	Peter Renzetti
Marianne Cinaglia	Bob Wynn *	Larry Walker
James W. Scott	Rick K. Scott	Lanier Colgan
Rowena Austin	Julie Hurlong	William Hannum *
Thomas E. Colgan	Mike Curtis	Ted Southwell
Frank Akutowicz	Paul Thompson	Ruth Panella
Matthew O'Connor	John L. Austin	Ida Jane Downing
Joseph R. Downing	Bonnie Burslem	Jim Larsen
Bessie Southwell	Lew Aumack	Pat Liberman
Patricia Press	Tess Riesmeyer *	

Agenda Clarification

Town Assembly Chairman called for one minute of silence for long time Arden resident John Page who passed away suddenly last week.

An unsigned letter, which was left in many Arden residents mail boxes, was read to Town Assembly. The content of the letter referred to Ordinance 11 encroachment of right-away and the subsequent possible removal of shrubs and bushes from right-of-way. Mr. Press remarked that it was unfortunate that the person who wrote the letter could not have signed the letter and attended Town Assembly, where every-one who has something to say will be heard.

Approval of March Minutes - minutes approved.

No communications

Trustees Report: Shaul Gladstone

1) The main structure on lot 107 has been demolished, and we have accordingly requested that the County reduce its appraisal to zero for this property.
2) The Auditor's report, showing the financial condition of the Village as of March 25, 1991, has been submitted to us by Corcoran & Co., our accountants. Fund balances reported by them are:

General Fund Balance.....	$136,833
Municipal Street Aid Fund Balance.....	5,151
Revenue Sharing Fund Balance.....	0
Village Center Fund Balance.....	3,118
Total.....	$145,152

3) Our insurance bill has been increased from $3813 to $4107. While thisis significantly below the $6555 paid June 30, 1988, a time of hysteria in the insurance industry, it nonetheless behoves us to attempt to:

(1)

Minimize any further increases. In this connection, we were subjected to an underwriter's inspection on June 6, an event which occurs about every 5 years. Conducting this inspection were Cigna loss control representatives Robert A . Lagas and James T. Frantz of the Columbia, Maryland office. They have submitted a six page report containing recommendations, have given 60 days to implement and or complete action on some, and wish to return sometime in September to follow-up on progress. A copy of their letter is attached to, and made part of, this report. We have sent them a copy of our agreement with Montessori in return. Copies of their report have been prepared, and will be made available to the Buzz Ware Village Center, Civic,Playground,Archives committees for necessary implementation. It should be understood that proper implementation is absolutely necessary for the financial health of the Village. Finally, with respect to this matter, it is suggested that all Chairpersons of the above mentioned committees be prepared to meet with the inspectors in September to discuss any required action under the committees' juristriction.

4) Rebates totalling $1527.51 have been sent to three leaseholders for double payment of land-rent and for County taxes.

5) It has been the unfortunate duty of the Trustees to turn over to our attorney responsibility for collection of back land-rent on 4 leaseholds. Please be assured that this has happened only after the leaseholders involved have ignored repeated efforts to arrive at some understanding.

6) Total of cash and investments as of may 31, 1991, was $298,882.37.

Respectfully submitted
Trustees of Arden
Shaul Gladstone

(Copies of the report of the underwriter's inspection is on file with Town Assembly Secretary and are available upon request.)

Report accepted.

ASSESSORS REPORT: Aaron Hamburger

Section I

The Board of Assessors has the responsibility of fixing the rates to be used in determining "the full rental value" which each Arden leaseholder pays for the use of land under the terms of the lease. In filling that responsibility the board has used the method developed and used during the 1980's by previous boards of assessors. This includes the use of a formula to set the "full rental value" of all of the lands of Arden Trust, and the use of a set of rates to assign to each leasehold a share of the total.
In using this well-accepted method we are mindful that Henry George, father of the Single Tax movement, wrote: "the tax upon land values falls only upon those who receive from society a peculiar and valuable benefit and upon them in proportion to the benefit they receive." We have tried, in fixing the various rates and the location factors, to be conscious of the benefits being received (or in some cases injuries being suffered) by the lease-holders.
We also agree that land value is a creation of the community and that rents must be collected for the use of the community, and in sufficient quantity to satisfy the needs of the community. We note that a former trustee stated that one yard stick for determining rental value is our "community standard of living": we believe that standard is set in the annual referendum on village expenditures.

The full rental value has three elements:

1: The amount required to pay the county and school taxes levied on the trust by outside taxing authorities.
2: The amount required to maintain the community standard of living as indicated by recent referenda.
3: The amount needed to maintain a prudent reserve to insure the community freedom in considering the next referendum on community expenditures.

After determining the full rental value of all the lands of the Trust (which are limited to the leaseholds of Arden) the assessors turn to the relative values of individual leaseholds, based on their size and other considerations. Those values are affected by the general location of the leasehold in Arden, by the size of the lot, by the uses permitted on leasehold, and by certain specific location factors. We have set a General Location Rate, a Lot Size Adjustment Rate, a Multiple Dwelling Rate, a Commercial Rate and a set of specific location factors.

The General Location Rate, called Rate A, reflects a value of all leaseholds share. This value is derived from being located in a fully developed village with an active community life and with many facilities and services available to all. These include paved roads, sanitary sewers, our greens and forest, public utilities, trash collection service and the Village center.

The Multiple Dwelling Rate, called Rate B, reflects the added value of those privileged use leaseholds which are permitted to accomodate --with or without legal standing with New CastleCounty--more than one dwelling unit on each leasehold. In applying this rate, we define a dwelling unit as an independent living facility for one or more persons, containing permanent cooking facilities (not a hotplate) and other permanent facilities for living, sleeping, eating and sanitation. Existence of a kitchen is an essential ingredient of a dwelling unit.
The Lot Size Adjustment Rate, called Rate C, reflects the fact that large lots have less rental value per 1,000 square feet than smaller lots. This fact was derived from a 1971 study of lot values updated by a 1987 professional appraisal and a separate study of market values. This rate further relects the fact that most Arden lots are restricted to being the site of a single dwelling. The portion of the lot that accommodates that dwelling is more valuable than any portion of the leasehold that exceeds the minimum area required for one dwelling.
The Commercial Rate, called Rate D, reflects the added value of a leasehold permitted to accommodate commercial as opposed to residential use. This rate currently applies only to lot #88.
The Specific Location Factors make adjustments to appropriate leasehold rental values in accordance with uniformly applicable rules.

Section II

The computation of the full rental value of the Arden Trust land for 1992-1993 is as follows:

1.	A: The amount needed for the county tax (est)	$ 46,ooo
	B: The amount needed for the school tax (est)	104,000
2.	A: The forecast amount needed for administration of the Trust	18,000
	B: The forecast amount needed for the community standard of living	107,000
3.	The amount needed to maintain a prudent reserve is is $90,000 (60% of Item 1. A & B) less $141,000 available from 1991-1992.	(51,000)
	FULL RENTAL VALUE	$224,000

The rental rates for the fiscal year beginning March 25, 1992 are as follows:

General Location Rates

Rate A: $87 per 1,000 square feet, applied to the first 6,500 square feet of each leasehold.
Rate B: $68 per 1,000 square feet. For each dwelling unit in addition to the first the leasehold is charged rent for 6,500 square feet

at this rate, but is not charged for more than the actual area of the leasehold.

Rate C: $36 per 1,000 square feet. This rate is applied to that area of a leasehold in excess of the area charged the A and B rates.

Rate D: A surcharge of 75 percent of the total area of the leasehold multiplied by Rate C with no deduction for frontage on Marsh Rd.

Specific Location Rates (or Factors)

1.	Leaseholds adjacent to Arden or Sherwood Forests:	Add 10%
2.	Leaseholds fronting on Arden or Sherwood Forest by being across the street:	Add 5%
3.	Leaseholds adjacent to or fronting on a communal green:	Add 5%
4.	Leaseholds adjacent to Harvey Road or Marsh Road:	Subtract 5%

Notes

1. The specific location factor charges (in dollars) to be added or subtracted from the sum of the A, B, charges are obtained by multiplying the area of the leasehold by Rate C and then by the appropriate specific location factors as given above.

2. A corrected forest or greens factor charge for a leasehold which has only a part of one side adjacent to or fronting on a forest or green shall be defined by multiplying the basic factor charge by the ratio of the actual fronting or adjacent footage to the total footage of that side of the leasehold.

Rent Collection

The Trustees are requested to collect, by using the prescribed rates, the following approximate amounts:

From the general location rates:	$209,000
From specific location rates:	3,000
Total Land Rent	$212,000
From fines and other sources:	12,000
FULL RENTAL VALUE	$224,000

THE 1991 BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Aaron S. Hamburger, Chairman

Peter Renzetti

Carl Falco, Secretary

Eugene S. Shaw

Bernard Brachman

Elizabeth Varley Walker

Thomas Colgan

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT - Mary E. Irons

The Audit Committee has reviewed the accounting procedures currently in use by the trustees and Village of Arden and found them in accordance with accepted accounting practices. We have also reviewed the independent auditors report submitted by the CPA firm of Cocoran & Company for the fiscal year ended March 25, 1991 and 1990. We conclude that this audit fairly presents the assets, liabilities, fund balances, income and expenses of Arden. Following is a summary of this audit information with copies of the balance sheet and income statement.

Total Assets and Total Liabilities and Fund Balances are in balance: $272,936.

TOTAL INCOME	$264,192
TOTAL EXPENSE	$252,264
FUND BALANCE:	
Beginning of Year	$133,224
End of Year	145,152
NET EXCESS	$ 11,928

Report accepted.

ARDEN ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

My first order of business tonight is to introduce Tess Riesmeyer, our intern. Tess is fulfilling her ten week internship requirement for the University of Delaware Museum Studies program. She holds a B.A. from Alleghany College as a history major with a minor in Anthropology and is now working toward a Masters Degree in Curatorship and Collections Management. Her previous experience with Old Economy Village and the Chester County Historic Society, combined with her educational background and contacts, make her an ideal person to help us get started.

Tess can be found at The Red House most days, cataloguing our collection, researching and teaching preservation techniques. For example, some nitrate negatives she unearthed from the files are currently reposing in the bathtub awaiting advice from an expert at the Delaware Art Museum. Since Connee McKinney helped her get the ink flowing in the special indelible marking pens, Tess is teaching proper cataloguing techniques for acquisitions. Many days, you will also find a committee member (especially Joan Colgan) working at The Red House and the committee meets there every Saturday. Visitors are always a welcome sight, please don't hesitate to drop in whenever you see the Open flag hung on the gate.

Speaking of valuable people, Connee McKinney deservies a special mention. In true Arden style, Connee has a key to The Red House and we have a key to her studio so she can use our bathroom and we can use her telephone. That's what good neighbors are for.

The deeper we delve into this project, the more concerns arise; fire protection, the need for a mission statement and polcies, the need help in designing and implementing fund raising strategies.
To help us meet these needs, we have formed an Advisory Board of twelve: Lew & Peggy Aumack, David Burslem, George Kazan, Connee & Russ McKinney, Ethel Monfort, Richard Pell, Peter Renzetti, Susan Rohrbach, Jim Semenick and Bob Wynn. These good people will hold their first meeting at The Red House on Monday , July 1.
Our activities since the March meeting include our first exhibit, mounted with much help from Sue Rohrbach and the ACRA Board, for the ACRA House Tour. As to fund raising - six application packets (using many of the few remaining Arden Books) have been sent to agencies indicating a special interest in museum funding. We are currently working on a very special appeal to the Fels Foundation. Without Fels' money, Arden might never have been established in the first place. We think pictures of "planting the Fels Oak" and the Fels Oak today will illustrate graphically the moral of great oaks and little acorns. Please send more acorns.

We were excited to receive a $500 check from the Delaware Heritage Commission to create and distribute a catalogue of our holdings.

We have had a preliminary meeting with Connee McKinney to design and produce a brochure about the museum to use for fund raising and to spread the word about our noble endeavor.

Our current financial status is:

	$ 727.40	donations & sales
	818.56	Arden budget
	500.00	Delaware Heritage grant
	1000.00	pledged money
TOTAL	$3045.96	

We have opened a savings account for our donation and grant money to help us with our increasingly complicated bookkeeping. Money from the Town budget will, of course, remain in the Trustees' account.

Our future plans include:
* A regular schedule of work days in the Shakespeare Garden - the second Saturday of every month, 9 - 11 AM
* A visit from the ACRA Core Group, starting off their season with a visit to The Red House and a walking tour of Arden highlights led by Joan Colgan and Rowena Austin.
* An exhibit, concentrating on Single Tax history, for the Fair and Henry George Day on Labor Day weekend. We will be selling videos of THE EXPERIMENTAL VILLAGE and postcards at the Fair.
  I will be attending an international conference of Communal Societies at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania in July. It sounds like a very exciting weekend and a good opportunity to find out what other communities are doing and how.

Right now, we are feeling that our walls are very bare. We rely heavily on items that are loaned for display. If you have anything that you are not ready to donate but would like to share, please let us know. Of course, donated items are always gratefully accepted as well.

Every day we realize more intensely the importance of having an Archival Center - a home. None of the activity that is happening now would be going on without The Red House.

Report accepted.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Larry Walker

The Budget committee was called together by the convenor, and Larry Walker was selected as Chairman.
The Committee reviewedthe budget process with outgoing chair Kate Threefoot, and she emphasized that the most difficult part is to know where and when to get the needed financial projections for compiling the Town Budget. Further to this a questionnaire was given to each committee to get the name of the committee contact who could propose an annual budget figure. Each committee would also indicate when the needed budget projections could be made. Hopefully with this information, the work of the new Budget Committee will be easier. The Committee intends to follow the budget and reporting format that has been used the past few years, and Kate Threefoot has gracioulsy offered to provide the computer disc she programmed to make the past reports and Town Budgets. Only in the coming months as the Town Budget is prepared will the Committee come fully to appreciate Kate's past work and suggestions to the present Committee.

Report accepted.

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEE: Connee Wright McKinney

Our committee report tonight reviews events we have sponsored this spring at the BWVC. some maintenance items and a motion to change part of our building use policy.
We had one final event as part of the Arden History series, cosponsored with Arden Archives Committee. On Saturday, April 13, at 7:15 PM, we held the fourth program, Theatre in Arden, Jim Semenick, on piano, and David Yoder, in top in top hat, enlivened us with musical selections from "Grubbs Landing", an operetta written by Frank Stephens in the Gilbert and Sullivan style. We had a wonderful participation by veteran actors and actresses, Betty Solway Smith, Julian Borris, and Don Holcomb with readings from Shakespeare . That night, Don Holcomb's acting was not only from the heart, but by heart, I might add. Elizabeth Varley, as an active member of the Arden Player's Gild and the HIGHWAY Ensemble, spoke about their history and contributions to this area - both the Gild and the Ensemble are now part of Arden's theatrical past and sadly no longer exist.
On Sunday, June 9, we held our annual Over 80's Party. Thirty honoured guests and many friends attended and were treated to many homemade treats and strawberry punch. An enthusiastic committee of Anne Andrews, Anne Berlin , Paul Christensen, Susan Noonan, Jim Seminick and Jeannie Stigler made this event a delight for us to sponsor.
Ruth Bean and Barbara Fenske are the program organizers and I thank them both for their efforts.
We have decided to tackle two large maintenance projects and this summer, probably in August so that ACRA will not be affected. The front door and inside wall on both sides will be completely replaced. The inside wall

has deteriorated from previous leaks and the door has cracked glass, is warped and will be cheaper to replace than repair. We will also have drop ceilings and florescent lighting installed in the front entraceway and hallways. The drop ceiling will cover the bare piping there now and the new wiring will increase the brightness at a lower electrical cost. These projects were approved with the goal of making the building more energy efficient and kept in good condition. These costs of about $4000 will be met by our current Maintenance Reserve Fund.

The ACRA Summer Program at the BWVC began today on June 24 and will continue until July 26. ACRA will use the building in early August for rainy day play rehearsals and for set building. Two bingo lunches, July 13 and August 10 will be organized by Barbara Fenske and held at the BWVC.

We would like to make a motion in regard to current building use policy. Under "Free Policy" we would like to delete one sentence and add an additional item. Please see sheet.

Under item one. Delete the line "Therefore, building use to obtain additional rental income is not required or encouraged."

Motion New item to read:

"Our committee reserves the right to request a nominal fee from a group for the use of the BWVC. Fees will be based on a written BWVC policy."

Motion approved.

There have been 35 meetings and 8 special events and 7 group events since the March town meeting. Please call Ruth Bean to schedule in advance. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted: Connee Wright McKinney - Report accepted

CIVIC COMMITTEE REPORT: Lou Bean

A problem facing the civic committee now is how to give Arden the kind of drainage projects on Orleans Road and on Woodland Lane it has expressed a clear wish for at a reasonable price. There are no standards for this type of work. Almost by definition all of the work is hand labor and expensive. This makes it very difficult to put up for bid. In order to prepare a bid package a quote for the engineering of these jobs was requested from the Diamond Engineering Group of Odessa, Delaware. This at $6,315 for engineering with a possible $2,250 additional for supervision was considered more than we could afford.

Bob Wynn arranged for a meeting with Steve Raines of the DOT at Bear, Delaware. He felt that the most important consideration was the seal between the pavement and the curbstones.

As an experiment a contract was awarded to David Burslem for raising the curbstones and redoing the island at Orleans and Millers Roads. One of the requirement of that contract was that the raised curbstones be set in concrete. That job as completed looks very attractive.

As a further test of raising curbstones we are soliciting bids on doing the last one hundred eighty-five feet of Orleans Road where it joins Millers Road. This is on your left as you face Millers Road. It extends from the location where the path from Little Lane reaches Orleans to Millers Road. At the same time we will have the catchbasin on Millers opposite St. Martins

Lane repaired and a swale installed in the road to take the surface water from Orleans to this catchbasin. Since this will involve some roadwork we will take this opportunity to pave the area around the island.
When the Orleans Road work has weathered a Winter and a Spring we can get a better idea of the longer term prospects for this type of construction.
We also face two major road repair projects. Cherry Lane needs another layer of blacktop for much of its length. Some of it between Millers Road and Inn Lane Needs a proper base.
In addition we need to resurface much of the highway between Hillside Road and the entrance to the Gild Hall parking lot. This is heavily traveled road and the site of the fair.

Report accepted.

COMMUNITY PLANNING: Russ McKinney

The survey that was taken by the 3 committees, Community Planning, Civic and Safety, showed that 60% of residents are encroaching in one way or another, over half involve shrubs or trees. The question is; what do we do about this now? and how will our long term interest best be served?
The Communuity Planning Committee believes that the problem of encroachment is a long standing problem that needs to be addressed with due consideration.
We do not recommend any precipitous action at this point. Since the preliminary results were not conclusive, a motion is presented by the Community Planning Committee:
Motion:
Ask the Civic Committee to look into the cost and benefit of a professional survey of the Town's right-of-way and report to Town Meeting with the results.

Discussion:
Survey would be expensive and there many other ways we could spend the money.
After spending money to get the information what would we do with it?
Civic Committee feels the present ordinance is a workable one.
Having a professional survey on record would help with any liabilities that could arise by not enforcing the ordinance.
A survey would be an objective way of determining right-of-way other than using the center of the road, which is not always easily determined.
Motion was defeated.

In looking at the ordinance's purpose, sections 1 and 2 are not well written and need to reviewed for better understanding, therefore, a motion is presented:
Motion:
The Civic Committee, Community Planning Committee and the Safety Committee are hereby asked to review the purpose and sections 1 and 2 of Ordinance # II.

Motion approved.

Report of Arden's representatives on the Council of Civic Organization of Brandywine Hundred: Cy Liberman

1. The Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred and its Zoning Committee have have been busy in recent months the Council opposed the rezoning of the Brandywine Raceway for a huge regional shopping center, but County Council rezoned the land anyway. The Brandywine Council responded by filing a lawsuit asking the Court of Chancery to invalidate the rezoning ordinance and to prevent the county from issuing any permits for development. The suit further requests that the court set guidelines for future zoning legislation pertaining to the raceway property. Our lawsuit relies on defects in the procedure employed by the county in enacting the ordinance and it claims that the proposed change in zoning is inconsistent with the comprehensive land use plan adopted by the county. John Benge, a former resident of Arden, is the attorney handling this complaint for the Brandywine Council and he thinks we have a good case. Obviously the suit will require a lot of money. All households in Brandywine Hundred are being asked to contribute. The Arden Town assembly went on record in opposition to the rezoninz we do have an interest in the case. Peg Aumack is in charge of fund raising for the suit in this area. She has packets of campaign material and is looking for volunteers for a door-to-door campaign. It is that important, I hope all of you will contribute individually and that some will join Peggy in the campaign.
2. The CCOBH will soon take a position on the proposal by Louis Capano to build a neighborhood shopping center, to include a food supermarket, on 30 acres on Concord Pike, formerly part of Brandywine Country Club. County Council is expected to act on this proposal, called Fairway Park on July 9th.
3. Closer to us there is a proposal to rezone 12.75 acres on Silverside Road. between Graylyn shopping Center and the Silverside Dairy. This is known as the Forwood School property and is owned by the Forwood family. The old school building would be restored and the Forwoods say they will make it a repository for Brandywine Hundred History. The major part of the property would be put to three uses -- eight acres of the 12.75 would be used for two forms of housing - - townhouses and detached single family residences on lots of at least 15,000 square feet in R.1-B zoning. The Forwoods say the shopping area would contain no grocery store and main anchor, and that they will seek "upscale" stores. The Zoning Committee has not expressed an opinion on this proposal.

Third reading of change of Ordinance # 13 sections 4 and 5:

The Community Planning Committee, with the assistance of the Safety Committee shall adminster this ordinance. Warnings shall be issued to violators at least 30 days before prosecuting them in the courts of Delaware.
Section # 5: The Community Planning Committee with the assistance of the Safety Committee may grant an exemption for the requirement of this ordinance to any leaseholds the committees feel is unable to comply because of lack of land or road frontage. Such exemptions shall be in the form of a written statement to be filed with the secretary of the Town Assembly and the Secretary of the Trustees.

AD-HOC FLAG COMMITTEE: Leon Tanzer

This report consists of two parts:
Part A: Our thoughts and opinions of this committee concerning questions raised at the March 25 Town Assembly.

Part B: The committee's request for funding of the flag, flagpole, accoutrements, installation, etc.

Part A:
We met on June 20th and after much discussion, came up with the following:
1. Location - We favor locating the flag pole, as we previously stated, between the Village Center and the Gild Hall, approximately twenty feet from the Highway. Most of the Town activities, especially the Arden Fair are centered in this area.
A few people mentioned the main green, we have time to make a final decision. The Town Assembly will decide.

2. Who will be in charge?
We feel that an adjunct of an existing committee should be in charge of the flag, control dates of flying, make sure maintenance of flagpole is kept in good order, flag is properly stored, flag is taken down as soon as it's being used is finished, etc.
We feel there are plenty of existing committees available to do the job including any one of the following: Community Planning, Civic, Playground, BWVC, Archives, Etc.
This designated committee should select a "flag Keeper" who would properly store the flag.
This committee would be in charge of designating dates to people or organizations wanting to fly the flag or use the flag pole.
Certain dates would be automatic, e.g. The Arden Club on fair day, ACRA on easter egg roll date etc.
3. Exhibits: Any Bona fide recognized organization such as the Arden Club, ACRA, Club Gilds, Merry-go-Rounders, Henry George Society, etc. can exhibit whatever they want. We are against censorship of these groups.
If an individual wishes to use this centerpiece, the committee in charge will screen what is to be flown.
This is a touchy subject, we feel that the town should give it more thought before finalizing it.
4. We strongly urge the flag pole be aluminum and the design be the one recommended by this committee. It will be essentially trouble free.
It wont need painting.
Someone recommended using a tree trunk. The flag would be shredded in no time.
5. How often should we fly the flag? We gave some thought to this, we had no objection to flying it daily, there are two problems with this:
1. The flag would probably need replacing in two years.
2. Getting someone to fly it daily.
6. Incidentials:
1. Does Town insurance cover flag and flagpole.
2. When this first flag is worn out, it should be kept by Archives as a memento.

PART B:
Our committee is filing a request with the Budget Committee to include a line item of $1500 in the up-coming budget to fund the flag and flagpole project.
This is a very low price for what we will achieve.

Report accepted.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE: Hugh Roberts

The Legislative Reference Committee met on June 10, 1991. All members were present. We discussed the update for the Addendum to Act to Reincorporate the Village of Arden. This document, which will be supplied to all residents of Arden by the end of the summer, is a description of the composition and duties of all standing committees as approved by the Town Assembly over the years. The purpose of this document is educational.

Report accepted.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: Larry Walker for Mary Vernon

Since the last Town Meeting, the required playground equipment inspections were made. Additional mulch was added under the equipment on the Sherwood Green, and on June 29, 1991 mulch will be spread under the Village Green Equipment. All of the equipment was adult tested, and all of the equipment is in safe condition after any necessary repairs were completed.
The Playground Committee has accepted the resignation of Ellen Dolmetch. In accordance with procedures, the Committee will add Armando Brito, who was the runner-up in the last election. Armando has agreed to work on the Committee, and he will serve until March 1992. Mary Vernon will chair the Committee, and Pat Jordon will represent the Committee at Advisory Committee Meetings.
The Committee has received many requests from Arden residents living near the Village Green that the baseball backstop not be replaced. It has been their observation that any baseball played there was by people with no Arden associations, and that that the conduct of the players during arrival and leaving was disruptive and sometimes unsafe to pedestrians and residents. The Arden residents felt that if there is no baseball backstop on the Green, there is a strong possibility that there will be less enthusiasm for outside groups to come to Arden to play baseball. The Playground Committee proposes that the baseball backstop not be replaced this summer, and that the money budgeted for this project be returned to the Town. There already is a baseball backstop on the Sherwood Green, and it is frequently used. The Committee does not feel that baseball playing by Arden youth will severly curtailed by not having a baseball backstop on the Village Green. If it turns out that there is renewed interest in the replacing the missing backstop,

the Committee will make the appropriate proposals in Town Meetings.

Motiion:
Move that the Playground Committee will not replace the Backstop on the Arden Green in the summer of 1991. Motion was defeated 16 for 18 against. The backstop will be replaced.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Yvonne King

Meeting was held June 13. I was elected chairman. There are 400 eligible voters as of this date.
We will have another meeting in September and the date will be posted.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Tim Colgan

Community Watch
Since the last town meeting, Safety has had two meetings to discuss the feasibility of re-instituting the community watch.
At our first meeting, Officer Ed Disabatino of the New Castle County Police attended as the liason representative he told us the first step in organizing a watch is to get broad community participation. We scheduled another meeting and invited representatives from Ardentown and Ardencroft. Neither person showed up at the meeting and neither person answered to messages on their phone recorders.
At our second meeting, we decided to canvas how much interest there was in a community watch and put a questionnaire with a request for a return to me by 6/24/91 in the last Arden Town Page. To date, the response has been under whelming. Thus, in a continuing search to gauge village support, a sign-up sheet is being passed around tonight. If you are convinced a watch is advantagous and you are willing to contribute a couple of hours of volunteer patrol time a month please sign the paper. The community watch program does not work without residents willing to be the eyes and ears of the program and ultimately our police departments.

Mailbox Numbers
As a result of feedback from the county police of the difficulty in locating Arden residences we have decided on the following action.
We asked a representative of the County Police for some reactions to our trial period of extra paid police patrols. We were told the Arden residents were receptive to the police presense but the police had difficulty finding addresses. Some boxes have no visable street #'s and/or names. The fact that Arden is a wooded, unlit community, makes finding a particular residence tough even with identifing addresses.
This is a minor inconvenience when police are responding to, say, an illegally parked car. It could be much more serious a problem if a burglary was in progress - or worse.
Thus, unanimously, the Safety committee has decided on the following action to assist police, fire and medical personnel, the committee, with funds allocated from its existing budget, will purchase reflective numbers and will place them on each Arden mailbox on each side.

If all mailboxes are numbered it will take approx. 1800 numbers at a cost of .30 each or $540 total.
Any resident who objects to the committee placing reflective numerals on their box can state so to any member of the Safety committee by 8-1-91.
A notice to this effect will also be published in the Arden Page.
Report accepted.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE : no report

OLD BUSINESS

GOOD & WELFARE
Tom Colgan mentioned that the "Breakfast with Wayne Smith" takes place at Silverside Dairy Cafe, every Tuesday 7am to 8am. (Wayne Smith is our state representative)

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Irene M. O'Connor, Town Assembly Secretary