INSIDE: MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

All Village of Arden residents are encouraged to attend the next

TOWN MEETING

Monday, January 26, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gild Hall, 2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

THE TOWN MEETING AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. An vote to decide between the three gateway proposals for Harvey Road will occur before standing committee reports are heard. (These proposals can be seen at the Library in Gild Hall.) After deciding which proposal is preferred, another vote will decide whether to have gateways at all.
2. A motion will be made for a special Town Meeting to discuss the addition of five acres to Sherwood Forest (the Avery Property). As of 15 January, 2004, 83% of the funds had been raised!
3. Nominations will be made for officers and committee members. The election will take place at our March 22 meeting. If you would like to be involved, whether as Town Chair, Secretary (a paid position), or on a committee, call Cecilia Vore at 475-1976.
3. Committee reports in reverse alphabetical order.
4. A resolution opposing portions of the Patriot Acts of the U.S. Government will be introduced near the end of the meeting when old business is discussed.
5. The Registration Committee will offer the Town Assembly various tasty cookies for its municipal snacking enjoyment.

ALL ARE WELCOME HITHER

Please note: Those attending town meetings are eligible to vote only if they have resided in Arden six consecutive months prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

Minutes of the Town Assembly for the Village of Arden
Monday, September 22, 2003
Gild Hall - Arden, Delaware

Sixty-five (65) residents were in attendance, as shown below. Thirty-nine (39) of these attended the last meeting. In recent years, attendance at September meetings was 61 in 2002, 43 in 2001, 46 in 2000, 65 in 1999, 87 in 1998, 56 in 1997, 46 in 1996, and 54 in 1995.

Frank Akutowicz
Beverly Barnett
Patrick Barry
Ruth Bean
Samuel L. Bean
Brook Bovard
Jamie Camponella
Marianne Cinaglia
Joan Colameco
Terry Ann Colgan
Alton Dahl
John Demsey
Cynthia Dewick
Dorinda Dove
Carl Falco
Phil Fisher
Jane Frantz
Tom Frantz
David Gerbec
Aaron Hamburger
Sally Hamburger
Julie Hurlong Hannum
Barbara Henry
Heidi Hoegger
Milton Isaacs
Rodney W. Jester
Allan Kleban
June Kleban
Lynda Kolski
Marjorie Mabry
Barbara Anne Macklem
Mary L. Marconi
Connee Wright McKinney
Lisa Mullinax
Amy Mullins
Stephen Mullins
Betty O'Regan
Denis O'Regan
Michael Oates
Ruth Panella
Pamela Pearson
Jeffrey Politis
Bill Press
Peter A. Renzetti
Liz Resko (and her quiet dog, Mary)
Josiane Rey
Hugh Roberts
Marge Roberts
Warren Rosenkranz
Sue Rothrock
Kate Sayer
Marvin Sayer
Johanne Schroeder
Danny Schweers
Sadie Somerville
Jan Stearns
Neal Ann Stephens
Mark Taylor
William Theis
Steven Threefoot
Elizabeth Varley
Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker
Jan Westerhouse

Also present were Tegan Harcourt and Rowan Harcourt-Brook (non-voting residents), Ardencroft Representative Phyllis Connor, Senior Director of Ardencroft Bob Pollock, and Ardentown resident & HRTCC Chair, Enno Krebbers.

1. Meeting called to order. Steven Threefoot called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., after giving those assembled a chance to look at the eleven display panels describing the Harvey Road Traffic Calming plan.

2. Minutes of the last meeting. There were no corrections offered to the minutes of the last meeting. [Afterwards, the Village Secretary noticed that Stephen Mullins' name had been misspelled on page 2 of the mailed edition of the minutes.] Marjorie Mabry said the minutes were commendable! They were accepted unanimously.

3. New residents. Patrick Barry introduced himself. His family lives on Lovers Lane. Steve Mullins introduced himself. He and his wife, Amy, live on Hillside Road.

4. Remembered. June Kleban noted that Patricia Burslem passed away last week, Jim's wife. Someone else noted that Paul Thompson has moved from the village to the Captain's Deck on Gov. Prinz Blvd.

5. Communications from the Chair. Steven Threefoot noted he had received a letter from DEMA about FEMA, saying Arden is eligible for preparedness funds covering cleanup of individual property and temporary relocation expenses. (DEMA and FEMA are the Delaware and Federal Emergency Management Agencies.)

Arden recently received $10,000 in street aid thanks to a 2004 bond bill supported by Wayne Smith, our State Representative. These funds will be used by the Civic Committee to repair our roads.

At Steven's request, Arden has been granted consultant party status on the Philadelphia Airport expansion project.

6. Visitors. In attendance were Bob Pollock, Senior Director of Ardencroft, and Enno Krebbers, Ardentown resident and HRTCC Chair.

7. Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee Report. Committee Chair Enno Krebbers made the following report after thanking the Arden residents who have served on the committee, Lynda Kolski having served the longest.

Background and purpose: The HRTCC was chartered by the villages of Arden, Ardencroft and Ardentown to jointly represent them in discussions with the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) concerning the development of a traffic calming plan for Harvey Road. The eight-year history of these discussions, the interactions with various government and other agencies and public officials and the evolution of the plan have been presented at town meetings, public workshops with DelDOT, and in *Arden Page* publications. The negotiations with DelDOT have now reached a stage where a formal report is desirable, accompanied by specific recommendations from the HRTCC to the three chartering communities.

Status: In early 2003 DelDOT and the HRTCC reached agreement on a "concept" plan, which was presented to the three villages at that time. Each village supported the concept plan and authorized the HRTCC to enter into a more detailed planning phase with DelDOT. That phase is now complete, meaning that

there is now a more detailed plan ready to proceed to final engineering drawings. Once those drawings progress, further changes in the plan become expensive and difficult. In principle, construction could begin in the summer of 2004. DelDOT will sponsor a public information session on September 29th, 2003 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Gild Hall for public comment and presentations associated with this report will be made to all three town meetings in the month of September.

Results: The decision was made to handle in different ways those components of the traffic calming plan involving changes to the roadway and the proposed "Gateway" structures. These are presented separately below.

Roadway changes: The final plan for the roadway between Marsh and Sconset adhered extremely closely to the concept plan approved by the villages last winter. The plan will be presented in detail in a graphical manner at the town meetings and the public information session. The materials used there may be considered as a technical annex to this report. To include them all in this report would make it too lengthy. The plan includes the following improvements/changes:

• PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS: As in the concept plan there will be multiple specially treated crosswalks with areas for pedestrians on either side clearly marked at 9 locations.

• SCONSET ROAD INTERSECTION: There will be significant changes to the intersection at Sconset, including a median, a diverter and lane realignment, all to make traffic lanes appear narrower while not actually reducing operating width. The broken cable guardrail around the power derrick will be replaced with a wood post/rail design. The median and diverter will be made of gray natural-appearing rocks.

• VEALE ROAD INTERSECTION: A stoplight will be added at Veale, and changes made to the alignment of that intersection to discourage people cutting across the corner past cars waiting to turn.

• SHOULDERS: The wide shoulders in the Ardencroft/Ardentown section will be altered to incorporate "checker blocks" that allow some grass to grow through. The objective is to make the surface appear green while remaining drivable for mail, trash and other service vehicles.

• SIGNAGE: Funds will be available for "your speed is…" indicator signs, which will be portable. Road signage will be rationalized, with less sign "clutter" overall but more effective spreading of speed limits signs in particular.

• BRIDGE LIGHTING: On the bridge over the railroad track coming from I-95, which is already broadly lit by federally mandated lighting structures, much shorter "city level" light posts will be added to provide a visual cue that the roadway and context are changing. (Net light increases will be negligible.)

During the past six months the HRTCC has worked with DelDOT to define all of the above in detail. The types of poles used for lighting and the stoplight, the material used on the median, the material used on the guardrail and many other such details were discussed over several meetings. The results can all be seen on the graphic materials.

"One point could not be totally completed. Just as the process was reaching its end, another DelDOT department announced an engineering review of materials and techniques used to make the type of special crosswalks such as that now present at Sconset and a key part of the plan throughout the three Ardens. In lieu of a final decision, the DelDOT design team assisted the HRTCC in a clear statement of what options would and would not be acceptable for this project,

and a final decision will be possible well before construction would begin. The HRTCC will have the final decision on which options to take from those the broader DelDOT engineering study on this topic makes available. A key specification is that sound levels produced when cars cross the crosswalk be the same or less than that at the prototype crosswalk in place for the last several years at Sconset and Harvey. In fact the potential successor technique to that used at Sconset results in even less sound. The HRTCC is satisfied that under both the technical options being examined by DelDOT the sound level will be within specifications. [Note: after the committee approved this report the issue was resolved as will be discussed at the town meetings. We will be able to use the materials tested at the Sconset crossing. A more natural pattern will be used.]

Gateway Structures: This topic was handled separately for two reasons. First, DelDOT understood the sensitivity of the topic for the community. Secondly, it was recognized that to a much greater degree than roadway changes, any gateway would have a very strong artistic rather than engineering component, and so different methods of choosing a design were needed. The following procedure was agreed upon and is being implemented:

• Using procedures approved by artistic associations, a "call for proposals" is underway at the time of writing. This was circulated in the community and also published on a nationwide website. Detailed rules, in part taken from templates provided by artistic associations, were agreed upon, legally reviewed and published as part of the call for proposals.

• Artists may apply for a package containing information and details of the project. They may then submit a rough design as specified in the rules.

• A jury composed of 4 members from Arden, 3 from Ardencroft and 3 from Ardentown, plus the chair of the HRTCC, will select a limited number (3-5 if a sufficient number of promising entries are received) for a second round. However, the jury may decide to choose none of the submissions.

• The jury will in part consist of members of the HRTCC, but the town chairs will provide for further members of the jury. Those individuals will serve only on the jury and will not become additional HRTCC members. DelDOT will provide a non-voting member of the jury to comment on technical aspects of the designs as related to road safety and practicalities of building.

• Those artists selected for the second round will submit a more detailed design as specified in the rules.

• The jury will select either none or one of the designs. While the jury will make the final selections, individual members will take their voting instructions from their respective town meetings. It is up to the town meetings to decide how their votes are to be allocated.

• If a design is chosen, DelDOT or its contractors will build the gateway, but the artist may participate as specified in the rules. This arrangement appropriately deals with potential legal issues.

• Timing: the deadline for the first round is September 7. Finalists are to be informed within a month, and second round entries due a month thereafter. This should make possible the presentation of finalist submissions in the November or January town meetings, with the final selection anticipated by February 1, 2004.

At all times a "no gateway option" remains. In addition, DelDOT has facilitated the process by making possible the budgetary separation of the roadwork and gateway construction, so that in principle further designs could be solicited and the gateway constructed later. However, the separation in time is not unlimited.

Recommendations:

The HRTCC respectfully submits the following recommendations to the town meetings of Arden, Ardencroft and Ardentown:

1. That the villages indicate to the Delaware Department of Transportation their separate and collective support for the changes to the roadway and immediate surroundings envisioned in the traffic calming plan as described in this report and as detailed in the drawings and graphical material presented. This includes all components except the gateway, which is addressed below.

Comment: The HRTCC realizes that the plan will not be as effective at slowing traffic as originally hoped. However, given the limitations imposed by the fire department with respect to vertical displacements and by the community with respect to road widening for other traffic calming devices, the plan is the most effective possible given current technical and political realities. While not ideal, it establishes a precedent and future direction for changes to Harvey Road, making changes advocated by some in the community outside the Ardens for widening and other changes to speed traffic far less likely to succeed.

2. That the villages indicate their support for the procedures in place to choose either one or no design for a gateway structure.

3. That the villages agree that the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee's charter be terminated and the committee dissolved at such time as final engineering drawings are completed by DelDOT, construction on the roadway is ready to begin and a gateway structure, if any, has been chosen by the procedures outlined in this report. The villages further undertake, at the time the HRTCC is dissolved, to appoint one representative each to serve as liaison with DelDOT during the construction process if such a representative is not already available from a standing committee.

Comment: The HRTCC was created for a specific purpose, and when that purpose is fulfilled the committee is best dissolved. The liaisons will serve to deal with any logistical or other issues that may arise. Some villages may already have structures in place for such tasks. DelDOT has informally requested that at least one of the liaisons be familiar with the design phase now completed, ideally a member of the current HRTCC.

David Gerbec, an Arden representative on the HRTC Committee, made the following motion: "Moved, that the assembly of Arden, together with the villages of Ardentown and Ardencroft, approves the three recommendations of the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee." The motion received numerous seconds.

Marge Mabrey asked if the traffic speed indicator sign would attract vandals. Enno said, no, the portable sign would not be left out overnight.

June Kleban asked who will put it up and take down? A: DelDOT with coordination with State Police.

Enno noted that there will be a public information meeting next week to which all are invited, at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 29.

Phil Fisher asked about the chevrons which were taken down on the outside of the curve at Orleans Road. Enno responded that over-enthusiastic DelDOT employees did this to reduce sign clutter and will put them back.

Bev Barnett said this plan will be a change in direction for this highway and the Committee deserves a round of applause. Future residents, she said, have lots to work on, especially in Arden.

Brook Bovard suggested that traffic could be calmed by not mowing sides of road. Enno suggested she talk to DelDOT.

Steve Mullins wondered what the village can do to reduce traffic cutting through the back streets during construction. The traffic had been terrible this week on Hillside Road and Wind Lane due to construction on Marsh Road. Enno said we will work with DelDOT to keep disruption to minimum.

Hugh Roberts moved that the word "following" be added to the motion, followed by the three recommendations." Enno says all three villages need to approve the same thing. Mary Marconi seconded the amendment. Amendment passed, so the motion now appeared as the following:

Moved, that the assembly of Arden, together with the villages of Ardentown and Ardencroft, approves the following three recommendations of the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee.

1. That the villages indicate to the Delaware Department of Transportation their separate and collective support for the changes to the roadway and immediate surroundings envisioned in the traffic calming plan as described in their report and as detailed in the drawings and graphical material presented. This includes all components except the gateway, which is addressed below.

2. That the villages indicate their support for the procedures in place to choose either one or no design for a gateway structure.

3. That the villages agree that the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee's charter be terminated and the committee dissolved at such time as final engineering drawings are completed by DelDOT, construction on the roadway is ready to begin and a gateway structure, if any, has been chosen by the procedures outlined in this report. The villages further undertake, at the time the HRTCC is dissolved, to appoint one representative each to serve as liaison with DelDOT during the construction process if such a representative is not already available from a standing committee.

Ruth Panella expressed concern with dissolution of committee. Seems more logical to see work through to completion. Has confidence in this committee's experience. Brook Bovard seconded Ruth's comments, wants lots of people watching DelDOT. Neil Stevens wants HRTCC continued six months to year after completion.

The question was called. Lynda Kolski and Ruth Panella asked for a secret ballot. Cecilia Vore, chair of the Registration Committee, noted that anyone can ask for a secret ballot. Lynda's call for a secret ballot on this motion was defeated by a voice vote. **MOTION PASSED** by voice vote.

8. Avery Property Task Force. Chair Lynda Kolski made the following report:

After nearly six months of being on hold while we waited for a decision from the county regarding their participation, the Avery Task Force received confirmation in August that the county would grant the village of Arden one third of the $850,000 purchase price for the Avery property. In addition, the county has said they will take no ownership of any part of the land, which means that all five acres would be Arden forest land. This is very good and unexpected news after the county wavered back and forth on how much of the land they needed to own in order to justify their one third of the purchase.

The Task Force is now focusing on finalizing the contract with Marsha Avery and pursuing additional fund raising. We hope to have the contract signed with Marsha Avery in the next month or so. She has told us that she does not want to

settle before January 1 for tax reasons. This fits in perfectly with our schedule, which is to spend the rest of this year on fund raising with a referendum vote by the village of Arden planned for a February/March time frame next year. We anticipate that Arden's share of the purchase will exceed $300,000, including all the preliminary legal fees that have already been paid.

Here's a brief overview of the budget. Please keep in mind this is very preliminary, there are still a number of variables that could change in the next several months. One of the biggest variables is our lawyer's fees. Arden's one third of the purchase price is $283,333. We anticipate at least several thousand more in legal fees as we finalize the contract and work out any terms with Marsha Avery. In addition, the Village of Arden will be responsible for all settlement costs, which we estimate to be somewhere in the range of $5000-$10,000. We also anticipate some costs associated with fund raising. On the positive side, as a municipality buying the property, we will be exempt from transfer tax, which is a savings of $8500. At the time of the referendum to purchase the property, we will have a more defined and complete budget to present.

I want to talk a little about legal fees to date. All legal fees through August have been paid. Since September 2002, we have incurred $5,704 in legal fees. $1725 of that was paid out of last year's Avery Task Force budget. $1155 has been paid out of this year's budget, leaving a balance for the remainder of this fiscal year of $845, which will be used for fund raising and other administrative costs. The last legal invoice for $2822 was paid by the Trustees. Our lawyer has agreed to defer all other legal fees until the start of our new fiscal year in March. That is why, on the budget handed out tonight, you will notice the Avery Task Force budget has jumped from $2000 to $25,000. (The handout actually says $12,500, but that number should be $25,000, which is the amount the Task Force is asking for.) If the referendum to purchase the property passes, this money will go towards legal fees, settlement costs and the purchase. It also shows there is some support from the Village of Arden that we can point to when we go outside the village asking for donations. If the referendum should not pass, this money will be used to pay for any legal fees and other administrative costs incurred between now and March 2004, with the balance returned to the town budget. While we don't expect those costs to be anywhere near $25,000, we need to be able to pay any bills we incur until then. Our legal fees have been higher than expected, one reason is that this contract is somewhat more complicated than a typical real estate transaction. In order to make the contract binding with Marsha Avery before we hold our referendum, there are some legal technicalities that have to be dealt with in the contract, and that of course adds to our legal fees.

We have already raised some additional funds (not including the state and county's donations) for purchase of the property. We have received two donations totaling approximately $10,000, an anonymous pledge in the amount of $25,000, and a matching grant from the Martin Family Foundation for $10,000. That grant will match donations from outside Arden dollar for dollar up to $10,000, for a total of $20,000. Assuming we meet the match grant, that gives us a total of $55,000 towards our share of $300,000 plus. We have also approached Ardentown and Ardencroft for a possible donation and are optimistic about their response. So we are already on our way.

We have a subcommittee which is actively pursuing additional fund raising. Our goal is to raise as much of Arden's share of the purchase price as possible

before we go to referendum. Whatever amount is not raised at that point will be covered by a 15-year mortgage from the Arden Building and Loan Association, which will be paid off through a land rent increase.

We plan to hold a special town meeting, most likely after the first of the year, before the referendum vote, at which time we will present a detailed and complete financial report, showing costs to date, costs going forward, amount raised to date and what a purchase will mean in additional costs to each leaseholder.

We will continue to keep you posted with updates in the *Arden Page* and at town and other meetings. Our next Task Force meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 7:00 p.m. at BWVC if anyone would like to come and listen, offer suggestions or volunteer to help with fund raising or any other aspect. Now I'd like to turn it over to Jeff Politis, who is leading the fund raising efforts, to talk about fund raising plans over the next couple months.

After Lynda made the above report, Jeff Politis talked about fund-raising for the Avery Property during the next three months and asked for volunteers to help with the fund-raising campaign. Hopes to have a financial plan by January's meeting. Rodney Jester asked if donations will be returned if the property is *not* purchased. Jeffrey said "Yes." Lynda said, "Check our office in Aruba if you don't get a prompt refund." Jeff said folks can e-mail him at AveryProject@theArdens.com or they can call him directly at 529-9146. Two donations so far have forest preservation as second option rather than to be returned.

Frank Aukotowicz asked what happened to turn county around. Lynda said that the village did hire an aggressive land-use attorney with strong ties with the county because we were at a deadlock. This attorney had a lot to do with turning this situation around. Expensive but productive.

The report was accepted unanimously.

9. Claymont Renaissance. Jane Frantz presented the following report:

The Claymont Renaissance Committee continues to meet regularly, on the third Thursday of each month. Their meetings, which run from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., are held at the Claymont Community Center and are open to the public.

The Renaissance Committee has shifted its emphasis from the redevelopment of Brookview Apartments to focus on other projects on their agenda, such as the traffic plan for Philadelphia Pike and the redevelopment of several vacant parcels along Philadelphia Pike. They feel strongly that it is time to show some results. One property next to Holy Rosary School, which was formerly a gas station, has been purchased by Nilesh Patel and will be rennovated and reopened as a Duncan Donuts store. In August Greg Pettinaro of Pettinaro Construction was invited by Claymont Renaissance to look at redeveloping two properties: Midas Muffler and the abandoned gas station next to Claymont Hardware. Pettinaro will be touring those properties and coming up with bids. Pettinaro has also expressed strong interest in redeveloping Brookview Apartments whenever the current owners decide on an asking price. As of the August Renaissance meeting, the owners of Brookview still had not gotten back to the Committee with their price, and the September Renaissance meeting was cancelled due to the hurricane, so no word yet on that front.

The transportation plan for Claymont Center will be discussed at two workshops being held by DelDOT: the first is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Claymont Community Center and will focus on context-sensitive design; the second workshop will be held on Thursday, October 16, in lieu

of the regular Renaissance meeting. Finally, the Claymont Business Owners' Association will be holding a mixer at The Waterfall on Thursday, September 25, 6:00–9:00 p.m. All are welcome. The next regular meeting of the Claymont Renaissance Committee will be on Thursday, November 20.

Jane's report was accepted unanimously.

10. Trustees Report. Aaron Hamburger reported that the following taxes will be paid to New Castle County by the due date of September 30, 2003. Rebates will be mailed to leaseholders in October.

COUNTY AND SCHOOL TAXES

School Tax check	$168,461.71
County Tax check	53,733.12
Senior/disability rebates	18,873.52
Total tax checks	$241,068.35

The total assessed taxes in the Town Budget is $241,260.00. Aaron reminded people that residents over the age of 65 should apply for the 50% rebate on their school taxes.

Ruth Bean said she got a letter from County saying that there are age *and* income limits to rebates. Aaron responded that, yes, New Castle County has income restrictions but the School District does not. Someone asked for the school tax rebate address and phone number. Connee McKinney said she has it.

[For questions about New Castle County School Senior Tax Relief and Age/Income Rebates, call Betty Bartholomew at 395-5531, Arden's contact at New Castle County.]

Hugh Roberts asked why the Field Theater income was negative and was told $100 had been refunded because of rain. The $100 in income had shown up in the previous statment from the Trustees.

Aaron concluded the Trustees' report by saying that the Buckingham Greene trial is still scheduled for November 2–6. Their report was unanimously accepted.

Trustees of Arden Balance Sheet as of September 19, 2003

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN - TRUSTEE	120,048.44
TRUSTEES - WILMINGTON TRUST	247,906.45
VANGUARD	
FUND 30	65,822.38
FUND 33	62,639.52
Total VANGUARD	128,461.90
Total Checking/Savings	496,416.79
Accounts Receivable	
LAND RENT RECEIVABLE	8,148.44
Total Accounts Receivable	8,148.44
Total Current Assets	504,565.23
TOTAL ASSETS	504,565.23

Village of Arden Income and Expenses Against Budget
March 25, 2003 to September 19, 2003

	APRIL 1–SEPT. 19, 2003		BUDGET	
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
ARCHIVES/MUSEUM		2,705.37		
INTEREST-BANK		32.00		
INVESTMENT INCOME				
DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD				
FUND 30	356.16			
FUND 33	352.95			
Total DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD		709.11		
TRUSTEES'S AB&L INTEREST		3,571.85		
INVESTMENT INCOME - Other		0.00		5,000.00
Total INVESTMENT INCOME		4,280.96		5,000.00
LAND RENT		376,931.85		376,000.00
LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE		1,071.41		
MEADOW LANE ACCESS		661.96		
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS		2,125.00		
Uncategorized Income				
ARDEN CENTENNIAL BOOK INCOME		6.00		
FIELD THEATER RENTAL		-100.00		
REFUNDS		2,025.20		
TOWN WATCH DONATION		750.00		
TRAFFIC FINES		19.32		
Uncategorized Income - Other		0.00		40,000.00
Total Uncategorized Income		2,700.52		40,000.00
Total Income		390,509.07		421,000.00
Expense				
ADVISORY COMMITTEE		100.34		300.00
ARCHIVES				
RENT		910.00		
ARCHIVES - Other		0.00		3,600.00
Total ARCHIVES		910.00		3,600.00
AVERY TASK FORCE		1,155.00		2,000.00
BOARD OF ASSESSORS		0.00		50.00
BOOKEEPING SERVICE		1,030.00		2,681.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE				
RENOVATIONS		465.00		6,000.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE - Other		289.53		1,000.00
Total BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE		754.53		7,000.00
CIVIC				
COMMONS & FORESTS				
ELECTRICITY	42.19			
MOWING	4,833.32			
COMMONS & FORESTS - Other	5,173.62		20,000.00	
Total COMMONS & FORESTS		10,049.13		20,000.00
ROADS		140.00		17,000.00
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP		0.00		2,000.00
TRASH		15,672.19		40,000.00
Total CIVIC		25,861.32		79,000.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING		108.24		1,000.00
CONTINGENCIES		0.00		2,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS		4,200.00		4,200.00
GILD HALL RENTAL		900.00		900.00
GRANT EXPENSE				
DOT				
03-P-Prog-17	662.50			
Total DOT		662.50		
Total GRANT EXPENSE		662.50		

Village of Arden Income and Expenses Against Budget (continued)
March 25, 2003 to September 19, 2003

	APRIL 1–SEPT. 19, 2003		BUDGET	
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE		0.00		50.00
MISCELLEANOUS EXP.		0.00		
PLAYGROUND		462.25		1,850.00
REGISTRATION		0.00		1,200.00
SAFETY				
HARVEY RD. SPEED ENFORCEMENT	0.00		2,000.00	
TOWN WATCH FEE	756.00		2,268.00	
SAFETY - Other	0.00		1,000.00	
Total SAFETY		756.00		5,268.00
TAXES				
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT				
LSDISTRICT OVER 65 REBATE	680.88			
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT - Other	5.67		191,500.00	
Total LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	686.55		191,500.00	
NCC PROPERTY				
NCC OVER 65 REBATE	219.62			
NCC PROPERTY - Other	3.29		58,000.00	
Total NCC PROPERTY	222.91		58,000.00	
Total TAXES		909.46		249,500.00
TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXP.				
TOWN TELEPHONE	109.35			
TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXP. - Other	1,773.88		3,400.00	
Total TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXP.		1,883.23		3,400.00
TOWN SECRETARY		2,545.00		6,624.00
TRUSTEE ADMINISTRATIVE				
ADMIN ASSIST	3,925.00			
AUDITING	4,200.00			
FEES/OPERATIONS				
TRUST PHONE	221.29			
FEES/OPERATIONS - Other	2,297.26			
Total FEES/OPERATIONS	2,518.55			
INSURANCE				
COMMERCIAL POLICY	9,030.00			
SECURITY BOND	450.00			
Total INSURANCE	9,480.00			
LEGAL	10,032.50			
OFFICE RENT	875.00			
Payroll Expenses	935.23			
TRUSTEE ADMINISTRATIVE - Other	0.00		48,170.00	
Total TRUSTEE ADMINISTRATIVE		31,966.28		48,170.00
z MEM. GARDEN		1,383.93		
Total Expense		75,588.08		418,793.00
Net Ordinary Income		314,920.99		2,207.00
let Income		314,920.99		2,207.00

11. Archives. Lisa Mullinax made the following report.

In August, the Archives committee met with Ms. Bruce Dalleo, director of the New Castle Historical Society, and members of her staff. They provided their insights on the special problems of establishing and maintaining a "small" collection. Thanks to Phyllis Conner for connecting the committee with this valuable resource.

Also, thanks to Sadie Somerville for creating an Archives and Craft Shop Museum display for this year's Arden Fair.

The committee held work days on Sept 13 and 14 and has packed most of the collection's fragile items. This was in anticipation of jackhammer work to be done in the girls' bathroom adjacent to the Archives storage area.

Lisa's report was accepted unanimously.

12. Arden Craft Shop Museum. Mark Taylor made the following report.

As you will have noticed, construction on the Craft Shop is finally underway. A second upstairs apartment has now been outfitted with a new dining area, kitchen, and bathroom, and construction on the remaining upstairs unit commences shortly. First floor units will be renovated later this fall.

In addition to apartment renovations, considerable progress has been made in the future Museum and Archive areas. Despite a couple treasures unearthed during construction, including a wonderful c. 1914 hammered sconce attributed to Harry Page, it is this area of the building that has presented us with our greatest challenges. While a structural engineer and two contractors examined the project in it's early stages, demolition in the community room revealed severe structural and safety concerns. These have now been remedied, and visitors to the community room will be able to admire, among other things, a new concrete floor and many new structural supports.

The Board would like to remind everyone of this coming Sunday's annual meeting to be held on site at the Craft Shop at 3 p.m. Agenda items include a tour of the Archives and Museum space, construction update, financial report, and election of two officers. Residents will also have a chance at this meeting to address the Board with any concerns or questions they may have about the project. One of these concerns, first brought to our attention through the Arden Page and subsequently by a letter to the Board, has already been addressed, and this issue is now resolved to the satisfaction of the two tenants involved.

The Arden Craft Shop Museum Board is extremely proud of our preservation efforts, as well as the efforts we have made to provide safe rental housing in our Village. We hope that all of you will avail yourselves of this Sunday's opportunity to view the considerable progress made thus far. For those planning to attend, out of consideration for the neighbors, we request that you walk to the Craft Shop, or park at the Gild Hall, since parking is very limited on site. For those unable to attend, voting proxies were included in the recent issue of the Arden Page, and may be delivered to Alton Dahl, 2117 Meadow Lane.

Following Mark's report, Ruth Panella asked about the rent issue details? Mark said the priorities are to preseve the building, house the archives, and to provide rentals. Ruth Panella then questioned the raise in rents, especially of one renter. Mary Marconi had written letter to board, concerned about rental increase because of what was promised at Town Meeting when Craft Shop was purchased. Some of these rent increases are 100% and 125%. Would like to see our commitment kept. If a committee cannot stick to promises, they need to

come before the town explaining needed change. Steven Threefoot noted that the Craft Shop Museum is not part of the Village of Arden. Mary Marconi responded that the Acquisition Committee said increase would be 25%. Board needs to explain itself to town. Need accountability. Mark Taylor responded that 25% was never a rent commitment. Alton Dahl, a Craft Shop board member, noted that the Craft Shop was set up to be independent of town so rent issues would not be town discussion. The town decided not to be in the landlord business. Some members of the Acquisition Committee wanted low-cost housing but that proposal was always voted down. One bedroom apartment will now be rented well below market value even though the increase is 125%. If the increase is huge it is only because the rent has been so very, very low. Mark Taylor echoed those comments, that the Craft Shop Museum wants to provide rentals, not subsidized housing. Cecilia Vore noted that this was not the appropriate place for this discussion. Applause. Bev Barnet requested members of Shop join her in looking in at rental rates in the *News Journal* rental. Ruth Panella said the board needs to look at delaying raising rents. Corporation needs to do more. Sally Hamburger expressed concern for the loss of moderately priced rentals in Arden and moved that the village chair appoint an ad hoc committee to study moderately-priced housing in Arden. Lynda Kolski moved to table. Motion tabled. Bill Press: Bob Wynne must be happy to have gotten rid of that old building. Mark's report was accepted.

13. Assessors: noting to report

14. Audit: nothing to report

15. Budget: Tom Frantz presented the projected budget, as shown at right, noting that these figures were taken from the independent audit report. The notes for the budget are found below. The budget will go to referendum next month. Lynda Kolski moved that the Avery Task Force be increased to $25,000, as previously agreed. Mary seconded. After discussion it was decided no motion was necessary since this was just a revision.

Allan Kleban asked why administrative expenses have gone up. Steven Threefoot responded that much of this increase covers fees for out-of-town events which he attends. Tom's report was unanimously accepted as revised.

Notes to FY 2004 - 2005 Proposed Budget

(1) Land Rent – Based on Assessor's report from June 2003 town meeting.
(2) Property Taxes:
  (a) County Taxes: Represents a 1% yearly increase over 2003.
  (b) School Taxes: Represents a 3% yearly increase over 2003.
(3) Trustees Administration – Increase due to higher insurance costs.
(4) Avery Task Force – Increase to $12,500 [really $25,000; see above] to cover possible legal, fundraising, and miscellaneous fees required for Avery Property acquisition. If referendum passes, this will be included in referendum.
(5) Buzz Ware Village Center
  (a) Represents annual Buzz Ware program and administration costs.
  (b) Annual maintenance costs for BWVC.
  (c) BWVC Committee wishes to accrue $6000 per year for next three years for roof renovations.

PROJECTED VILLAGE BUDGET (FY March 25 2004 - 2005)

INCOME	NOTES	(2004-2005) PROJECTED	(2003-2004) PROJECTED	(2002-2003) ACTUAL
Land Rent	see note 1	381,000	376,000	$323,063
Delaware Municipal Street Aid		20,000	20,000	24,074
Interest and Other Income		45,000	45,000	65,054
SUB-TOTAL: INCOME		**$446,000**	**$441,000**	**$412,191**
Reserve		142,368	169,087	170,640
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		**$588,368**	**$610,087**	**$582,831**
NON-BUDGET EXPENSES				
Property Taxes:				
County	see note 2a	57,630	57,059	56,921
School	see note 2b	189,727	184,201	182,624
Trustees Administration	see note 3	49,460	48,170	34,729
Grants - State of Delaware				
State Grant				3,234
State Grant for Roads to Civic Committee		12,000	12,000	13,596
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads		20,000	20,000	28,726
Trails Renewal Grant				
SUB- TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES		**$328,817**	**$321,430**	**$319,830**

BUDGET EXPENSES		PROPOSED BUDGET for Referendum	APPROPRIATED	ACTUAL
Advisory		300	300	—
Archives		1,700	3,600	2,900
Avery Task Force	see note 4	12,500	2,000	1,726
Board of Assessors		50	50	—
Buzz Ware Village Center - Program/Admin	see note 5a	1,000	1,000	1,000
Buzz Ware Village Center - Maintenance	see note 5b	2,000		
Buzz Ware Village - Renovations		6,000	6,000	5,721
Buzz Ware Village - Roof Renovations	see note 5c	6,000		
Civic Committee:				
Roads		18,000	17,000	17,111
Commons & Forests	see note 6	21,000	20,000	15,535
Trash Collection		43,000	40,000	40,641
Special Clean - up		2,000	2,000	1,768
Community Planning		1,000	1,000	1,981
Legislative Reference		100	50	—
Playground		1,750	1,850	1,067
Registration	see note 7	1,200	1,200	515
Safety:				
General		1,000	1,000	25
Town Watch Coordinator Fees		2,400	2,268	2,000
Harvey Rd. Speed Limit Enforcement		2,000	2,000	
Town Expenses:				
Salaries:				
Secretary	see note 8	6,804	6,624	5,932
Bookkeeping-Town	see note 8	2,748	2,681	2,402
Town Administrative Expenses	see note 9	4,000	3,400	214
Donations:				
ACRA	see note 10a	1,450	1,350	1,300
Arden Page	see note 10b	1,450	1,350	1,300
Arden Library		550	550	500
Fire Companies	see note 10c	1,000	950	950
Gild Hall Rental		900	900	850
Contingencies		2,000	2,000	432
SUB- TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES		**$143,902**	**$121,123**	**$105,870**
TOTAL EXPENSES		**$472,719**	**$442,553**	**$425,700**

See accompanying notes to Proposed Budget FY 2004 - 2005: Referendum in October 2003

(6) Civic – Commons & Forest – Increased cost of tree removal. Drough and excess rain has damaged health of many trees.
(7) Registration – Full budgeted amount will be required for multiple referendums.
(8) Town Expenses – Salaries: Approximate 2.5% increase in annual salary, Secretary salary is $6,264 plus $540 for payroll taxes. Bookkeeper salary is $2,532 plus $216 for payroll taxes. Previously, all payroll taxes were paid out of Trustees Administration, as a non-budgeted expense. We are now including payroll taxes as part of the budgeted expenses.
(9) Town Administrative Expenses – Increase in town administration expenses, miscellaneous operations and fees.
(10) Donations –
  (a) ACRA – Increase in donation by $100.
  (b) Arden Page – Increase in donation by $100.
  (c) Fire Companies – Claymont Fire Co. $650, Talleyville Fire Co. $175 and Brandywine Hundred Fire Co. $175.

16. Buzz Ware Village Center report: Betty O'Regan reported as follows:

1) Keys – The locks have been changed on the BWVC doors; I will be accepting key exchanges at the end of the meeting.

2) Fiscal year 2002-2003 operating reconciliation:

a) Large increase in donations due to the Dan Conner Memorial donations

b) Rentals were up by $1,237.00.

c) Admin/Programming was significantly lower as we did not do as much programming from this account.

d) Decrease in maint/supplies primarily due to our streamlining and bulk ordering of supplies.

e) Electricity up – most likely due to increased A/C use in rooms.

f) Oil increase due to increased room use, oil pricing and overheating of rooms; the last item has been resolved by placing locked boxes over thermostats in order to keep programming of cycles intact.

g) Telephone bill went down significantly once we eliminated long distance coverage, thereby thwarting the person who was coming in and placing high long distance calls on our phone.

h) Overall we were able to make a profit from the building income – this will help in offsetting the cost of the bathroom renovations and improvements to rooms 1, 2 and the hallways that are being done in fiscal year 2003-2004.

i) Projections for 2003-2004 will put us in the red; because of last year's profit and the good standing of our checking account this will be manageable. However, our cash flow will be much leaner after all the projects have been completed.

j) The flat roof repairs were accomplished with the money set aside in the B&L account over the past seven years. The balance currently in this account is restricted donation money for the window project and for the Dan Conner Memorial project.

3) Town budget request for 2004-2005

Line item 1: $1000 for programming/admin. remains unchanged from last year

Line item 2: $2000 additional request – to make up for rent we will lose when Archives moves from the building (space to be used tentatively for town offices), and to offset increasing maintenance personnel costs.

Buzz Ware Village Center Account Reconciliatin for Fiscal Year 2002–2003

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

REVENUES	ACTUAL 3/25/02-3/24/03	PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISON	PROJECTED 3/25/03-3/24/04
Interest			
Bank Interest - Wilm. Trust	$80.38	up $23.96	$40.00
Bank Interest - AB&L	$622.67	up $26.86	$650.00
SUBTOTAL	**$703.05**		**$690.00**
Misc. Income			
BWVC Activities	$1,404.64	up $100.00	$797.32
Donation, Ardencroft	$1,000.00		$1,000.00
Donation, Ardentown	$1,000.00		$1,100.00
Donations, other	$5,161.00	up $4392.74	$4,382.00
Other(town money for painting)	$12,500.00		$0.00
SUBTOTAL	**$21,065.64**		**$7,279.32**
Rental Fees			
Archives	$2,002.00	down $182.00	$1,638.00
YMCA	$12,500.00	up $150.00	$12,910.00
Other Rentals	$4,390.00	up $1237.00	$4,530.00
SUBTOTAL	**$18,892.00**		**$19,078.00**
TOTAL INCOMES	**$40,660.69**		**$27,047.32**
Disbursements			
Admin/Program	–$909.12	down $1826.81	–$1,725.86
Maintenance & Supplies	–$9,354.87	down $671.52	–$11,828.56
Small Equip/Improve	–$13,786.76	up $9171.1	–$22,981.72
Utilities			
Electricity	–$1,882.57	up $44.11	–$1,492.88
Oil	–$2,993.91	up $1312.72	–$1,378.72
Water	–$384.84	up $6.95	–$367.52
Phone	–$420.13	down $201.51	–$363.04
Subtotal	**–$5,681.45**		**–$3,602.16**
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	**–$29,732.20**		**–$40,138.30**
Restricted Donation Money: Conners donations	–$4,033.00		
NET OPERATING PROFIT	**$6,895.49**		**–$13,090.98**

B&L acct. bal as of 9/03: $16,065.25 - (restricted donations for windows and conner project)

TOWN ASSEMBLY BUDGET		
Admin/Programming	$1,000.00	$1,000.00
Maintenance	$2,000.00	
Renovation Projects	$6,000.00	*$12,000.00

*$6000 to be rolled over for two years: rest of roof project

Line item 3: $6000 for renovations remains unchanged from last year

Line item 4: $6000 for roof renovation to be rolled over and saved until 2005-2006 when the rest of the roof will be redone.

4) ACRA Program—The summer ACRA program had another good year, culminating in their Open House and Kids' Coffee House and a special presentation to the Colgan family on behalf of Tom and Joan Ware Colgan for their role in establishing ACRA. A special plaque now hangs in the entrance way of the Buzz Ware.

5) Flat roof—the new flat roof over the boys' bathroom and archives has been completed. Budgets are being requested to accumulate the money needed to refurbish the rest of the roofs within the next five years.

6) Color in the Buzz—Paint parties were held to paint Rooms 1 and 2 and the hallway. Many thanks to the following paint volunteers: Jane and Tom Frantz, Shari Phalan, Betty O'Regan, Jamie Campanella, Randy Hoopes, Seth Baker, Cindy Cohen, David Scott, Marguerite Archer, Johanna Schroeder, Pat Morrison, Ruth Panella, Andi Sherman, Martha Grace, Maryann Nelson and Bruce Chernewski. Special thanks to Ruth Panella, David Scott, Betty O'Regan, Marguerite Archer and Bruce Chernewski for attending more than one paint session. Also, special thanks to Marguerite for many more paint sessions. Come by and see the cheery new atmosphere and the beginnings of the permanent art exhibit on our walls!

7) Bathroom renovations – work should begin on the bathrooms within the next week and hopefully will be completed within a month.

8) Room 4 availability – Room 4 will be used as a shop October 15 through December 8th for door construction so be sure to plan ahead and call early for reservations; space will be limited during this time.

9) Coffee House — the new Coffee House season kicked off on Friday, Sept. 12th and as always a fun night had by all. Mark it on your calendar: the second Friday of every month, September through June. Come out and enjoy an evening with your friends and neighbors.

10) Special donations/thanks

Thanks to the Trustees of Ardentown for their ongoing financial support of the BWVC in the amount of $500.00.

Special thanks to the anonymous donor who recently gave $1000.00 with the following note: "This donation is being given in honor of Marguerite Archer for her tireless effort in truly making the Buzz Ware Village Center just what the name implies. Thank you, Marguerite."

"Thank yous" also go out to Mary Marconi for her assistance with grant writing strategies, and to Lee Smith for his donation of architectural services relating to the bathroom renovations.

11) Meetings — Our committee meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:30 PM in the BWVC; all are welcome to join us and sit in on the meetings.

After Betty made the above report, Lynda Kolski noted we are planning an auction in the spring, similar to the event two years ago. She encouraged residents to set aside objects to be donated. Betty's report was accepted unanimously.

17. Civc Committee Report: Sue Rothrock presented the following report.

Our recycling program is going very well. If anyone needs a red recycling container, call and leave a message for me at 475-7852. I am currently out of containers but will be getting more of them soon. [Remember, recycling is free is all residents of all of the Ardens, on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. For details, see www.theArdens.com.]

The current list of flora and fauna included in the Arden Woods Survey is posted on the wall. If you would like a copy, please let me know.

The fall stream cleanup is canceled due to Mother Nature doing some of her own housecleaning. Thanks also go out to those Ardenites who carry a bag with them and clean up debris as they walk, especially Ruth Panella and Kali.

We have had a lot of trees dying on the greens and in the woods due to the extremes of our weather patterns and the tree diseases that affect this area. We hope to do some replanting this fall or in the spring.

On a good note,the Dawn Redwood located at 2121 Meadow Lane was listed on the Delaware Big Tree List as the second largest Dawn Redwood in Delaware, with a circumference of 158 inches and 99 feet tall.

We have received a $10,000 Bond Bill from the state to do road repairs. We are continuing to repair winter damage and also will be addressing several water runoff problems.

* **I would like to make the annual motion to close the woods at dusk and open the woods at dawn. Motion was seconded and passed.**

Sue's report was accepted unanimously.

18. Community Planning. Lynda Kolski made the following report:

Memorial Garden: We continue to have a problem with run off from the pool into the Memorial Garden. The Swim Gild is looking into the problem, which is most likely due to old pumping equipment that will need to be dealt with. Until then, the problem will probably continue.

Arden Dreamers: The next Arden Dreamers discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 7-9 p.m. at BWVC. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Past sessions have had lively, positive, and constructive discussions about ways to maintain economic diversity in Arden and be supportive of our older residents. All are welcome. The discussion is an evolving one, so if you been to past sessions, there are always new and different perspectives to hear. Plus Connee always has good light refreshments. If anyone has any questions, see Connee McKinney.

Harvey Road: The committee would like to remind and encourage residents to attend the DelDot public information meeting for the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Plan scheduled for Monday, Sept. 29, 4-7 p.m. at Gild Hall. Even though the plan was approved tonight, it's important to get residents comments and opinions as a matter of public record. This is also your last opportunity to publicly comment on any aspect of the plan that you may want to voice an opinion on.

Fall Woods Clean-up: Civic and Community Planning decided not to do a fall woods clean-up since the last several storms and Isabel seem to have cleared a lot of debris away.

Having listened to Lynda's report, Frank Aukotowicz called attention of English yews at corner of Green. Thought they are a bit large. Were planted by Don Stephens in 1960s. Can we manage their visual aspect? They cast a pallor. Block the view of the marvelous big green. Cutting them down isn't right, but perhaps

must comply with the ordinance. Alton Dahl asked if you have two spaces, does one have to be handicapped? Denis said, "Yes, probably, but that's beyond my knowledge." June Kleban asked if the Weave Shop would need handicapped parking. Denis said no, it does not offer public parking.

Denis reported that there were ten Town Watch patrols in August. There were incidents of mailbox damage and graffiti in August, as well as exterior vandalism at Candlelight Theatre. Ruth Panella wondered what happened to patrolling Harvey Road. Cars are barelling down the road. They drive 40mph at 5:00 p.m.! Denis said there was no State Police enforcement in September, but there will be in October. Denis's report was accepted.

23. New Business. Marge Mabry said she was privileged to see Rick Rothrock's whimsical, exciting exhibit with so much imagination at work. She will talk to gardener's Gild about organizing a tour.

Alton Dahl noted that, in regards to subsidized housing, that it is his personal belief that, when we organize ourselves to do charity, we need to do it outside the Village government.

Ruth Panella spoke about the U.S. Government's Patriot Act. She wants a resolution stating the sense of the Assembly. Mary Marconi seconded. Discussion ensued. Mary would like to see the Ardens oppose portions of the Patriot Act. Our Civil Liberties our endangered. Janie Stearns thanked all who helped with horizontal trees after Isabel blew through and would like to know where U.S. and Delaware flags are, which should be displayed at our town meetings. Frank Aukotowicz very much supported Ruth's opposition to the Patriot Act, which he said undermines our liberties. Denis O'Regan said this is not the proper place for such a motion. Ruth countered that if we as a town cannot talk about national issues, it's a sorry situation. Cecilia Vore stated that a quorum constitutes a Town Assembly. This is never all the residents. Elizabeth Varley suggests that item be put on the agenda for the January meeting. Ruth Panella accepted that suggestion. Alton suggested we spell out that we want to protect our constitutional rights.

Good and Welfare. Connee McKinney reported that Jim and Carol Piecara [spelling?] and their daughter Jessica, who had lived on Veale Road and then relocated near Red Clay Creek, had their home severely damaged by the floods of a week ago, three days prior to Hurricane Isabel. All the animals and people got out OK and the whole family is now back in Ardencroft.

Mary Marconi noted that the Broadbent's house at 1907 Millers Road was severly damaged when winds from Isabel blew a tree onto the roof.

Mark Taylor moved to adjourn. There were numerous seconds for adjournment, which was unanimously approved at 10:23 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Danny N. Schweers

Danny N. Schweers, Secretary

then a secret ballot is taken and counted by the tellers.

Cecilia's report was accepted unanimously.

22. Safety Committee Report. Denis O'Regan made the following report.

There were three bridge calls with DEMA and the National Weather Service (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 16-18) preceeding Tropical Storm Isabel. Emergency management was discussed. Denis noted that one of these calls included Steven Threefoot and that these were not official public meetings but simply the passing along of information about the State of Delaware's emergency preparedness.

* **Denis then made the following motion: "The Safety Committee moves that the Town Assembly vote to confirm the movement of Steve Harcourt from alternate status to full active duty on the Safety Committee." This motion was seconded by Alton Dahl and approved unanimously.**

Concerning Town Watch, Denis noted that "there will be an October 16, 7:30 p.m. Town Watch Orientation at the Buzz Ware Village Center. Officer Mark Babinger of the New Castle County Police with lead the orientation."

The State of Delaware has decreed that every municipality pass an ordinance concerning public parking for handicapped individuals. Accordingly, Denis proceeded to make the first reading of Ordinance 13, Section 9, as follows:

The following Ordinance is submitted by the Safety Committee to the Town Assembly as required by House Bill No. 172, passed on July 25, 2003. All municipalities must pass such requirements by March 1, 2004.

Ordinance 13, Section 9:

It shall be the duty of individuals and artificial entities that provide public parking to provide parking spaces for persons with disabilities. The number of spaces required shall be in accordance with the requirements of New Castle County and the State of Delaware.

It shall be the duty of individuals and artificial entities that provide public parking to erect and maintain signage on parking spaces for persons with disabilities. The signage shall be in accordance with the requirements of New Castle County and the State of Delaware.

The Safety Committee shall enforce the requirements of this ordinance. Enforcement shall consist of first writing a warning to the individual or entity that has failed to comply with all provisions of the ordinance. If, after thirty (30) days from the date of the warning, the individual or entity has still not complied, the Safety Committee may then issue a summons or apply for a warrant in the name of the individual or artificial entity.

The penalty for non-compliance with this ordinance is One Hundred Dollars ($100) per month until such time as the individual or artificial entity complies with the ordinance.

Sally Hamburger asked Denis to define "artificial entity." Denis noted that the Arden Club and the Craft Shop Museum are artificial entities. Hugh Roberts asked if, as he believed, the enforcement provisions of the town had been taken away from the Safety Committee. Denis said that the Safety Committee cannot arrest, but we can write a violation, for leash-law violations for example, and can get a warrant. Bill Press wondered how the ordinance will affect individuals. Denis said that anyone who offers public parking, such as a private business,

can trim creatively. Everyone owns the visual scene, it's in everyone's head. Pete Renzetti noted that the Green is a diamond, one of the non-transparent facets on the diamond. Sue responded that this has been a concern of the Civic Committee. We have talked about the yews and are leaning towards trimming them naturally but welcome any suggestions. Sue's report was accepted unanimously.

19. Legislative Reference. No report.

20. Playground. Larry Walker made the following report:

During the past three months, two required playground inspections were conducted and all equipment was 'adult tested' to ensure safety. The September equipment inspection is scheduled for this Saturday, Sept. 27. In August, special emphasis was placed on the equipment on the Sherwood Green, because all equipment would be heavily used during the Arden Fair. All equipment is in safe condition.

Larry's report was accepted unanimously.

21. Registration Committee. Cecilia Vore, Chair, gave the following report:

Ballots for the annual Budget Referendum and election of the Board of Assessors will be mailed to all eligible voters between October 10 and 13. Ballots will be counted Thursday, November 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Buzz Ware Village Center. All residents are welcome to observe the ballot count.

Nominees for the Arden Board of Assessors are: Lew Aumack, Carl Falco, Steven Harcourt, Milton Isaacs, Lynda Kolski, Mary Marconi, Dan McNeil, Jeff Politis, Bill Press, Liz Resko, Ed Rohrbach, Lynne Svenning, Elizabeth Varley, Larry Walker, Laura Wallace and Tom Wheeler, plus any nominees from the floor tonight." [No nominations were forthcoming.]

Current census information for the Village shows 372 adults (residents 18 and over) and 80 children (residents under 18). Of the adult residents, 362 are currently eligible to vote. The list of residents and eligible voters is available for reading at the sign-in table. It will be submitted to the Town Secretary for town records at the end of tonight's meeting.

Following the June meeting, several residents asked about the possibility of voting at Town Meetings using a secret ballot instead of voice votes. The Registration Committee and Legislative Reference Committee were asked by Advisory to clarify our voting procedures in answer to these questions. After reviewing our Act to Reincorporate and Robert's Rules of Order, we have the following information. Rules for conducting business at a Town Meeting are determined by the Town Assembly. In general, the Chairman calls for a voice vote on motion and announces the results.

When a voice vote is inconclusive the Chairman may ask for a standing vote or show of hands. If that is still inconclusive the chairman may ask for "tellers" to do a vote count using a standing vote or show of hands. In our case, the Registration Committee acts as tellers. Any member of the Assembly may ask for a vote count if he or she doubts the results of a voice vote. That kind of request is called a 'Division.' It does not need to be seconded and it is not debatable.

If a member of the Assembly believes a secret ballot will result in a truer expression of the will of the voters, he or she may move to have a vote taken by secret ballot. The motion must be seconded; it takes precedence over any other motion on the floor; and it is not debatable. If a majority of the Assembly agrees,