

Next Town Assembly

**Village of Arden
Monday, June 26, 2000
7:30 p.m.
Arden Gild Hall**

AGENDA

- **Election of Town Secretary** - *Joan Fitzgerald has agreed to place her name in nomination. Anyone else interested, please contact June Irons (475-1906) for information about the job responsibilities.*
- **Old Business** - *Retaining Rental Properties in Arden*
- **Craft Shop Acquisition Committee** - *Final Report*
- **Committee Reports** given in reverse order

Public town meeting. All are welcome.

Please note: Those attending town meeting are eligible to vote after six consecutive months as an Arden resident prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY

March 27, 2000 - 7:30 p.m. Gild Hall

Present:

Frank Akutowicz
Marguerite Archer
Lew Aumack
Peg Aumack
Beverly Barnett
Lou Bean
Ruth Bean
Jennifer Borders
Brooke Bovard
Bill Busch
Michael Busch
Marianne Cinaglia
Tim Colgan
Alton Dahl
Chris Demsey
John Demsey
Tom Frantz
Jane Frantz
Dawn Green
Jeffrey Green
Jon Greer (N.V.)
Rachel Grier-Reynolds
Rick Grier-Reynolds
Linda (Lipstein) Hager

Linda Hall
Aaron Hamburger
Sally Hamburger
Amy Hill
June Irons
Milton Isaacs
Rodney Jester
Carl Karakos (N.V.)
Deborah Kenney
Allan Kleban
June Kleban
Sharon Kleban
Lynda Kolski
Ken Lipstein
Daniel Losco (N.V.)
Ken Mabrey
Marjorie Mabrey
Mary Marconi
Albert Marks
Betty O'Regan
Denis O'Regan
John Paclik (N.V.)
Jim Parks
Amy Pollack (N.V.)

Bob Pollack (N.V.)
Clement Poole (N.V.)
Bill Press
Pete Renzetti
Liz Resko
Clay Ridings
Gail Rinehart
Hugh Roberts
Marjorie Roberts
Edward Rohrbach
Rick Rothrock
Sue Rothrock
Johanna Schroeder
Wayne Smith (State Rep./NV)
Sadie Somerville
Leon Tanzer
Mark Taylor
Elizabeth Varley
Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker
Jan Westerhouse
Tom Wheeler
Mary Brent Whipple

1. Meeting called to order:

The meeting was called to order by the town assembly chairperson, Bill Press. All residents were welcomed to the meeting and their participation encouraged. Bill Press mentioned that as part of the Centennial celebration the Town of Arden invited other surrounding Town representatives and no one showed up except for Representative Wayne Smith. Rep. Wayne Smith got up to say a few words.

Rep. Wayne Smith: He commented on how it is an honor to come and speak during our Centennial year. He commended the Centennial Committee on their Arden Book. Arden is notorious among congressman, and he admitted that we are high maintenance, yet he likes the fact that the Town stays involved in many issues and he knows where we stand. Rep. Wayne Smith said that he is a history buff and on April 29th there will be a Delaware Civil War Memorial at Gettysburg. Delaware was the only one that did not have a memorial until this year. Ken Burns will be the keynote speaker.

Rep. Smith also mentioned that they just passed a bill for Education and accountability. Senate bill #260 that will require more accountability from teachers, and also from students. He has no idea how this will effect education, and is not sure if it will work. Other than that, it has been a pretty slow year in Dover. Governor Carper is finishing his term and there are other representatives that are working on their re-election.

Rep. Smith also presented the Town of Arden with a plaque from the House of Representatives for our Town's Centennial celebration.

2. Correspondence - No correspondence at this time.

3. **Minutes:** Minutes were approved.

4. **Agenda Clarification:** The chairman mentioned that agenda changed due to visitors from Sprint that are working with the Civic Committee regarding the water tower. We are going to move the Civic Committee to the forefront.

5. **CIVIC COMMITTEE:**

(1) An agreement has been reached with United Water for the payment of \$350/month for the placement of cellular antennas from Sprint on the water tower.

MOTION: I move that we accept this offer and finalize the contract United Water and Sprint have sent. **Motion seconded.**

Comments: Are there any alternatives? No. Questions regarding noise level. Rodney visited two locations - one is on and running and is as much sound as an air conditioner. The second site was a larger unit and was not much louder. Aside from UW and the Sprint companies - is this a good number? This is the best number we are going to get in this offer. Is there any annual cost of living increase? No. (Marianne) There are a number of details that can be worked out later, but we need to move forward with this contract. Peg Aumack suggested that there be a small committee to go around and visit these locations. (Marianne) I already did this and Rodney did this. She talked to the presidents of the Civic Associations. They have not had any complaints.

Motion approved.

(2) Cecilia Vore is requesting that the placement of the columns in the Field Theatre be moved from their present location to improve the site lines. Cecilia made a motion:

MOTION: The Town Assembly gives permission to the Civic Committee to reposition the pillars at the Field Theatre to permit better sight of the stage from the audience.

Motion seconded. Motion approved.

(3) The Civic Committee will be doing its Spring Walkabout on April 29th. If there are any areas of special concern, would the residents please send Rodney a letter so we can take a look.

Report approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Jester

6. **ELECTIONS:** Cecilia Vore had the ballots passed out and asked if there were any names to be added from the floor. She reminded everyone that to be an eligible voter, you have to have lived in Arden for 6 months. The ballots will be counted tomorrow and the results will be posted on the Green and at the Gild Hall. Wednesday morning at the latest.

While people were voting, Bill Press asked if anyone had heard of the Jefferson Award. It is a way of recognizing people, but he doesn't want to take total responsibility to submit the names. He said that if anyone has a name they want to submit, send him a note with the person's name and their contribution to the town. He would like to have it be a community effort. He would need the submissions before the end of April.

7. **TRUSTEES REPORT:**

1. Land rents are coming nicely. Calculations in accordance with the Assessors' Report of June 1999 are generating \$346,779.96. This represents an increase of about \$31,000 over the last fiscal

year. Most of this is the result of the budget line item relating to the possible purchase of the Craft Shop. There also was anticipation of an increase in the Local School Taxes for the year, which according to the newspaper last week, has been delayed again.

2. A reminder to those "youngsters" who are 65 or older - under certain conditions you are eligible for a significant rebate on the real estate taxes from New Castle County. I encourage you to call the New Castle County Department of Finance to secure the information and forms on the Over-65 Exemption you need in order to apply for this opportunity.

3. There has been a small step forward in the Buckingham Green lawsuit. On February 10th we received notice from our lawyer that Vice Chancellor Steel denied the motion that had been made by a key party to the suit requesting to be dismissed from the case. To quote our lawyer, "This decision effectively allows the case to move forward expeditiously toward trial, as all parties in the case at this point now know that they will be required to continue to defend the action." And... quote... "We are now entering the final phase of the litigation,... trial will hopefully be scheduled (or the case settled) in the near future." We are closing in on 4 years in this effort for resolution for the damage that continues to occur in Sherwood Forest as a result of water from that neighboring development being directed onto our land and creating significant erosion - related issues. While this appears to be one of those projects that is taking forever, one can see some logic behind the events as motion after motion after motion gets filed and deposition after deposition after deposition gets taken. We are learning to be patient here, and remain positive about the final outcome.

4. Home Occupation: After the last meeting:

(1) The Village Secretary notified Bob Weiner that the Village Assembly had voted in support of the exceptions to the County Home Occupation Ordinance as Wendy Danner had incorporated into that ordinance.

(2) There was a request from the 3 Ardens' Home Occupation Task Force to meet with Bob, Karen Venzky and Wendy Danner of the County Land Use Department to incorporate the points into the proposed County Code.

(3) I spoke with Wendy the day after our meeting on the two questions that had surfaced. First - a Special Use Variance is not an option as an alternative method of securing legality for a home occupation. The Special Use Variance is available only when there is no other economically viable use for a spot of land. In our case, the land obviously has equity as a residence. The second question related to enforcement of the code in Arden if the exceptions were written into the County Code as proposed. Apparently there was the impression that the County would not enforce the Code within the boundaries of our Villages. Wendy was quite surprised that this was a concern and assured me that if the exceptions were written as part of the County Code that the County would have to enforce them - how could they not enforce something that was part of their ordinance? She also stated that before she had sent the written proposal back to the Villages for a vote, she had secured the approval of the various additional County departments that would be impacted, i.e., the Legal Department and the Complaints Department.

(4) The Trustees sent the final approved proposal with accompanying comments and documentation to our lawyers to make sure that there was no conflict between the proposal and the legal documents governing the leasehold lands of the Village, specifically the Deed of Trust and the Lease Agreement. We went through some philosophical discussion and reviewed each of the exceptions as written considering some of the reasoning related to each point. Ultimately, the opinion was that while the specific criteria of the County ordinance was changing, the long-term accepted process for recourse that the Trustees and Village chose at the time of reincorporation in 1967 was not changing. Each resident and leaseholder would continue to have the same level of protection as before. As long as the majority of the voters at the Town Assembly and a majority of the Trustees approved of the proposal, it was felt that the proposed changes were acceptable from a legal viewpoint. This opinion was forthcoming last week.

(5) In the meantime, Bob Weiner wrote each of the Trustees and Directors of the 3 Villages requesting a meeting to review the situation. Ardentown and Ardencroft wrote letters in response indicating that they were ready to proceed with the County Land Use meeting. We called Bob to let him know that the proposal was at the lawyers and we would contact him upon completion of that

review to schedule a meeting.

In closing, we will contact Bob this week and take the next step toward moving this proposal toward finalization at the County level.

5. The quarterly financial report is on the entrance table and is considered to be part of this report.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Rinehart

7. **TRUSTEES (Continued):** (Marianne Cinaglia)

Marianne said that the only reason that she is up and talking about the following, is because she is a Trustee and feels a great responsibility of what happens to the Village in the future. She felt that at the last meeting, the vote that took place was not in the best interest of the Village. What she would like is to have a mixed community. She thinks we need to take a closer look at the possible repercussions of some of these amendments the way they are stated. Marianne introduced the lawyer, Mr. Roscoe, the gentleman that we use for land-use issues. She believes the process that was used to bring this to the floor is different than the process for the Craft Shop Acquisition and Community Development Fund issues. Special town meetings were called for these issues but not a special town meeting for the Home Occupation issue. She said it is important to think how this issue will affect the Ardens 20 years from now. Protect our artisans and protect our diverse group of residents. There's a lot of questions that are not answered yet. Taxes? Boundaries? Number of employees enforcement?

Marianne's motion is to reopen opportunity to consider ramifications of Home Occupation Amendments on the Village. She would like some open discussions about this issue. There have been open discussions in the past, but the majority of the people that attended were part of the task force.

(Marianne's written portion):

Residents of Arden have long shown their support for the existence of arts and crafts and home based occupations in the Village. The vote at the January town meeting to approve the amendments developed by the Home Based Business Task Force (HBBTF) shows the continued support of that concept. However, I believe that the atmosphere of the January meeting was entrenched with the overall impression that the amendments HAD to be passed at that meeting or Arden would be doomed to be just another suburb in New Castle County. In reality, the revised ordinance and the amendments were two different issues. This reality was clearly brought out on February 8, 2000, when New Castle County passed its Home Occupation ordinance before Ardentown had a chance to vote on the Ardens proposed amendment to that ordinance. Today the revised County Ordinance is in place and the amendments are not. Since it is now clear that the Arden Amendments can be placed on the Council's agenda at any time, there is no longer a pressing need to limit discussion of the effects of the proposed amendments on the future of the Village as a whole. Therefore, we need to take time for the discussion and fact finding that is necessary to develop a clear understanding of this complex issue.

The procedures used to collect input in the Home Business matter are very unlike those used to collect input on other recent far reaching Arden issues, e.g., the possible acquisition of the Craft Shop and the merits of the Community Development Fund. Both of these issues had well publicized, Town-wide notices of multiple special meetings whose only purpose was careful discussion. The Village has a tradition of contemplating carefully the ramifications of significant changes to its own ordinance code. We require that an ordinance be read at three consecutive Town Meetings and that residents have the opportunity to contemplate and discuss the issue at these three meetings prior to its approval. Since the enactment of the amendments to NCC Home Business ordinance will have the potential of promoting significant changes in the Village in the years to come, it is important to understand the ramifications of the amendments as best we can BEFORE enactment. It is also important to consider alternative methods to reach the desired ends.

The Home Occupation Task Force has called and held many meetings concerning the Arden amendments and how these amendments would affect the businesses and arts and craftspersons in the villages. However, there has been no Village-wide meeting called specifically to discuss the pros and cons of the amendments on the Village as a whole. We have not considered the possible repercussions of the amendments fully. For example:

- What are the range of effect we could expect if leaseholders were not required to live on the leasehold which contained their "home occupation?"
- Does this change the status of the leasehold into a commercial use in a residential zone?
- Should there be guidelines for accessory structures?
- Will land rent be affected?
- The county enforcement of number of employees is tied to filing the Conditional Home Occupation Agreement with the County but there is no such language repeated in the Arden amendment which allows business persons to file statements with the Village secretaries. What effect does this have on enforcement in the Ardens?

MOTION TO RESCIND: Motion that the motion "We, the members of the Ardens Home Occupation Task Force, move that the Village of Arden adopt the amendments and exceptions to the Home Occupation ordinance (section 3.420 and section 33.221 of the NCC code) as provided by NCC and dated 1/18/2000" and passed at the January 24, 2000 Arden Town Meeting be rescinded and that three publicized and open meetings be held before the June, 2000 Arden Town Meeting to discuss measures which would allow both the arts and crafts community of Arden to flourish and the peaceful, residential nature of the Village to be maintained. The issue of amendment(s) to the Home Business ordinance will be an agenda item at the June 2000 meeting.

Motion seconded.

Comments: Someone suggested that instead of rescinding, to just make a motion that we need to have discussion before it gets amended. *This is essentially what this motion to rescind will do.* There were comments that this should not be under the Trustee's issue, it is a personal issue. *The only reason that I'm up here is because I am a trustee. I am responsible for looking out for the welfare of the Village. I feel that this is part of my duty.* Amy Pollack disagreed with many of the comments that Marianne made. The County will already have their code in effect before the Town's June meeting. Time is of the essence. Mary Marconi wasn't sure why Marianne didn't bring up her concerns at an earlier date. *The past 3 meetings included the antenna on the water tower. If we were taking 3 meetings to discuss this, why wouldn't we take 3 meetings to talk about Home Occupation?* Bev Barnett thought that there were enough meetings about Home Occupation. The future of Arden with this code doesn't scare her. We will also have good guidelines. Sally Hamburger was offended that she is being told that she didn't know what she was doing when she voted at the last meeting. Mary Brent Whipple thought that possibly Marianne's concerns could be grandfathered in. Another person said that we should go cautiously because the wording could be misinterpreted. Lynda Kolski suggested that this should have been given as a "Minority Report". She suggested hearing from the lawyer that came to the meeting. Aaron Hamburger was not happy that this lawyer came unannounced and doesn't think we should have to hear his opinion. Who is paying for his time? *The lawyer announced that he came voluntarily.* Tim Colgan commended Marianne for stating her opinion and looking out for our best interests. He missed the last meeting and was wondering whether when this was brought to the floor, was it announced that time was of the essence? *Marianne made a point then that we did not have to do anything at that time.* Rodney Jester has a problem with the code's number of employees. Bill Busch had meetings with the County and they indicated that it would be advisable to get this situation straightened out and settled before they passed the ordinance. They didn't say it would be impossible, but the more time that passed, the harder it would be change. Aaron Hamburger spoke as a Trustee, and said that he strongly supports the motion that was passed at the last meeting. He said that timing is of the essence. He also disagreed that this topic was not discussed - there have been many discussions about this issue. The lawyer

stood up and went over his concerns about the code. The word "preferred" being used means that it is not enforceable. "Normal sensibilities" is also a very vague and not enforceable. (Alton Dahl) *Some of the wording in the code is there because the County requested it.* Bill Press asked if we are going to keep getting this request to rescind at the next Town Meetings? Can we change the County Code? What happens if we go beyond tonight? (Hugh Roberts) *If the County passes the law, we have to start over and ask the County to change the law.* (Alton) *When we passed this, there were 7 points that were to be rectified by the County.* *The purpose of the amendments is not to severely limit, it is to make it easier to have small businesses. We are trying to make it easier to continue in the footsteps of our founders.* Hugh Roberts had questions regarding the number of employees. He also mentioned that there were 83 businesses in the Ardens years ago and doesn't think it harmed our town. The County law 68-88 that gives the County the right to take over 3 services - there is nothing that prevents us from passing any other laws or regulations. It just says that they will take over. Marianne made some final comments defending her position.

VOTE ON MOTION: Ayes = 18, Nays = 43, Abstain = 1. Motion defeated.

Report approved.

7. **TRUSTEES REPORT (Continued)** Bill Press announced that Beverly Barnett would like to attach a report to the Trustees report. Beverly read her report regarding rental properties in the Village:

The Trustees report has raised the rental issue at many Town Meetings. I expect that 1/3 of us gathered here tonight have lived in the Ardens as renters. I'm disturbed at any idea that renters are not full citizens.

There are benefits of rental properties to this community as a whole:

1. 1st and foremost, renting promotes economic diversity in our villages.
2. Renting allows an individual or family to try on the community "for size" before making a big economic and social commitment, perhaps for a lifetime. This tradition started with Arden's founding and the various inns that existed then.
3. Renting has a financial aspect. It provides at least supplemental income to some leaseholders. In the case of elderly and handicapped people, renting a portion of the house allows them to stay here.
4. Renting increases the density of population, without using up open space.

Here's a beginning list of drawbacks:

1. Starting where I left off, renting increases the density of population, and for some, this alone reduces quality of life.
2. Rental homes and yards are sometimes not as well-kept as owner-occupied. This was true of our home for the years we rented it. This list goes on.

From time to time, some single domicile leaseholds are rented. There are 52 additional potential rental properties on multiple-domicile leaseholds. However, our grand-fathered multiple-domicile leaseholds are shrinking over time.

As I understand it, the reasons are multiple and interlocking. To simplify, the Village Assembly in its wisdom 35 years ago placed Arden under the New Castle County Housing Code as a single family kind of place, intending to keep the renter-owner mix as it was then. The Trustees implemented that by freezing the number of multiple domiciles, and stopped dividing leaseholds. But the County Code prevented shifting rentals from one leasehold to another. Thus, the number has shrunk, and continues to shrink.

My question is this: Do we want the reduction in rentals to continue, or have we gone about as far as we want to go in that direction? It is a big issue. Do we want to wrestle with it? Does it capture

the imagination and energy of residents? Is it an interest shared among the Ardens, or only an Arden issue?

Maybe there are better ways to maintain economic diversity. I don't know. That's why I ask this Assembly to consider the question, and take appropriate action. I suggest that we limit discussion tonight to a few comments, then table my motion for action in June when we've all had time to consider.

Comments: Many people had issues that this was presented under the Trustees Report. The people suggested that this be under "New Business". Bill Press said that he would have Beverly come up again and just refer to the report she already read.

Bill Press asked if anyone had a report regarding the trees. Marianne said that Conectiv had 108 plants they were giving us. Or they said that they would plant 50 trees. Where we are right now is that a landscape architect would look to find the best place for these trees. We will still need to decide whether to allow Conectiv to plant, or if we want to receive 108 plants. There was a question whether Conectiv is going to return to pick up some of the wood they left behind. This is not suitable for firewood. Conectiv is supposed to wood chip some of the pieces and leave the firewood pieces behind. Make it clear if you have free firewood for people to pick up.

8. **ADVISORY - No report.**

9. **ARCHIVES -** Between the Craft Shop campaign and the recent fire at Buzz Ware Village Center, the Archives Committee has been dormant for much of this quarter. Beginning in April, however, we hope to resume public hours as scheduled for the first and third Sundays.

The Archives Committee would like to thank Marguerite Archer, Bob and Amy Pollack, Eliot Levin, and Rodney Jester for the concern and care they took to make sure that the Arden Museum was protected during the fire. While the fire underscored, once again, the need to provide a safe location for the town museum, thanks to the quick response from both Claymont and Talleyville fire companies there was absolutely no damage to the collection.

As part of the Archive Committee's contribution to the Centennial, a picture book containing 100 years of Arden photos has just been published. These are available for \$8 by contacting Sadie Somerville.

The Committee would also like to remind everyone that the Centennial lecture series continues in April with a lecture by George Thomas of the University of Pennsylvania who will be lecturing on Rose Valley, Arden's sister community. This lecture will be held on Saturday, April 15th at 7:30 p.m. in the upper Gild Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Taylor

Report approved.

10. **ASSESSORS -**

1 - Two meetings of the Board of Assessors were held since the last Town Assembly (Feb. 21 and Mar. 23).

The primary focus of both meetings was the perennial one of comparing the strengths, weaknesses and complications of the two main contesting systems for determining Arden land rent: a) the so-called "Community Standard of Living" and b) the Georgist "Land Valuation". The averred superiority of the former (followed for the past 20 or more years) was that land rent was for the benefit of the community, with the amount determined by a majority vote of the residents

without regard for land value. The "land valuation" system (used during most of the preceding years) would establish "full/fair" rental land values that would set a ceiling for future land rent and limit movement toward that ceiling to no more than 5% a year. Board opinion is, again, divided on this matter and will probably be decided at our next meeting.

2 - The next most likely topic will deal with establishing rental rates for leasehold size. Spin-off issues such as surcharges for Domicile, Commercial and Home/Business leaseholds are likely to be the focus of the Public Meeting in May.

3 - Location Factors were considered and all positive and negative adjustment values were kept the same as now in effect.

4 - Resident complaints about the current land rent spurt established by last year's Board arose during our February meeting and continued into the one last week. A number of Board members expressed the opinion that many of those complaining were Residents who also voted in favor of the previously proposed Town Budget. On the basis of the recommendation that this Quarterly Report underscore the basic (and we through clearly understood) connection between the two, I hereby emphatically remind every individual here that:

**under our present land rent system, every increase
in the Village Budget is an increase in the land rent!**

In action terms, this means that the proposed budget presented at the September Town Meeting and then listed by line item on the Referendum in October must be reviewed more seriously and realistically by each and every one of us. It is at these two crucial choice points that we, as a community, need to exercise wisdom and attention to those less well-off than ourselves and choose whether to increase, decrease or hold the line on our spending.

5 - Finally, a reminder as to upcoming meetings of the Board of Assessors:

April 25	is a Regular Meeting
May 24	is a Public Meeting
June 6	is the Final Public Meeting
June 20	is the Final Regular Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Lew Aumack, Chair

11. AUDIT - No report.

12. BUDGET - The Budget Committee handed out their Budget report. They also have last year's expenditures. Some of the points that Lew just made under Assessors will show in the increases on the budget. Some of it is the Arden Centennial. Civic Committee had an increase. There were steady increases due to the Craft Shop. BWVC also had an increase. Other than that we are pretty much in line.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Resko

Comments: Projections are overstated. This year is a large expenditure year due to the Centennial and the Craft Shop.

Report approved.

13. BWVC - Our final nominee for the positions on the committee up for election is Mary Ruth Warner. February and March have been busy months at the BWVC:

Our workday on February 13th was a big success. A number of our residents from the three Ardens showed up to mix a little elbow grease with friendly conversation. There was a regular sewing bee going on in Room #3, the end result being our new curtains and bulletin board covers. Bushes out front were trimmed, doors, walls and windows got some good scrubblings and the girl's bathroom received some touch up paint. Unfortunately, the painting of the entrance way had to be put on hold when it was realized the leaking problem with the entranceway roof was still occurring. This will be one of our first priorities in the new fiscal year.

Two weeks later, on February 28, we had a fire in the boy's bathroom. It happened on Monday afternoon; the kids from the Y program were all safely marched outside and fire trucks from both Claymont and Talleyville quickly responded to the alarm. The biggest glitch was that no one at the building knew how to turn the alarms off! After several phone contacts this was finally done. The fire was caused by the fan in the bathroom and approximately \$6500 worth of damage was done. The Y program had to leave the building for a week while electrical repairs and inspections were done. As of today most of the repairs to the bathroom have been completed. We have updated our committee contact list for the alarm systems and the Y now has information on how to handle turning off all the alarms. First State Inspection Co. performed the electrical inspection of the visible portion of the building: receptacles and panel boxes, and certification was given. There were some minor items he suggested we take care of and an electrician will be working on those this week (the electrician will also be installing an outside electrical receptacle for use during the Arden Fair. The Arden Club has agreed to pay for this). Special thanks go to Bob Pollack, Mark Taylor, Rodney Jester, Charlie Till, Betty and Denis O'Regan, Eliot Levin and all others who gave their support both during the emergency and in the week following. At the last Advisory Meeting it was agreed the town would write a letter of thanks to both fire companies; June Irons and Rodney Jester are handling this. The BWVC Committee felt it would be fitting for the committee to write thank you letters also. And finally, thanks to Beth Holloway from Ardencroft who, the day after the fire, called Mark to see if there was anything she could do to help; sometimes it's just the thought that counts.

Rooms 1 & 2 and the hallway next to Room 1 have new exterior doors. There is still some minor trim work to be done; that will be taken care of this week and the painting should be complete within a month. The town's \$6000 renovation money was applied to this project.

We have had some exciting donations this quarter also:

- The Trustees of Ardentown have agreed to put a line item in the yearly budget for \$500 for the BWVC, and we have already received this check from them. This is in addition to what the Village of Ardentown normally donates to BWVC every year. I've written thank you letters to the Trustees of Ardentown and also to Betty Solway-Smith, whom I have heard was instrumental in the occurrence of the budget line item. Again, I say thanks to Betty for not only her financial support but also the support she provides in using the building on a regular basis. It is this type of support that continues to make our community center come alive.

- Another donation has been that of a pine hutch. Edyth Berman, a friend of the Brachman's who lives in California called me to see if we could use the hutch at the BWVC. Of course we jumped on that one. We already have a spot picked out in Room 4 for it and can now get rid of the metal cabinet we have been using for coffee supplies. This is perfect timing as the metal cabinet is rapidly becoming dysfunctional.

- When I went to check out the hutch at the Brachman's, Jean asked if I was interested in a wall of books she had. We had wanted to get books to fill up the shelves in Room 3 and again a donation has fallen into our lap at a time when we needed it. The books have given an additional touch of hominess to Room 3. They are there for the reading, so please feel free to use them when you come visit the Buzz Ware.

We have done a preliminary income/expense analysis of our budget. A final analysis will be done

and presented later on in the year when we do our budget reconciliation. But I wanted to make note now of a few items of interest:

1. Our electric bill was cut in almost half this year; we're assuming this cut is largely due to the A/C not running all summer long.
2. Our cleaning supplies dropped by almost \$500. Buying in large bulk quantities is paying off.
3. Our miscellaneous income went from \$1314.00 to \$3799.37! We knew from Betty's scheduling comparison that the building was getting three times the use over last year. These income figures show that the increase is not just in overall use; the income generating use has increased dramatically also!

Respectfully submitted,
Marguerite Archer

Report approved.

14. **COMMUNITY PLANNING -**

Millers Road/Lower/Walnut Lane Intersection - The engineering firm of Tatum & Lee has reviewed the reconfiguration of the intersection suggested by residents and drawn a schematic plan that can be used for getting cost estimates on doing the work. They felt the redesign of the intersection including some adjustments to the existing drain would alleviate some of the drainage issues, improve safety and enhance the overall aesthetics of the intersection. We are now in the process of getting cost estimates on doing the work, which will be presented at a later town meeting.

Harvey Road Traffic Calming - The committee is waiting for DelDot to complete several reports and begin design work. A draft of the state's version of traffic calming guidelines has been completed as in the review process. It remains to be seen whether this will help our efforts or not. While it does include several traffic calming elements, it may be that traffic volumes on Harvey Road will make it ineligible for most.

Wood Clean-up - The annual woods clean-up is scheduled for April 8. Mary Brent Whipple will meet residents on the Naamans Creek side at 9 a.m. at Marsh Road. Residents on the Sherwood Forest side should meet Alton Dahl at the water tower at 9 a.m. If you can't make it at 9 a.m., you can join the crew at any time during the morning and help out for as long as you want. Work up an appetite and join us for coffee, juice, and bagels at Pete Renzetti and Deborah Kenney's after the clean-up.

Cultural Future - A working group to begin forming discussion sessions on Arden's future and where we want to or think we should be going in the next 100 years will meet on April 4 at the BWVC at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in participating the working group should contact Mary Marconi. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in the discussion groups. We hope to get a diverse group of people, young and old, new and not so new, professionals, artists and anyone who wants to be heard. These discussions will help us form a cultural long-range plan, so your participation is important.

Landmark Quest - All leaseholds in Ardentown and Ardencroft have been surveyed, with the common spaces yet to be done. The committee hopes to have the nomination completed for presentation to the State Historic Review Board in June. It will also be presented in Arden allowing residents a chance to ask questions and give their input. If approved by Arden and the state, it would then go the national level.

Miscellaneous - David Clark's thesis on Arden is available in the library and archives for anyone

wishing to read it.

The Memorial Garden clean-up will be held May 6 from 9-12:00. Rain date is May 7. Bring your tools, gloves and energy, and we'll supply refreshments.

Remembrance Day is scheduled for May 21 from 1:30-3:30 in Upper Gild Hall. This year we will remember Marcus Amelieus and Patricia Renzetti.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Kolski

Comments: If there is rain for the Woods Clean-up, the rain date will be Sunday, April 9. There are still some Arden Books available at the meeting and at Archives. The printing of the book came in under budget.

Report approved.

15. **CRAFT SHOP CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE** - (Mark Taylor) The Craft Shop Campaign Committee has been working hard this quarter, to initiate the first steps of the Capital Campaign as authorized by the January Village Assembly. Foundation requests have gone out to Longwood Foundation, Welfare, and Crestley, with several others to be delivered in the near future. A campaign committee has also been assembled which includes George Thomas, Will Price's biographer; Barbara Bensen, director of the Delaware Historical Society; and Leslie Bowman, director of Winterthur Museum.

Recently, considerable progress has been made to resolve outstanding legal issues, including the establishment of a 501C-3 corporation. As requested by the January Village Assembly we are bringing to the floor tonight our recommendation for the composition and election procedure for the board of directors for the corporation which will own and operate the Arden Craft Shop Museum, Inc. I would now like to bring up Alton Dahl to explain the motion.

Report from the Craft Shop Acquisition Committee (Alton Dahl presenting)

Process for Election of the Board of Directors of the Arden Craft Shop Museum, Inc.

As requested by the January Town Assembly in its motion approving creation of an Arden museum and archive in the Craft Shop building, the following process is recommended by the Craft Shop Acquisition Committee for selecting the board of directors of the corporation that will own and operate the Craft Shop.

MOTION: The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden hereby expresses its non-objection to the following plan for organizing the Board of Directors of the Craft Shop Museum, Inc.

The Arden Craft Shop Museum, Inc. A public charity (corporation) as defined in the Tax Code section 501(c)(3).

Membership in the Corporation All persons eligible to vote at the most recent meeting of the Town Assembly are members of the corporation.

Directors of the Corporation

- Seven directors serving three-year staggered terms
 - Five directors elected directly by the members
 - Two directors elected by the Archives Committee of the Village of Arden
- Directors themselves are not required to be residents of Arden

Note that with the adoption of this motion and those of the previous Village Assembly the Certificate of Incorporation of the Arden Craft Shop Museum, Inc., will be filed promptly since the legal paperwork is already completed.

Motion seconded.

Comments: It was mentioned that you need a provision for a recall of directors. *Alton said it is in the charter. Are there legal responsibilities? Can you vote yourself out of the committee? Topics to be discussed by the Committee. Total number of directors? 7 directors total. Question on a director being a resident. It is possible that the director will be a non-resident. Concern that there might be a time that all the directors are not residents. We vote for them, so we wouldn't be voting for people that didn't have an interest in the town, resident or non-resident. The reason for having non-residents is to have real experts in the fields required for the Craft Shop. The lawyer now has the papers and is looking over everything. What is this going to cost? The Village has agreed to put \$25,000 in the kitty to buy the Craft Shop. That is the only expense the Village is liable for. The Craft Shop will continue to pay land rent. There are some details to go over with the County. To have a lawyer look at this should be part of the motion. It's already in the hands of the lawyer. We can add "Agreement on this motion continued by agreement by Ed Rosenthal or another designated lawyer."*

Motion approved.

Report approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Taylor

16. **LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE** - Very small revisions and the new election updates we hope to have in the Page in May. Extra copies will be available for those who did not receive their original copy.

Respectfully submitted,
Brooke Bovard

17. **PLAYGROUND** - During the past two months, the required Playground inspection was conducted, and all equipment is in safe condition. Any needed repairs were made, and the wood chips under the equipment have been maintained to cushion children falling off of the swings, climbers, and slides. The two horses on the Village Green were removed for routine maintenance, and will be re-installed after repainting has been completed.

Because the Budget item for replacing the giraffe had been approved, a "Double Humpty Climber" had been ordered for late March delivery to take advantage of 1999 pricing before this year's price increases became effective. The equipment has arrived, and the bill will be due on April 1, 2000. The giraffe was removed, and it is being converted into a mobile parade float for the Arden Centennial Celebration Parade. The new equipment will be installed in April, and a shock absorbing material will be installed under it to cushion children who fall off.

On April 29, 2000, many groups around the country will hold events to celebrate National Playground Safety Day. The Playground Committee will conduct a routine inspection on that day, as well as have an article put into The Arden Page about playground safety and its history in Arden. Since the inception of the Playground Committee, the elected committee members have diligently worked to keep Arden playgrounds both safe and enjoyable places for people to play.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Walker

Report approved.

18. **REGISTRATION COMMITTEE** - If anyone did not get a ballot, please pick one up and fill it in before you leave tonight. According to the latest information, there are 372 eligible voters in Arden. Results of tonight's election for committees and officers will be posted on the bulletin boards outside the Gild Hall and at the Arden Green by Wednesday. At the request of the chairman of the Town Meeting, I prepared an introduction to the Town Meeting for visitors and newcomers. I welcome comments and criticisms. If this is a useful piece, we'll revise it and make it available at future meetings. (See attachments at the end of the minutes).

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia Vore

Comments: Bill Press discussed the importance of having this available for people that are visiting or new to the Town Meetings.

Report approved.

19. **SAFETY** - No report.
20. **SPECIAL COMMITTEES** - (Centennial Committee) Centennial Committee did get together and work on inviting representatives from around the area and were not successful apparently. July 15th will be the birthday party for the Town.
21. **OLD BUSINESS** - No old business.
22. **NEW BUSINESS** - Beverly Barnett made a motion that the Village Assembly ask the Trustees to create a task force to consider how best to maintain rental property in Arden.
Motion to table. Motion approved to table.
23. **GOOD AND WELFARE** -

Gail Rinehart wanted to make sure everyone knows of the Gladstone situation. Mrs. Gladstone is back from the hospital and thought a note would be in order wishing her good health. Bill Press asked the secretary to send this note out.

Sadie Somerville talked about the Centennial Pageant. There are still available jobs, i.e. parking cars, people for the parade, etc. This event will take place on May 20th from 2-5:30 p.m. Rain date on May 21.

Be careful if you go to the tire place at Marsh and Naamans. They are switching tires so beware.

Peg Aumack noticed the other day that new drivers are practicing around Arden. The other day, someone was driving backwards when they were supposed to go forwards. This is too dangerous to practice in Arden. Please go to a vacant parking lot.

Lew Aumack was talking to the Brachmans just before they moved out of Arden. He said that they had stopped going to Town Meetings. They said that everyone talks and argues about money. It wasn't enjoyable anymore. The chairman agreed and hopes to see changes in the future.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jurle M. Irons

Jurle M. Irons
Town Secretary

Village of Arden

Receipts and Bank Balances March 25, 1999 to February 29, 2000

Balance in Bank March 25, 1999

51,691.46

Receipts:

Grants	17,420.00
Interest & Dividends	878.43
Land Rent:	
Past Fiscal Year(s)	4,100.51
Present Fiscal Year	183,366.55
Future Fiscal Year(s)	29,520.03
Meadow Lane Access Rent	285.37
Memorial Garden Donations	3,008.00
Miscellaneous	8,663.39
Rights of Way:	
Cable TV	1,621.74
Roads	5,542.29
SUBTOTAL Receipts	254,406.31
Redeemed Investments	+ 253,838.31
New Investments	- 150,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	358,244.62

Receipts & Starting Bank Balance	409,936.08
Expenditures Against Budget	345,402.63
Balance in Bank as of February 29, 2000	64,533.45

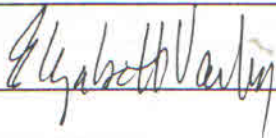
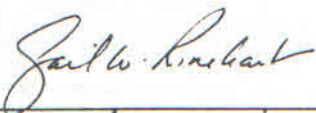
NOTE: Investment Position

Arden Building and Loan	68,226.53
Vanguard Money Market	77,960.91
Other:	0.00
TOTAL Investment Position	146,187.44

Signatures:

Trustee:

Admin. Assist.:



Village of Arden - Expenditures Against Budget March 25, 1999 to February 29, 2000

Budget Item	Budgeted Amount	Expenditures F.Y. to Date	Expenditures Since Last Report
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Committees:

Archives	3,780.00	3,494.76	768.21
Buzz Ware Village Center	1,000.00	885.06	148.36
Buzz Ware VC: Renovations	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
Centennial Celebration	4,000.00	1,685.45	0.00
Civic: Commons & Forests	15,000.00	14,600.39	4,663.16
Civic: Roads	15,000.00	12,451.25	0.00
Civic: Special Clean-up	2,500.00	1,021.21	0.00
Civic: Trash Collection	36,500.00	33,654.15	6,168.00
Community Planning	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
Com. Plan.: Grant Match Funds	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
Legislative Reference	300.00	0.00	0.00
Playground	1,550.00	1,173.08	0.00
Registration	3,250.00	2,889.55	728.81
Safety: General	900.00	535.02	45.28
Safety: Town Watch Coordinator	2,268.00	2,079.00	378.00
Welcome Hither	275.00	22.32	0.00

Notes:

Salaries:

Assembly Secretary	5,369.00	4,477.00	814.00
Bookkeeping Services	2,205.00	1,837.00	334.00

Other Line Items

Acquisition Committee/Craft Shop	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Arden Book Centennial Edition	7,851.00	6,467.00	3,667.00
Board of Assessors	100.00	0.00	0.00
Donations: ACRA	700.00	700.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Library	450.00	450.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Page	1,100.00	1,100.00	0.00
Donations: Fire Companies	950.00	950.00	0.00
Gld Hall Rental	700.00	700.00	0.00
Telephone	260.00	208.67	15.50
Contingencies	2,000.00	459.92	0.00

Items Not Subject to Referenda

Memorial Garden Fund	N/A	1,844.86	29.98	(a) Deferred Revenue (Audit '98-'99)
Civic: Grants	(a) 9,286.00	(c) 6,228.00	0.00	98 Bond Bill One-Time-Aid to Local Governments -\$4,036.00
Com. Plan.: Grants	(b) 1,296.63	(d) 3,437.07	0.00	DOT '99-P-Prog-52 - \$5,250.00
NCC Pass-thru Grant		(f) 600.00	600.00	(b) Deferred Revenue (Audit '98-'99)
Taxes: New Castle Co. Property	58,000.00	56,772.55	0.00	Traffic Calming '97-P-Prog-117 - \$993.29
Taxes: School	148,900.00	154,037.16	0.00	Urban Forestry II - \$303.34
Administrative: Auditing	4,000.00	3,900.00	0.00	(c) Expenditure: One-Time-Aid to Local Governments-\$978.00
Administrative: Insurance	7,000.00	4,913.00	361.00	DOT '99-P-Prog-52 - \$5,250.00
Administrative: Legal	8,000.00	505.43	0.00	(d) Expenditure:
Administrative: Office Rent	2,100.00	1,925.00	350.00	Urban Forestry II - \$303.34
Administrative: Operations/Fees	5,000.00	(e) 9,129.80	567.66	Urban Forestry III - \$3,133.73
Administrative: Payroll Taxes	1,600.00	4,000.58	845.38	(e) Over expenditure due to cost of survey of Marsh &
Administrative: Salary Ad. Asst.	8,820.00	8,085.00	1,470.00	Harvey Rd. intersection-\$3,250.00
Less Accrued Taxes		(1,816.65)	(330.30)	(f) Landscape design for new trees from Connectv
TOTAL	374,510.63	345,402.63	21,624.04	

ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY
March-00
THREE YEAR FORECAST
FY 2001-2002, FY 2002-2003 & FY 2003-2004

NON-BUDGET EXPENSES:	NOTES	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
		ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
Property Taxes:							
County	1(a)	\$ 55,574	\$ 58,000	\$ 59,000	\$ 64,900	\$ 65,500	\$ 66,200
School	1(b)	145,646	148,900	160,000	172,800	174,500	176,300
Sub-Total: Property Taxes		\$ 201,220	\$ 206,900	\$ 219,000	\$ 237,700	\$ 240,000	\$ 242,500
Trustees Administration:							
Audit		\$ 3,800	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100
Insurance		5,689	7,000	7,000	6,500	6,500	6,500
Legal		5,442	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous/Operations & Fees		3,805	5,000	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500
Office Rent		2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Payroll Taxes		1,414	1,600	2,000	1,800	1,850	1,850
Salaries Administration		8,736	8,820	9,084	9,084	9,357	9,357
Sub-Total: Trustees Administration		\$ 30,986	\$ 36,520	\$ 40,684	\$ 39,884	\$ 40,207	\$ 40,207
Other Non-Budget Expenses:							
Acquisition Committee/Craft Shop		\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Centennial Celebration		-	2,000	-	-	-	-
NCC Pass-Through Grant		-	3,000	-	-	-	-
State Grant for Roads to Civic Committee		10,000	6,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads		20,896	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Sub-Total: Other Non-Budget Expenses		\$ 30,896	\$ 33,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 263,102	\$ 276,420	\$ 289,684	\$ 307,584	\$ 310,207	\$ 312,707

BUDGET EXPENSES:		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	APPROPRIATED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
Acquisition Committee:							
Craft Shop	2(a)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -
Craft Shop: Matching Funds	2(b)	-	-	25,000	-	-	-
Archives	2(C)	3,637	3,780	3,980	3,980	3,000	2,000
Board of Assessors		-	100	100	100	100	100
Buzz Wire Village Center		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Renovation Projects	3(a)	6,000	6,000	6,000	12,500	6,000	6,000
Other	3(b)	-	-	-	-	1,100	2,200
Civic Committee:							
Roads		\$ 12,127	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 17,000
Commons & Forests		12,694	15,000	16,000	16,000	17,000	17,000
Trash Collection		34,885	36,500	38,000	38,000	40,500	41,500
Special Clean-up		500	2,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500
Sub-Total Civic Committee		\$ 60,406	\$ 69,000	\$ 71,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 75,500	\$ 78,000
Community Planning:							
Urban Forestry Grant: Matching Funds		743	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Arden Book Centennial Edition		0	3,000	-	-	-	-
Arden Book Centennial Edition		-	7,851	-	-	-	-
Legislative Reference		0	300	300	150	150	150
Playground		1,543	1,550	1,700	1,750	1,800	1,850
Equipment		-	-	3,500	-	-	-
Registration Committee	4	3,034	3,525	3,550	3,500	3,600	3,600
Safety - General		1,032	900	800	800	800	800
Town Watch Coordinator Fee		2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268
Salaries:							
Secretary	5	4,740	5,369	5,531	5,640	5,750	5,865
Bookkeeping - Town		1,944	2,205	2,273	2,320	2,365	2,415
Donations							
ACRA	6	700	700	700	1,000	1,100	1,200
Arden Page		1,050	1,100	1,150	1,250	1,300	1,350
Arden Library		400	450	450	450	475	475
Fire Companies	7	850	950	950	950	950	950
Gild Hall Rental		850	700	800	800	850	900
Town Telephone		168	260	504	275	275	275
Centennial Celebration	8	-	2,000	6,000	1,000	-	-
Fireproof File Cabinet: Town Secretary		-	-	1,000	-	-	-
Contingencies		885	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 90,870	\$ 116,508	\$ 145,556	\$ 118,033	\$ 111,683	\$ 114,998

TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 353,972	\$ 392,928	\$ 435,240	\$ 425,617	\$ 421,890	\$ 427,405
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March 2000 Arden Town Assembly
Notes: Three-Year Forecast
FY (2001-2002), (2002-2003), & (2003-2004)

1. Property Taxes:
 - (a) County Taxes: FY 2001-2002: Assumes a 9% increase plus 1% creep for the next two Fiscal Years.
 - (b) School Taxes: (FY 2000-2001) - Assumes 7.5% tax increase- of which 6% is for Capital Improvements should the referendum vote pass May 2000.

(FY 2001-2002) - Increase is 7% plus 1% creep- Assumes referendum to increase operating expense tax is approved before 7/1/02.
School tax information obtained from Mike Shockley, Business Manager, Brandywine School District.
2. Archives/Acquisition Committee:
 - (a) Craft Shop: If these monies are not spent by the end of each Fiscal Year, they will carry over to the next Fiscal Year.
 - (b) Craft Shop Matching Funds: FY 2000-2001) A request for matching funds in the amount of \$25,000 was approved by Budget Referendum, November 1999. If this money is not spent by the end of the Fiscal Year, it will carry over to the next Fiscal Year.
 - (c) Archives: Rent \$182/Mo., \$2,184/Yr. - Payable to BWV. Because Archives is planning to relocate sometime during FY 2002-2003, our projected rental fee is based on six months expenditures rather than one full year. No rental fees beyond this year is projected.
3. BWVC:
 - (a) Renovation Projects: (FY 2001-2002) - Paint exterior of BWVC building. (FY 2002-2003) & (FY 2003-2004) - Electrical, storage and plumbing. Some of these expenditures will be put on the back-burner in (FY2000-2001) due to the priority of roof repairs.
 - (b) Other Expenditures: Upon Archives vacating BWVC, rental income projection is as follows: Six months rental (FY 2002-2003) \$1,100 and no yearly rental income of \$2,200 thereafter. Until our income situation is more secure, we request to be subsidized.
4. Registration/Welcome Hither:

At the January 2000 Arden Town Meeting, the Assembly voted to dissolve the Ad-hoc Welcome Hither Committee. The responsibilities of Welcome Hither are now part of Registration Committee.
5. Town Secretary/Town Bookkeeper:

Three Year Forecast is based on Delaware State Salary Adjustments as of July 1, 1999 of 2.0 percent increase for cost of living only. It does not include performance increases nor additional flat amount increases. Salary projections include payroll taxes.
FY 1998-1999 Actual Salaries Expense does not include payroll taxes. Payroll Taxes when due are reflected in Administrative expenses from which they are paid.
6. ACRA: The costs of the programming has increased. We pay salaries to our summer program staff, and we must employ enough staff to maintain state-mandated adult-child ratios. The cost of supplies materials for the summer and year-round programming has also increased. The town of Arden has donated the same amount to ACRA for around five years. We are asking the town for an increased donation so we can keep up with the costs of programs and activities.
7. Fire Companies- Donations: Claymont Fire Co. \$650, Talleyville Fire Co. \$150 and Brandywine Hundred Fire Co. \$150.
8. Centennial Celebration: FY(99-00),(00-01),(01-02) : If this money is not spent by the end of each Fiscal Year, it will carry over to the next Fiscal Year. FY 2001-2002: An estimate for an additional \$1,000 for unanticipated costs associated with one-time expenditures.

Looking at a Watershed Through Community Eyes

April 1, 2000
8:00 am - 1:00pm
Buzz Ware Village Center
The Highway
Arden, DE 19810

Over the past several decades the Naamans Creek Watershed (South Branch of Naamans Creek and Perkins Run) has experienced problems from flooding. During the past two years the watershed has been the focus of several studies designed to identify existing conditions along the streams, opportunities to address problem areas, and the level of public knowledge regarding the watershed planning process. The Naamans Creek Watershed Association is sponsoring this workshop to disseminate study findings and to provide information about watershed planning. The goals of the workshop are to:

- familiarize workshop participants with the concept of watersheds in general and how they function.
- provide overview of current issues and projects addressing existing conditions within the watershed.
- provide the opportunity to learn about best management practices (BMP's) in watershed administration.
- invite input from local, state, and county legislators in Pennsylvania and Delaware.
- encourage workshop participants to promote activities in their communities that support a healthier watershed.

Workshop planning assistance was provided by the National Park Service, Rivers and Trails Program and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Delaware Bay Estuary Project.

Agenda

8:30 am - Registration and Coffee

9:00 am - Welcome - Nate Cloud, Naamans Creek Watershed Association

Setting the Agenda for the Day: *The Importance of Citizen Participation in Retaining Quality of Life in Their Community: Lessons from the Naamans Creek Watershed Association's Applied Anthropology Study.*
Marianne Cinaglia, Naamans Creek Watershed Association

Session I: *Watersheds: What Are They? How Do They Function? Why Are They Important To Me?*
Jenny McDermott, Environmental Scientist, DNREC, Division of Soil & Water Resources

Session II: *Current Issues Affecting the Watershed: What are the Problems? How Are Problems Being Addressed?*
Panelists include watershed residents (from Delaware and Pennsylvania) and staff from New Castle County.

Break 10:50-11:10

Session III: *What are Current Solution Options? Stormwater Management Systems for Residential and Commercial Properties, Wetlands Restoration, Streambank Stabilization and Restoration.* Gerald Kauffman, Water Resource Agency, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware.

Session IV: *Next Steps for an Urban Watershed: Facilitated question and answer/discussion session among workshop participants, local legislators, and County and State professional personnel.*

Workshop Wrap up: 12:45 - 12:55

Registration:

Please register by March 25, 2000. For information about the workshop contact Marianne Cinaglia, Naamans Creek Watershed Association, 302-475-3037 or by email address below. To register send the following information by:

email to: cinaglia@rowan.edu

FAX to: 302-475-3037

Mail to: Naamans Creek Watershed Association
2204 Hillside Road
Arden, DE 19810

Fee for the workshop is \$5.00 which includes membership in the NCWA. There is no fee for present members.

Name: _____ Organization/Community _____
Street Address: _____ State / ZIP _____
Telephone: _____ email: _____

**THE INITIAL GOAL OF THE NAAMANS
CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

*is to stabilize the quantity and improve the quality
of the water of Naamans Creek and its tributaries.*

Directions to Arden Buzz Ware Center:

From I-95 N, exit at Harvey Rd, left at the light at second traffic signal (Harvey and Orleans Rds), bear left at fork onto The Highway. Continue past the Gild Hall on left to Buzz Ware Center on the right. Parking is available in front of the Buzz Ware and in the Gild Hall Lot. From I-95 S, exit onto 495 then Naamans Rd right onto Naamans, left at Marsh Rd, left onto Harvey Rd, right onto Orleans, past Gild Hall to Buzz Ware Center.



Naamans Creek (Marsh Road Area)

Join us at Buzz Ware Village Center in Arden

The Naamans Creek Watershed Association invites you to participate in the workshop:

*Looking at a Watershed Through Community Eyes
April 1, 2000*

Workshop presentations and discussions will address watershed issues, focusing on the Naamans Creek Watershed. This workshop is designed for those interested in learning about the impacts of development on the natural environment and landscaped communities and the approaches that other urban communities have taken to evaluate and remediate similar situations.

Welcome to the Town Meeting

This is a brief introduction to Arden's Town Meeting (also called the Town Assembly) for those who are attending for the first time or who would like some explanation of the procedures and the players.

First of all, you should know that the Town Meeting IS Arden's government. It is a direct democracy in which those attending make the decisions. Arden has had a Town Meeting since its earliest days but, at the beginning, the meeting had no legal power and the trustees followed or didn't follow the advice of the assembly, as they saw fit. Today the trustees still collect the land rent and uphold and protect the Deed of Trust, but much of the decision-making power is now in the hands of the Town Meeting.

The day-to-day business of the village is handled by elected committees, but important business is always referred to the Town Meeting. Likewise, the chairman conducts the meeting, but is not an "executive;" the assembly itself is the government.

Just who is this "Town Meeting?" It is simply the assembly of residents who show up at the meeting. To vote on an issue, you must live in the village for at least 6 months and be 18 years of age or older. A quorum of 35 must be present for the meeting to vote on issues.

What goes on

The Town Meeting is held on the fourth Monday of January, March, June and September in the Gild Hall. The village rents the hall from the Arden Club, which is a private organization. The Gild Hall does not belong to the Village of Arden.

The regular agenda consists of reports from the trustees and committees, then old and new business. Motions from a committee are usually handled during or immediately following the particular report. The regular order of business may be changed to put elections or special presentations at the start of the meeting. The meeting (pretty much) follows Robert's Rules of Order to ensure a (usually) civil and focused discussion.

Motions, Discussions, Voting

A motion is a proposal to make a decision or take an action. A motion may be introduced by a committee or an individual. When a motion is introduced, it must be seconded. Then discussion follows. This discussion must be limited to the motion "on the floor" (under consideration). When the discussion strays too far from the motion, the chairman may cut off a speaker in order to return to the issue at hand. Or someone may call out "point of order!" to object to comments that are off the subject. When discussion is over, a vote is taken.

What You'll See Tonight

Attending a Town Meeting will give you a vivid picture of the volunteer effort behind daily life in our village. All committees and officers (with one exception) are elected volunteers. The committees are often helped by additional volunteers. The town secretary is the only officer who receives a salary. The administrative assistant to the trustees (not an officer) is another paid position.

Tonight you will see democracy in action. You will see a dynamic process as the chairman balances expression of opinion with the need to move the meeting along, as the committees report on their activities and defer other activities to the meeting at large. You may see residents objecting when they feel a committee is acting too independently. This balance between representative action and direct democracy, between the need to debate and the need to get things done, is both difficult and fascinating. We hope the evening will pique your interest and inspire your participation.

A final note: "If we shadows have offended..."

This overview was prepared by Cecilia Vore of the Registration Committee. Being brief, it lacks detail and nuance, but still aims to be accurate. The Registration Committee welcomes your questions, comments and corrections.

Village of Arden
2107 Harvey Road
Arden, DE 19810

Dated material enclosed

- Notice of Town Meeting
- Minutes from 3/27/00 Town Meeting

ALL ARE WELCOME