The regular meeting of the Town Assembly was held on March 28, 1955 with Trustee Wade presiding.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and after the following correction made approved: "Mr. Jaffe asked for withdrawal of Mr. Aughey's resolution as above stated on the basis that the Town meeting could make a simple affirmation of the right of the Trustees to issue leases under the Deed of Trust. This would clarify the issue and eliminate this serious point of contention. Mr. Jaffe's proposal was rejected by Mr. Aughey and Mr. Aughey's resolution was thereupon passed."

The financial report of the Trustees was read and approved and a copy is on file.

The Civic Committee report was presented by Mary Neely who read the report on the budget ending March 25 1955. The unexpended road fund of $296.96 and swimming pool fund of $220.44 will be carried over to 1955-1956 budget. The rest of the unexpended balance of $55.67 is held in the trustees fund.

The Registration Committee reported 396 voters.

The By-Laws committee made the following report. At the request of the Town Assembly the following changes are proposed: These changes relate to suffrage:

1. Retain all of Section 1, article V, adding to it the following paragraph: "Only residents on the registration lists of the Town thirty days prior to voting shall be qualified voters. Residents who fail to vote in two successive years will automatically removed from the list of qualified voters. Residents not on the voting list may register by

applying in writing to the Registration Committee at least 30 days prior to an election."
2. Delete all of present Section 2 Article I.
3. Change the present Section 3 of Article 1 to be Section 2 of Article 1.

The report of the committee was accepted and will be formally discussed at the May meeting when notices of the proposed change will be made.

A request was made that the Trustees consult their attorney concerning this proposed change and report his decision at the May meeting.

The committee to meet with the Trustees concerning the leasing of woodlands lots and threatened lawsuits resulting from that made a report concerning their actions. The committee composed of Kurt Seligman, Harold Monfort and Earl Brooks meet with the Trustees on February 20.

This committee had met with representatives of the group of nine residents who had sought legal counsel and had sent letters of protest to the Trustees about leasing the woodlands. It was because of this action that the Trustees felt their rights were being challenged. Representatives from this group testified:

1. That the Trustees had misunderstood the meaning of the attorney's letter.
2. That he had been retained to find an amicable means of persuading Trustees not to open new woodland lots.
3. Attorney advised individual communication with Trustees
4. That the "further action" mention in his

letter referred to his advice not to hold a mass meeting until personal appeals had been made. It did not refer to lawsuit in any way.

5. That the wording of the Trust seemed very clear with relation to the rights of the Trustees and that the group does not challenge the legal right of Trustee to issue leases.

6. That only the wisdom and necessity of opening new woodland lots at this time was being questioned in view of rapid growth in housing around Arden and in view of the fact that the woodlands had been considered communal property for many years.

The committee also reported that several people at the January meeting of the Town Assembly spoke on the question and felt the Deed of Trust was perfectly clear in its meaning.

The committee hoped that the Trustees could agree to abandon opening of new lots and abandon their proposed court action because of its bad effect on the community.

In the opinion of the Committee it would be a very salutary thing for the community if the Trustees could make some statement of policy concerning the leasing of woodland lots.

Spokesmen for the Trustees said there had never been a policy of freezing the map of Arden lots and they had no "plot" to subdivide the woodlands.

The creation of the lots came about because of surveys to establish lines between certain leases in that corner of town. Several new lots ~~once~~ could be opened to accommodate several people who had applications for lots

where available. This would add new income to the town which was thought highly desirable. Trustees said they had no present plan for any further development.

The Trustees referred to the present attitude of the "Committee of Nine" and were gratified to learn no court action was contemplated. They themselves were not anxious to go to law. Committee suggested that a long term planning committee might consider matters relating to improvement and lay-out of the town.

A complete copy of this report is on file. The committee report was accepted.

The Trustees plan to have a meeting to consider this report.

The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot electing George Cleaver, Sam Tanzer and Arthur Stevenson to serve on the Civic Committee.

The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot electing Mary Morley a Town Assembly Clerk.

The following people were nominated to serve on the Registration committee: Edna Page, Edith Ware, William Beacham.

The Town Assembly recommends that the Civic Committee consider zoning in the nominating post and that they bring in a report about it at the May meeting.

The proposed new development by the Mann and Magnus Construction Company was discussed at length. The zoning Commission had turned down their request for rezoning to 6500 sq. foot lots. They have appealed this decision to the Superior court for action. At one meeting an

this appeal many from this area attended and no one was in favor of changing the zoning regulations. The problem of water supply, over crowded schools etc were well presented.

At a later meeting attended by Mr Ware the construction companies and the water company discussed a proposed water plan. The originally discussed reservoir on the Naamans Creek was not feasible so the water is to be brought in mains up Harvey and Silverside Roads to a 500 000 gallon tank. Later the Chester water supply would be connected to service this area. The construction companies are now considering asking for 8000 sq foot lots.

The were considerable discussion about sizes of lots we would endorse but no agreement was reached. It was felt that we should insist upon playground facilities, school facilities, and definite assurance of an adequate water supply. It was also suggested that an area be set aside along the stream to protect it.

A motion was made and passed that the Town Assembly endorse the proposal made of the February 28 meeting protesting the rezoning. A copy of this motion should be sent to the Levy Court. The motion also stated that Mr. Ware be authorized to interpret the sense of this meeting at the Levy Court sessions.

A motion was made that we request the trustees to get in touch with all communities affected by the proposed development and to

call of meeting to consider unified action.
A motion was made that we appoint a committee with one Trustee to serve on the committee ex officio to study the new project on sewage, water, recreational and school facilities.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.
Mary Morley.