

INSIDE: MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2008

All Village of
Arden Residents are
Encouraged to
Attend the next

Town Meeting

Monday, JUNE 23, 2008

In the Gild Hall, 7:30 p.m.

2326 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

THE TOWN ASSEMBLY'S AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. Assessors Committee Report
2. *Ad Hoc* Committee Report on the
Schroeder Bequest.
3. First Treasurer's Report
4. Committees will report in reverse order

All are welcome hither

Please note: Those attending Town Meetings are eligible to vote if they have resided in the Village of Arden the six months prior to the Meeting, and are 18 years of age, or older.

Minutes of the Town Assembly for the Village of Arden (uncorrected)

Monday, March 24, 2008

A total of 70 residents attended this Meeting.

Bob Andress
Lou Bean
Ruth Bean
Steve Blades
Jennifer Borders
Dale Brumbaugh
Dela Bryan
Joann Colameco
Terry Ann Colgan
Felise Cressman
Michael Cressman
Alton Dahl
Mike Fitzharris
Willard Glenn
Barbara Henry
Elaine Hickey
Heidi Hoegger
Sue Hornung
Tom Hornung
Milton Isaacs
Rod Jester
Lynda Kolski
Carol Larson
Sharon Lawrence
Ken Mabry
Connee McKinney
Rebecca Meick
Ron Meick
David Michelson
Lisa Mullinax
Mary Murphy
Cookie Ohlson
Jeff Politis
Pam Politis

Bill Press
Gary Quinton
Peter Renzetti
Edward Rohrbach
Deborah M. Ricard
Hugh Roberts
Marge Roberts
Charles Robinson
Nanette Robinson
Ed Rohrbach
Warren Rosenkranz
Hugh Roberts
Kate Sayer
Marvin Sayer
Danny Schweers
Sally Sharp
Ray Siegfried
Sadie Somerville
Beth Stevenson
Lon Sullivan
Bill Theis
Debbie Theis
Steven Threefoot
Elizabeth Varley
Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker
Leah Walker
Laura Wallace
David Warner
Susan Warner
Jan Westerhouse
Tom Wheeler
Carol Ann Wilcock

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to Order by Town Chairman Steven Threefoot at 7:40 pm at the Arden Gild Hall.

1.1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 28, 2008 Town Meeting were Approved.

1.2 NEW RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no new Residents in Attendance. But Katie Bryan, Jacob Politis, and Jackson Politis were at the Meeting.

1.3 RECOGNITION OF THE DEPARTED

Steven said that Charlotte Glass had grown up in Arden, and over the past decades had been a regular visitor to Arden to visit with her sister Bonnie Phillips. She considered Arden as her second home, even though she was a world traveler. There was a moment of silence to remember her.

Terry Colgan announced that Danny Cappel recently died. He was the son of Helen Ware Cappel, and grew up in Arden. He was active in the Memorial Garden, and was very involved in getting new plantings installed there.

1.4 INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors in attendance.

Steven announced that future visitors will be given a five minute time limit for their presentations, but if the Town Assembly so decides at that time, the visitor can be allotted additional time.

1.5 COMMUNICATIONS

There was a letter from the State of Delaware asking all municipalities and other jurisdictions to apply for the renewal of their Trails Grants.

Steven said that he had regularly received e-mail reports from DSWA about the Curbside Recycling Program, and in Arden there had been 796 Curbside Pick-ups since the last Town Meeting three months ago. That shows that there is 43% participation in Arden, which is an impressive figure.

Tom Wheeler by e-mail wanted the Town Assembly to make a financial contribution to the FAA Lawsuit. This can be brought up under New Business later on in the Meeting.

Marianne Cinaglia, by e-mail, has kept Steven abreast of applications for variances, especially when clarifications and notifications are sought from surrounding property owners, like the Papa John's Variance Application. Her efforts are appreciated.

The State of Delaware sent its Federal Grants Summary for 2006 to the Town, and this will be kept in the Arden Library for those who are interested.

Jim Larsen in a letter suggested that the Village leaseholders work together to combine a large amount of tree work, and then negotiate with tree removal companies for doing all of the work. He felt that the residents and Civic Committee could achieve savings through competitive bidding for a significant amount of tree work.

2.0 ELECTION TO TOWN COMMITTEES AND ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Cecilia Vore asked for a Suspension of the Rules to hold the Annual Election to Town Committees, and to elect Town Officers.

She presented the Ballot for the Election, and it had the following individuals who had agreed to stand for election to Town Committees and as Town Officers, and they were:

The Committee Nominees were as follows:

| | |
|----------|---|
| ARCHIVES | Barbara Macklem* Deborah Ricard Barney King Ann Schmittinger Sadie Sommerville* |
| AUDIT | Cookie Ohlson* David Nordheimer |
| BUDGET | Jack Dolmetsch* Milton Isaacs Matthew Lo* Lynne Svenning |
| BWVC | Nancy Ellis Randy Hoopes* Warren Rosenkranz Bill Theis |
| CIVIC | Carol Larson Greg Morrison |

Ann Schmittinger*
Carol Ann Wilcock

COMMUNITY
PLANNING

Brooke Bovard
Michael Falstad*
Danny Schweers
Sally Sharp

FOREST

Alan Burslem
Dawn Chang
Felise Cressman
Warren Rosenkranz
Elizabeth Varley*

PLAYGROUND

Patrick Barry
Leah Walker
Larry Walker
John Stevenson *

REGISTRATION

Lizzie Broadbent
Elaine Hickey
Natalie Hubbard*
June Kleban
Mary Murphy
Debbie Theis*
Cecilia Vore*

SAFETY

Barney King
Clay Ridings*
Bill Theis*
Debbie Theis

ADVISORY CHAIR

Bill Theis*

CHAIR OF TOWN
ASSEMBLY

Steven Threefoot*

TOWN
SECRETARY

Larry Walker*

TOWN
TREASURER

David Michelson

NOTE: * = incumbent

The Ballots were passed out, and collected after the voting.

3.0 FOREST STEWARDSHIP POLICY

Elizabeth Varley presented the Forest Stewardship Policy to ask for the Town Assembly's Approval. She said she would not re-read the Policy, since it had been printed in the Minutes of the January Town Meeting.

Elizabeth made the following Motion:

MOVED the Town Assembly of Arden approves of the Forest Stewardship Policy, as presented.

The Motion was Seconded.

Rodney Jester did not think it was reasonable to have both the Forest Committee and the Trustees approve plans for additions and separate buildings. He did not think it was necessary to have yet an additional set of eyes look over a set of plans.

Ed Rohrbach said that a few years ago, the Town had taken down several trees to protect a leaseholder's hours. The fallen trees were left there, and it looked like a sloppy logging job. Elizabeth said that the Forest Committee looked into having the logs cut up and then split. However, it was cost prohibitive. The Committee decided that unless directed by Town Assembly, the logs will just lie there. Ed still thought it would look better if the areas were cleaned up.

Steven made a point of clarity, that this discussion was only on the Forest Stewardship Policy. Issues like the one just brought up could be addressed in the Forest Committee's regular report later in the Meeting.

Charles Robinson, who has a lease that backs up to Woods, agreed with Rodney's concern about having both the Trustees and the Forest Committee both having to approve building plans. What if the leasehold was adjacent to the forest, and the construction was on the front of the house? According to the Policy, the Forest Committee approval would still be required.

Elizabeth asked that individuals with concerns could bring them first to the Committee, and if necessary or appropriate, the issue could come before the Town Assembly.

Alton Dahl said that there had been instance where construction had been done on forest lands. There were other instances where heavy equipment was used and driven into the woods areas, damaging trees. The aim of this policy it to see that there is no damage to the Woods.

Jennifer Borders was concerned about alien and invasive plants. The Policy in

Section C made it the responsibility of leaseholders adjacent to the Woods to stop the infestations of such plants into the Woods from their property. She was concerned that it would be the future responsibility of that leaseholder to remove the alien and invasive plants from the adjacent Woods area. Elizabeth said that in such an instance, the Committee would meet with the leaseholders to work out a mutually agreed upon plan of action, with the Committee responsible for doing the work in the Woods. Jennifer was concerned about the difference between mitigating and removing, for removal entailed a lot of ambitious physical work. Elizabeth said her understanding of the Section was that the removal plan would be worked out so that both the Committee and the leaseholder were in agreement on the plan of action.

Lynda Kolski agreed with Charlie and Rodney, and felt the Policy should only deal with the issue of the back of the leasehold. She felt Section C should be removed.

Rodney Jester said that New Castle County regulations will allow a person to install a shed in the back yard without a permit, and it can be almost put on the property line. The only limit is the size of the shed. He did not want to see the Forest Committee getting involved in such decisions, since the shed and placement were within existing County Regulations.

Rodney made the following Motion:

MOVED, the Section II.A.2.c should be stricken from the Policy.

Elizabeth said that the Forest Policy had been approved by the entire Committee, and since only two Members were at this Meeting, they could not speak for the entire Committee to approve the Amendment.

The Motion was Seconded.

Terry Colgan said she would vote against the Amendment, for she did not think the County's permit process would make a decision based on what would be best for the Woods. The Forest Committee and one of the Trustees have more knowledge and experience in dealing with trees and forests, and should hold that responsibility.

Connee McKinney spoke in favor of the Amendment, and wanted people not to be overly worried about the encroachment issue. The Civic Committee and the Trustees have been working to ensure that there are no encroachments on to Town Rights-of-Way with the goal of seeing that no Town land is given away. Now that the Forest Committee is in place, the Trustees envision a similar close and effective working relationship.

The Amendment was Approved by a vote with raised hands.

Warren Rosenkranz said that he did not see that the issue of toxic chemicals was considered in the policy. Elizabeth replied that this is a touch issue, and there is not clarity within the Committee on this. Her personal opinion was that in some instances, use of chemicals to remove plant materials would be appropriate and effective, but this was not to be construed that there would be blanket spraying in the Woods. The use of chemicals would be done very carefully and on a case-by-case basis. Also, the opinions of the nearby leaseholders would be listened to.

There was a Call for the Question, and the Policy was Accepted.

Below is the Forest Stewardship Policy, which was Approved at the March 24, 2008 Town Meeting.

Village of Arden
Forest Stewardship Policy

June 22, 1998

I. Objectives and Principles

A. Arden's Objectives

The Village of Arden has two objectives in its stewardship of the village forests:

1. Preservation of a natural ecosystem including appropriate wildlife habitat
2. Enhancing resident's interaction with and enjoyment of this natural environment

B. Principles

These general principles have guided the development of stewardship policy and should be taken into consideration in interpreting and applying them:

1. Arden desires to allow nature to be the principal creator of change within the forests.
2. The Arden forests are too small in size to resist naturally the invasive action of the surrounding developed environment.

3. Human actions associated with enjoyment of the natural environment can impact negatively on it.
4. Management of the forests to achieve the two objectives will require intervention to balance the priorities of these principles.
5. The Forest Committee of the Village Assembly is the village governmental body with overall responsibility for care and management of the forests. Moneys required for these activities are included in their line item in the annual village budget and oversight of this budget is their responsibility. The Forest Committee reports regularly to the Village Assembly.
6. The forests in Arden are part of a larger natural system made up of tracts belonging to Ardentown and Ardencroft as well as the Hanby Trust and private landowners in Indian Field, Wilmington Montessori, St. Edmunds and Windy Bush. Arden desires to cooperate with all of these stewards to maximize the effectiveness of the overall stewardship program.

II. Management Guidelines

A. Boundaries

1. Policy

- a. The Village of Arden has set aside large tracts of land designated as the Arden Woods and the Sherwood Forest for public use and enjoyment. Private use of these lands for purposes other than individual enjoyment of nature is not allowed without specific authorization.
See the survey of Vandemark and Lynch Inc. (7265-7202-B) July 9, 1962 with revisions through 1974 for specific description of these parcels.
- b. Boundaries of the forests will be clearly and suitably marked at reasonable intervals with markers which do not detract from the natural setting desired in the forests.
- c. Residents are not allowed to encroach on the public lands adjacent to their leaseholds in any way that is inconsistent with Arden's forest objectives.

- d. Residents or Leaseholders desiring to carry out construction or landscaping projects near the forest edge must clear their plans with the Forest Committee as a part of the approval process. Of special concern is the tendency of construction workers to drive heavy equipment into the forest thereby damaging the root structure of the trees
- d. Neighbors living outside of Arden and adjoining the forests are not allowed to encroach in any way on the Village forest lands adjacent to their properties.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Forest Committee is responsible for monitoring encroachment into the forests from either leaseholders or neighbors.
- b. The Trustees and the Forest Committee have joint responsibility for enforcement of the encroachment policy.

B. Erosion Control

1. Policy

- a. Intermittent water flow

The first line of defense against erosion is control of the source of water causing the problem. Intermittent water flow into the forest from roads, leaseholds or sources outside the village property should be recharged into the ground where feasible, stored and released into the forest over time, slowed as much as possible before entering the forest, etc.

The second line of defense, where problems from intermittent flows cannot be stopped at the source, is to diffuse the water entering the forest in such a way that erosion is no longer a problem.

The third line of defense will be to create coffers and weirs to reduce water velocity in the erosion channel to minimize further loss of soil through erosion.

- b. Stream Surges

The first line of defense is similar to the case of intermittent flows - control of the source, spreading out the surges over time and recharging aquifers as much as possible. Cooperative efforts within the context of the Naamans Creek Watershed Association or political associations such as CCOBH are expected to be most effective in dealing with this problem.

Failure to deal with the water surges at the source will require a decision to allow a stream bank to widen or to reinforce the bank and channel the water flow. This decision will be made by considering the specific location and the expected impact of stream widening.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Forest Committee is responsible for monitoring the forests for erosion problems.
- b. Residents are expected to control the water coming from their leaseholds. The Forest Committee as a part of their monitoring responsibility will notify any leaseholders of problems associated with their leaseholds. The Trustees are responsible for dealing with any unresolved leaseholder problems.
- c. The Civic Committee is expected to control water coming from roads or commons.
- d. Neighboring residents and their civic organizations are expected to control runoff from their streets and properties. The Forest Committee with the cooperation of the Trustees of Arden will deal with any problems arising from improper actions of neighbors.
- e. The Village of Arden will seek active cooperation of its Trustees and the other Arden villages in dealing with outside agencies, associations and political groups to work on controlling water surges in the Naamans Creek watershed (including Perkins Run). The Community Planning Committee is responsible for organizing this cooperation.

C. Alien Invasive Plants (maintaining plant diversity)

Local cultivation of many species of plants from foreign ecosystems has resulted in inadvertent introduction of plants into

our forests for which there is no locally-evolved population control. Some of these propagate rather slowly and do not tend to move far from their original location, but others are quite invasive, move and propagate aggressively, displacing the native plants and creating a monoculture of the alien plants.

Some of these plants are considered valuable in the controlled garden environment of a leasehold. Examples are English ivy (*Hedera helix*), pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*) and myrtle (*Vinca minor*). A few were thought to be nice in the garden but turned out to be too much even there - lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*) being one of the worst. Some others in our woods are kudzu, Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and multiflora rose. The principal woody alien is the Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*). This tree is used as a dense shade tree on some leaseholds, but it seeds in quickly and will out-compete native trees in the forest and prevent their propagation. Arden forests are not badly infested with Norway Maples at this time, but the Naamans Creek hillside in Ardentown is completely infested.

1. Policy

- a. The policy of the Village of Arden is to prevent the infestation of the forests by invasive alien plants and to reduce and control those which have crept in during the first 98 years.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Forest Committee has primary responsibility for monitoring the forests for invasive aliens. They will maintain a list of plants which should be prevented from escape into the forests. Publicity of this list and action needed by residents should be done by the Forest Committee.
- b. Leaseholders are responsible to prevent the infestation of the forests by the identified plants coming from their leaseholds. Where past action or inaction has resulted in forest infestation adjacent to the leasehold, the leaseholder will cooperate with the Forest Committee in removing the problem.
- c. Neighbors of the forests are expected to prevent escape from their

property of the species of concern. It is the responsibility of the

Forest Committee to educate the village's neighbors about this problem, to monitor for problems and to cooperate with the Trustees in seeking compliance.

D. Trails and areas of repose

1. Policy

- a. Fulfilling Arden's objective to enhance residents' interaction with and enjoyment of the natural environment requires public access to the forests. Walking trails and appropriate resting places are provided to meet this objective.
- b. Since maintenance of trails can be in conflict with the objective to preserve the natural ecosystem, judgments and priority setting will be routinely required.
- c. The following guidelines will be used in resolving these conflicts:
 - Adequate trails should be maintained to provide access to all large areas of the forests.
 - Trails are not necessarily maintained to all weather standards nor always suitable for walking in normal street shoes.
 - Trails should be clearly defined so that walkers are encouraged to use them, but markings should be such as to minimize distraction from the natural ecosystem.
 - Any improvements to the trails such as bridges or erosion control structures should be made as naturalistic as possible.
 - Poison Ivy or other dangerous plants should be discouraged from growing near the trails.
 - Trails should be cleared of undergrowth or fallen timber so that a person can pass without difficulty.
 - Trails should be routed and constructed to avoid creating erosion problems in the trails or stream bank destruction.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Forest Committee has responsibility for planning, building and maintaining the trail system.

E. Preserving Trees

1. Policy

- a. Since the objective of the Village is to preserve a natural ecosystem in the forests, trees may not be pruned, removed or harvested from the Arden Forests except as indicated below.
- b. When trees fall naturally in the forest the general policy is to leave all wood where it falls. Trees that fall in a way that obstructs trails or creates potential erosion problems will be cleared to prevent these problems.
- c. Wood harvested in this way should be made available to the Arden Club for public use or to residents for their individual use. Motorized vehicles used in harvesting wood require special permit from the Forest Committee, which will be issued only in circumstances consistent with the objective of preserving the ecosystem.
- d. Trees that pose a danger to people or leasehold property may be removed at the discretion of the Forest Committee. A tree that is a clear and present danger may be removed by the town; in other cases when a leaseholder demonstrates a reasonable expectation of future danger the Committee may give a leaseholder permission to remove a tree adjacent to his or her leasehold.
- e. Residents must avoid any activities that pose a threat to any tree in the forest. For example, driving heavy equipment into the forest thereby damaging the root structure of the trees.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Forest Committee has all responsibilities for decisions, implementation and monitoring of the harvesting of wood from the forests as described in this policy.

- b. Leaseholders must obtain agreement from the Forest Committee before any work that could impact the Forest. See section A.2.c. above.

F. Buildings or other construction

1. Policy

- a. Buildings or similar types of construction are not generally consistent with Arden's objectives of forest stewardship and are not allowed except as indicated in paragraph II.F.2. below.

2. Responsibilities

- a. Construction which is deemed necessary to the proper stewardship of the forests or other village property may be proposed to the Village Assembly by the Forest or Civic Committees
- b. Any proposal for construction within the forest boundaries would require special approval of the Village Assembly.

G. Cleaning up the forests

1. Policy

- a. In keeping with the desire to maintain a natural setting in the forests no littering is allowed. Any trash will be removed.

2. Responsibilities

- a. Users of the forests will take with them all trash they generate in the woods. They will also be encouraged to remove any other trash they can conveniently carry at same time.
- b. The Forest Committee and the Community Planning Committee jointly organize a woods clean-up in the spring, when community volunteers participate in a morning of collecting whatever trash has accumulated over the past year.

H. Procedures

The Forest Committee will develop and maintain a procedures

manual, including a calendar spelling out the actions needed to fulfill its responsibilities as defined in this policy.

I. Use of the Forests

The Forest Committee has been given responsibility by the Village for making rules associated with use of the forest.

4.0 THIRD READING OF THE ADU ORDINANCE

Ray Siegfried announced that New Castle County Council had approved the Amendment, and the Village should thank County Councilman John Cartier for his efforts.

The last sentence in Section 13 referred to Chapter 19 which is the Renters' Bill of Rights, and when it was passed in 2005, Arden opted out of the process described in Chapter 19. The issue was presented to legal counsel, and they advised that Arden's ADU Certification process would not return the Village to requirements of Chapter 19. John Cartier brought this up at County Council, and it was approved.

The Approval of the Ordinance will set up Arden's internal process for certifying ADU in the Town.

Steven as a Point of Clarification reviewed the Arden Ordinance Process, and said that there could be no amendments or substantive changes made to the Ordinance at the Third Reading. But working, spelling, and punctuation changes could be made.

Ray made the following Motion:

MOVED, the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden approves the Ordinance on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

The Motion was Seconded.

There was no discussion, and there was a Call for the Question. The Motion was passed unanimously. (There was then applause for Ray's efforts, as well as his Committee's efforts.)

Ray said that the next step will be to have the Notification Letters sent out to all Residents.

The Following is the Ordinance on ADUs, which was passed after its Third Reading:

**Ordinance 14 (Presented as Arden Ordinance 2008-1)
Village of Arden Certification Process for Leaseholds with ADUs**

Section 1 – Introduction and Statement of Purpose.

The purpose of this ordinance is to specify the notification and procedure to leaseholders of this one time opportunity which will be used by the Village of Arden to certify pre-existing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). In order to be eligible for certification a leaseholder's pre-existing multiple domicile must comply to the following requirements: the domicile complies with the New Castle County ADU definition, the domicile was built on or before May 1, 2007, and the leaseholder agrees to comply with New Castle County zoning law, specifically, Amendment section 13 of Chapter 40 New Castle County Code (also known as the Unified Development Code). Leaseholders who wish to build ADUs after this process is completed will need to obtain approval by the Trustees, the Village, and go through the normal process with the County to obtain legal approval.

Section 2- Notification to Leaseholders and New Castle County Department of Land Use about Certified Pre-existing Multiple Domiciles.

The Village and the Trustees shall notify leaseholders in writing of the procedure to certify existing ADUs, and provide a declaration of eligibility within 90 days of County Council approval of Amendment Section 13 to Chapter 40 of New Castle County Code and approval by the Village of this ordinance. Leaseholders must sign and submit the declaration of eligibility to the Village Secretary within 30 days of the date of the notification letter in order to be considered for certification. Once certified, a written notification of leaseholds shall be made to New Castle County Department of Land Use via a joint written communication by the Town Assembly Chair and at least two Village of Arden Trustees.

Section 3 – Procedure of Leaseholds with Pre-existing ADUs for Certification.

The Village Secretary will notify the Village, the Trustees and the Community Planning Committee of those leaseholders who have signed the declaration of eligibility letter. Members of the Community Planning Committee will verify that they have met the requirements as defined in Section 1. Leaseholder's that meet the requirements in Section 1 and fall in one of the four categories listed below will be certified by the Village Chair and the Trustees. A final list of leaseholders with the privilege of having a certified ADU will be sent to the Board of Assessors.

An acceptable situation of current categories for certification of pre-existing ADUs is as follows:

1. Current leaseholders who have an ADU and paid the B rate assessment 2006-2007 and have an active ADU [whether or not they have obtained county approval].
2. Current leaseholders who have an ADU and have not paid the B rate assessment for 2006-2007, but have paid for another year and have an inactive ADU.
3. Current leaseholders who have an ADU and have not paid the B rate assessment 2006-2007 or any year and have an inactive ADU.
4. Current leaseholders who have an ADU and have not paid the B rate assessment for 2006-2007 and have an active ADU.

Leaseholds with existing ADUs who choose not to obtain certification and are not approved by the county will not be recognized as a legal Accessory Dwelling Unit by New Castle County and the Village.

This becomes Ordinance No. 14.

4.0 TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees' Report March 24, 2008 Town Meeting

The Trustees have several items to report:

Finances: We have copies of the Fourth Quarter Report (March 24, 2008) available tonight. Land Rents are being deposited every few days. We are meeting with Brandywine Accounting this week to prepare for the Annual Audit.

Lease Transfers: There have been three lease transfers since the January Town Meeting. One was from an estate to new residents, and one was to a construction company. Welcome to Michael Opelka and Donna Swajeski.

Lease Administration: The digitized leasehold files that we now have from DMI are working well—particularly those in PDF format. Mike and I can view a leaseholder's file from our computers at home, and discuss issues as they arise. That is very convenient. It also gives us the peace of mind that we have facsimiles of all of our files. As a reminder, if you would like to have a copy of your file, or a recent survey, if we have it in our files, we can now send them to you as an e-mail attachment. Please contact the Trustees Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Varley to make that request.

Trustee Selection Process: Hopefully all of you who are eligible voters have received your Trustee Election Ballots for Carl Falco—our nominee to replace Aaron Hamburger, who now resides in New York City. The Registration Committee will be counting ballots on April 7, 2008 at 7:30 pm at the BWVC. This is a public process, and you are welcome to join us. The Trustees will be there

as observers. Of course, Cecilia Vore, who is the Chair of the Registration Committee and the wife of our candidate, has stepped aside from the process. The Ballot return envelopes have the Village address o Sherwood Road, and are collected by another Committee Member. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mike Curtis or me, or a Registration Committee Member. We thank the Registration Committee for their assistance, and appreciate the time and energy that they have already given to help us in this process.

Buckingham Green: Subsequent to the last Town Meeting, we received a letter from our lawyer Roger Aiken informing us that the judge was requesting a review of the facts to date from the legal counsels in the case. Mr. Aiken did meet with the judge and defendants, and sent us a follow up letter. I would like to read a portion of that letter, and comment on it.

From Aiken and Herron, Attorneys at Law, letter dated February 26, 2008: "The conference was encouraging, and I think that we can expect a decision soon. When we went into his office, he had Bill's (our engineer) excellent sketch of the proposal spread out on his desk...." He noted that in addition to the new sketches, our proposal included a thorough cost analysis with each step for restoration and construction itemized. This was in contrast to the defendant's two page submission for a remedy. Also, part of this letter mentioned of the possibility of an appeal by the developer should the remedy rulings no be in his favor. This has been part of our understanding from the beginning, but I want to make sure that the Town is aware of that.

We have researched the legal and engineering costs from 2000-2008: they total \$107,516 minus settlement costs by one of the defendants. That includes the trial, mediation, and hearing costs. The breakdown is: legal costs are \$59,003, and engineering costs are \$48,512. The lawsuit began in 1955; however, most expenditures were for the preparation and follow up for the trial in 2003, plus the recent remedy research costs. This is a case that we did win. For those who are not familiar with the case: we are now waiting for a ruling from the judge on the remedy to restore the area of the Sherwood Forest that was damaged by the run-off from the development, and to prevent future damage. I would like to add that former Arden Trustee Marianne Cinaglia continues to be our liaison with our lawyer. For over a decade, she has spent an extraordinary amount of time photographing runoff damage to the forest—many times in the rain. She did this, in addition to commuting to her full time job in New Jersey. She has been a stalwart volunteer. We thank her, as well as other residents, who participated in the trial, in particular Beverly Barnett and Toby Ridings..

We will continue to update the Town on this, and hope that there is a final chapter soon to this long, complicated story.

Respectfully submitted,
Connee McKinney, Arden Trustee

Cecilia Vore asked to make a clarification on the Trustee Confirmation Process. When the Trustees decide on a candidate for the position of Trustee, the name is given to the Registration Committee, and they conduct the Election entirely. They prepare a ballot, which is sent out to all registered voters in the Town. This is separate from the Trustees duties, so if there are any questions pertaining to this Election, please contact a member of the Registration Committee.

Jeff Polities noted that the mortgage loan payments annually total \$16,000, but only \$9,000 was listed. Elizabeth Varley said that the \$9,000 was only interest, while the principal was listed in another area of the report. This is a problem caused by the computer program, and they are working to find a way to make it clearer. Jeff also asked why the Trustees' Proposed Expenses were \$20,000 less than projected, and Connee said that a large amount had been projected for engineers' expenses for the Buckingham Green lawsuit, but the services were not needed. Also, the costs from Brandywine Accounting were less than anticipated.

David Warner said that he was a Certified Quick Books Instructor, and he could make suggestions that would make the Quarterly Financial Report more sensible. Connee thanked him for his offer to help.

**Village of Arden
Quarterly Report
As of January , 25, 2007**

Apr 1 - Jan 25, 08 Annual Budget

INCOME

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| COMMONS | 100.00 | 0.00 |
| DONATIONS | 13,115.00 | 0.00 |
| GRANTS | 0.00 | 950.00 |
| Interest - Trustees Checking Acct | 271.30 | 0.00 |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | 13,387.97 | 10,000.00 |
| LAND RENT | 490,487.11 | 488,000.00 |
| LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE | 3,102.74 | 0.00 |
| MEADOW LANE ACCESS | 719.98 | 700.00 |
| MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS | 3,505.00 | 2,000.00 |
| RIGHTS-OF-WAY | 17,012.03 | 15,000.00 |
| Uncategorized Income | 1,033.20 | 500.00 |
| Total Income | 556,239.33 | 517,150.00 |

EXPENSE

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|----------|
| ADVISORY COMMITTEE | 177.98 | 300.00 |
| ARCHIVES | 808.60 | 1,440.00 |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| AVERY TASK FORCE | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| BOARD OF ASSESSORS | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Budget Committee | 22.59 | 0.00 |
| BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE | 24,690.19 | 26,400.00 |
| CIVIC | 76,323.81 | 83,500.00 |
| COMMUNITY PLANNING | 0.00 | 1,600.00 |
| CONTINGENCIES | 0.00 | 3,000.00 |
| CONTRIBUTIONS | 5,050.00 | 5,050.00 |
| FORESTS | 1,917.50 | 5,000.00 |
| GILD HALL RENTAL | 1,300.00 | 1,300.00 |
| GRANT EXPENSE | 13,271.00 | 950.00 |
| LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Loan Payable | 9,077.11 | 16,180.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS EXP. | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| PLAYGROUND | 2,400.00 | 2,000.00 |
| REGISTRATION | 482.09 | 1,000.00 |
| SAFETY | 2,444.99 | 5,400.00 |
| TAXES | 335,825.43 | 310,491.00 |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXP. | 6,965.69 | 3,250.00 |
| TOWN BOOKEEPING | 512.00 | 3,072.00 |
| TOWN SECRETARY | 5,520.00 | 7,560.00 |
| TRUSTEE ADMINISTRATIVE | 36,220.61 | 54,094.00 |
| Memorial Garden | 2,341.68 | 5,000.00 |
| Total Expense | <u>525,351.27</u> | <u>536,637.00</u> |
| Net Income | 30,888.06 | -19,487.00 |

Village of Arden
Balance Sheet
As of September 25, 2007

| ASSETS | <u>March 24, 2008</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| Arden Building & Loan—Trustee | \$159,720.64 |
| Trustees—Wilmington Trust | \$ 106,994.88 |
| Vanguard | |
| Fund 30 | \$ 37,311.69 |
| Fund 33 | \$ 37,344.08 |
| MSA—Fund 50 | \$ 31,269.86 |
| Total Vanguard | \$105,925.63 |
| TOTAL Checking/Savings | \$372,641.15 |
| Accounts Receivable | |
| Land Rent Receivable | -\$196,077.65 |
| TOTAL Accounts Receivable | -\$196,077.65 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| TOTAL Current Assets | \$176,563.50 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$176,563.50 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Other Current Liabilities | \$ 0.00 |
| Deferred Revenue—Grants | \$ 2,360.31 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | \$ 2,360.31 |
| Total Current Liabilities | \$ 2,360.31 |
| | |
| Fund Balance—Avery Property | \$726,091.00 |
| Fund Balance—BWVC | \$ 27,702.00 |
| Fund Balance—General Fund | \$126,889.56 |
| Fund Balance—Memorial Garden | \$ 10,030.32 |
| Fund Balance—MSA | \$ 41,132.30 |
| Retained Earnings | \$3,714,672.68 |
| Net Income | <u>\$520,836.26</u> |
| | \$5,167,354.12 |
| | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | \$5,167,354.12 |

The Trustees' Report was Accepted.

5.1 ADVISORY

Bill Theis expressed his thanks to all the Committee Chairs for recruiting the candidates for the Committee Elections. Also, thanks to those who volunteered to serve..

The March 3, 2008 Advisory Meeting was filled with a variety of reports and discussions. Some discussion was aimed at getting and retaining a Quorum at Town Meetings, so Town business can be conducted. It was felt that people making presentations should remain at the Meeting after their presentations were completed. In the future, guests will be expected to adhere to the time limit given them. The Town Chair does a commendable job of keeping the Meeting on task, and finishing in a timely manner.

Due to the considerable damage to the Sherwood Green that occurred as a result of the many Arden Club event that are held, the Civic Committee, the Buzz Ware Village Center Committee, and the Arden Club will soon begin working to find a long range solution to the parking problem on that Green.

**Policy of the Village of Arden
Regarding Monetary Fits to the Village**

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the procedures, responsibilities and controls to be applied to the acceptance, management, and use of funds given or bequeathed to the Village with or without terms attached that restrict or direct their use.

2. Acceptance

2.1 If no restrictions are placed on the use of the funds, the Chairman of the Town Assembly is authorized to receive the funds on behalf of the Village

2.2 If the restrictions or directions for use of the funds are in line with the stated objectives of the Village and will not contravene the existing Ordinances or policies of the Village, the Chairman of the Town Assembly is authorized to received the funds on behalf of the Village. The Chairman, together with the Treasurer, or Secretary of the Village, is also authorized to make financial arrangements and sign documents related to accepting the funds.

2.3 If the restrictions or directions for use of the funds are not clearly in line with the stated objectives of the Village, or might contravene the existing Ordinances or policies of the Village, the Chair of the Advisory Committee will bring a Motion to the next Town Meeting proposing a plan whereby the Village could resolve the differences and receive the funds, or in case no such plan is feasible, the Advisory Chair will bring a Motion to decline the offered funds

3. Definitions

3.1 Immediate Use Gift—The funds of an Immediate Use Gift will spend their entirety as indicated in the Restriction Document.

3.2 Endowment Gifts—The Funds of an Endowment Gift will be invested in a way to provide a long-term annual return. Endowment Gifts must either be large enough to support investment costs and projects consistent with the Restriction Document or be joined with other existing Endowment Gifts that have a similar purpose. Endowments Gifts may have no restricted purpose other than for projects in benefit of the Village of Arden.

4. Management of Funds

4.1 Immediate Use Gift—The Committee responsible for carrying out the project specified in the restriction document will carry out the wishes of the donor and draw upon the funds using normal procedures. The Committee will send appropriate documentation of completion of the project to the Project Administrator. Any funds that remain after completion of the specified project will be transferred to the Unrestricted Endowment Fund.

4.2 Fiscal management of restricted Endowment Finds—If the funds are to be used to provide a long-term benefit to the Village with a continuing purpose, specified in the granting document, they will be managed by the Village Treasurer, in consultation with the Project Administrator, who will insure that funds are available to carry out the intended purpose during the time specified (one year to perpetual). It is anticipated that the Treasurer may wish to involve an investment professional to aid in this function.

4.3 Unrestricted Endowment—Grants to the Village of Arden without restriction will be considered as an endowment to the Village and will be managed appropriately by the Treasurer. Projects for use of these funds will be managed in the same way as restricted long-term funds.

4.4 Investment Guidance—In managing the investment the Treasurer will use the investment guidance adopted separately by the Village.

4.5 Election of Project Administrator—The Project Administrator, elected bi-annually by the Town Assembly, will provide the format and receive proposals from Town Committees for projects consistent with fund restrictions. The Administrator will chair an ex officio committee made up of the officers of the Village of Arden. This committee will evaluate the proposals and allocate the funds for the year. The Administrator will provide a format for these proposals.

5. Use of Funds

5.1 Written Restrictions and Intention—Each donor should provide a written description of restrictions and intentions. The Project Administrator may add clarification to this description if needed to help Town Committees to submit appropriate projects. The restriction document can simply indicate that the fund should be added to the Unrestricted Endowment Fund.

5.2 Management of Projects—The Town Committee requesting the funds will be responsible for management of the project after funding is approved.

5.3 Project Completion—The responsible Town Committee will file a brief report to the Project Administrator who will maintain records of projects completed and report completion to the donor where appropriate. The Committee will also report on such projects in their quarterly report to Town Meeting.

6. Recognizing Receipt of Funds

6.1 Reporting Receipt of Funds—The Treasurer will report the receipt of new funds to the Town Meeting for entry in the official records of the Village.

6.2 Thank-you Notes—An officer of the Town Assembly will write an official thank-you form the Village suitable for use in the donor's tax records.

7. Responsible Person Not Available

7.1 Chair of the Town Meeting—In case the Town Meeting Chair is not available within a reasonable time frame to carry out the duties described in his policy, the Treasurer may substitute for the Town Meeting Chair. When possible, the Treasurer should consult with the Chair before taking action.

7.2 Treasurer—In a similar situation the Project Administrator may substitute for the Treasurer with the same restrictions as 7.1.

7.3 Project Administrator— In a similar situation the Advisory Chair may substitute for the Project Administrator with the same restrictions as in 7.2

Ad hoc Committee: Alton Dahl (chair), Derrick Kennedy (secretary), Ron Meick, Sue Rothrock, Steven Threefoot

Alton made the following Motion:

MOVED, the Policy of the Village of Arden Regarding Monetary Gifts to the Village will be listed as an Agenda Item at the next Town Meeting.

The Motion was Seconded and Approved.

Cecilia Vore wanted that an interest group could develop a project, and they might not be a part of a Standing Committee. An example might be an individual Guild in the Arden Club. If the group could apply directly, it would avoid a level of bureaucracy. Alton replied that the interest group could ask the relevant Committee for approval to go forward with their request, and that would be the needed approval.

Ruth Bean said that Johanna's Will allowed in some cases for certain tree work on a "private" leaseholder's land. She asked who might administer that type of work. Would it be the Trustees? Alton suggested that it would be the Trustees, because the Leaseholder's land belongs to the Trustees. They would be the group that handled the relevant tree work in the Town. The Charter of the Trust says that no money can be spent for an individual's benefit, and it would appear to be a conflict of interest. He hoped that a sensible approach could be used in this process. In his opinion, this portion of Johanna Schroeder's Will was an afterthought, but the Town must still pay attention to it.

Connee and Mike Curtis had the suggestion that a joint committee of Civic and Community Planning Members could identify specimen trees that should be preserved for the benefit of the Town, and the Town would protect those specimens in cases where a Leaseholder did not have the funds. Alton felt that the

Trustees needed to be the focal point for the approval process for such tree work.

Connee asked if the Town could return restrictive funds or gift that are not in line with the Town's aims and goals? Alton said that the Town could refuse the gift. Connee acknowledged that dealing with the funds will entail considerable responsibility, and she hoped that the Committee would have access to legal advice and consultants in their work to minimize risk to the Town. This would require access to funds to pay for the services.

Charles Robinson asked about the possibility of accepting a if that might lower the Land Rents, or lower County taxes. Alton said that they would look at the restrictions and purpose of the bequest or gift, and work from that. Alton suggested that people could contact the *Ad Hoc* Committee Members with their suggestions, concerns, or questions.

Steven asked that there be a vote on the Motion, and it was passed.

6.1 ARCHIVES

A new exhibit featuring Ardencroft, "Two Dreams, One Village," will run throughout March. The opening of this exhibit, and the monthly "Afternoon with the Artist," featuring George Brocklesby's pottery, were very successful, drawing many visitors. The next "Afternoon," on March 30, will feature photography by Danny Schweers. The museum hosted a group of about 25 from the Biggs Museum in Dover. The tour was inspired by the Museum's participation in the show, "Greetings From Delaware," that featured cards from the Museum's collection by Louise Roberts. Our next tour will be May 6, with a group from Winterthur. The Museum was the setting for part of an arts feature on WHY Y TV: "Experience," which was broadcast in February. The feature can also be viewed on the WHY Y website. The Museum has hosted several researchers in the past months, including Ron Fava, who has completed a book documenting the history of the Ardensingers.

Thanks to our dedicated committee members and volunteers, who keep things running. A special thanks to Debbie Ricard, who originated "Afternoon with the Artist," coordinated the WHY Y filming, and much more.

Regular museum hours are Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 3 p.m.

Submitted by,
Lisa Mullinax, Chair

The Report was Accepted

6.2 CRAFT SHOP AND MUSEUM

Alton Dahl reported that all apartments are rented, and the income is as expected. Much of the rental income goes toward the repayment of the loan used to complete the renovations, so there has not been money for the Museum to fund a part time curator to work on projects there. Possibly there will be a fundraiser to raise support for the position. A part time curator would be a big step forward for the Museum.

7.1 ASSESSORS

Alton Dahl reported that the Assessors have begun their Meetings, and they will meet tomorrow at the BWVC. Residents are invited to attend.

The Report was Accepted

8.1 AUDIT

There was no Report, since the Annual Financial Audit has not been received.

9.1 BUDGET

Jeff Politis presented the Three Year Budget Projection. He said that the hardest part had been to project the New Castle County Real Estate Tax increases, and School Tax increase. Only those taxes were seen as areas that will significantly increase over the coming three years, and the Committee anticipates those increases in the range of 3.2% to 3.8% year to year. There do not appear to be any substantial increases in the Town's discretionary Budget Line Items.

The Report was Accepted

10.1 BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER

The proposed idea of the BWVC returning to a school, namely a Waldorf School, will not take place this year, due to a lack of enthusiasm. It is not totally a dead issue, but will be revisited next year.

Our Committee now has in hand a proposal for new windows for the BWVC. We met with Brian Pevic of Newark Window and Door. We had prepared ourselves for "sticker shock," but were quite pleased with his proposal. Brian has been in business for ten years, and his company just received the Golden Torch Award from the Better Business Bureau. The total cost of removal and replacement is \$32,900. They will replace a total of 44 windows, with the average cost per window coming in at \$747. The look of the building will not be much different, as we are staying with the current window design. The glass

will be Energy Star High Performance LOE, with argon double insulated glass. The Committee will seek an additional bid before making their final decision.

Submitted by,
Willard Glenn, Chair

Susan Warner alerted the Committee to look carefully at the quality of the windows to be installed. She had a poor experience in her home where a contractor ensured her that the windows were good quality and long lasting. However, in less than 10 years the window rotted out. She suggested checking with others who previously have had the same type of windows installed.

Willard thanked her for her concerns, and he did not know the manufacturer of the window. He felt it was a good window and a custom job.

Rodney also wanted to know the manufacturer of the window.

The Report was Accepted.

11.1 CIVIC

The Civic Committee Report was presented by Steven Blades

The Village of Arden has been recognized as a Tree City USA. We received a letter of congratulations from Congressman Mike Castle. He read:

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and the residents of Arden on being one of the twenty-one communities in Delaware to receive the distinguished Tree City Recognition.

With the support and leadership of people like you, over 20 million people reside in Tree Cities across the nation. I realize that to receive this award, a community must prove their commitment to the protection of the environment by fulfilling four different standards, including the creation of a tree board or department and the continued presence of a community forestry program. So far, almost two billion square feet of land has been preserved like Arden.

Thank you for your continued leadership in protecting our environment, and congratulations on this great honor.

Sincerely,

Michael N. Castle
Member of Congress"

There is still some confusion over what to do with Yard Waste.

- Yard Waste bags are available from DSWA online, or by phone at 800-404-7080.
- You can put four bags out every Tuesday with recycling. You must use the bags provided by DSWA. This service is free in the Ardens. If you want to put out more than four bags, you must buy stickers for the extra bags at DSWA.
- Yard waste will NOT be picked up in the regular trash on Friday.

The Sherwood Green has been damaged by the overflow parking for events at the Arden Club and the Buzz Ware Village Center. The Civic Committee is starting to discuss what can be done to alleviate the parking problem, and to save the Sherwood Green for recreation. Suggestions are welcome at ardencivic@theardens.com

Submitted by
Sue Rothrock, Chair

The Report was Accepted.

12.1 COMMUNITY PLANNING

Ray Siegfried said that the Committee is looking at getting a wooden sign to denote the Memorial Garden. He announced that May 3, 2008 would be the date for the Annual Memorial Garden Cleanup, and Ruth Bean asked the volunteers will work from 9-12. She suggested that people bring their favorite tools. Also, in case of rain, the Cleanup will be the following day.

The Report was Accepted

13.1 FOREST

The Report was read by Elizabeth Varley, Forest Committee.

Forest Committee Report to Arden Town Assembly March 24, 2008

The Forest Committee met once since the last town meeting on February 25.

At the September Town Meeting we reported that The Village of Arden Forest Stewardship Policy was updated and copies were available at the Town Meeting. We also posted a copy on the Ardens web site: <http://www.arden.delaware.gov>.

We stated that we would ask for the Town Meeting to adopt this revised Forest Stewardship Policy at the January 2008 Town Meeting. By the time we got to this item on the Agenda, we no longer had a quorum, so we could not act on

this. We will introduce the document for approval under Old Business tonight. Additional copies were distributed at the sign-in desk tonight.

The committee (with help from Pete Renzetti) cleared three large trees that fell in the Arden Forest, blocking paths between Hillside Road and St. Martin's Lane. A neighbor also raised a concern about some holes in the path near St. Martin's lane caused by runoff. Some logs were moved into the holes so that walkers will not inadvertently step in the holes. The Committee has also considered some options for removing the many large tree trunks around the path into the woods from St Martin's Lane. The option to split and remove them was too costly, so for now we will leave them as they are.

We are investigating control of Kudzu and multiflora rose that is invading the Arden Woods along St. Martins Lane. We decided to attempt to control it manually for at least one year.

We agreed to have some tree work done in the Sherwood Forest behind the Ridings leasehold in the early fall at the Ridings' request; expenses will be shared. This was planned to be done after all leaves were down; the work was contracted to Dave Rickerman. Part of this work was completed recently; the bill was \$1417.50.

A forest tree leaning over Millers Road and the power lines across from Mill Lane was brought to our attention by Judy Butler. Our determination is that the tree poses no threat to any leasehold, but Delmarva may remove the tree if the company deems it is jeopardizing their wires. We notified Judy Butler of our determination with a hand-delivered letter.

Our plan to block off woodland area-turned parking space at the end of Cherry Lane has been put on hold pending consultation with the Safety Committee. The committee will work with the leaseholders to find a good solution that will allow the woods to reclaim this space.

Alton Dahl agreed to be the Forest Committees' representative on the *ad hoc* committee to form suggestions for administering Johanna Schroeder's bequest to Arden. Alton has kept us up to date on the progress of that committee and has served as a spokesperson for Forest Committee suggestions.

Woods/Creek Cleanup: The date is set for April 19, 9:00 till noon, and this has been communicated and coordinated with representatives from Ardentown and Ardencroft. Additional Forest Committee assignments are publicity via The Arden Page, coordination of refreshments with Community Planning, tee shirts for participants, and distribution of plastic bags and work gloves.

Next meeting of the Forest Committee is at the BWVC, Monday April 7, 2008 @ 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Carl Falco

The Report was Accepted.

14.1 PLAYGROUND

Larry Walker read the Report submitted by Mary Veron

Since the last Town Meeting, the required one Playground Equipment Inspection was made, and the equipment was adult tested for safety. Forty cubic yards of "wood carpet" has been delivered, and so far ten yards has been spread. All equipment appears to be in good and safe condition.

The two horses on the Village Green have been removed for repainting and maintenance. The horses are being sandblasted to remove the many coats of paint, and then they will be repainted by Sue Rothrock and Mary Vernon. Sometime in the Spring, they will be re-installed for another generation of Arden children to enjoy.

This Spring the main effort will be the addition of wood chips under the rest of the playground equipment. Over time, the wood chips break down, decay, and are kicked away, but keeping a thick bed of chips is the best way to provide a cushion for when a child accidentally falls. According to the national statistics on playground safety, over 90% of all playground injuries are the result of falls from equipment. A soft landing surface makes a great difference in reducing injuries.

Submitted by
Mary Vernon, Chair

The Report was Accepted

15.1 REGISTRATION

The Registration Committee is conducting the Election of the Standing Committees and Officers tonight. The Ballots will be counted tomorrow evening at Ruth Bean's house, but visitors and volunteers will be welcomed. The Results will be posted Wednesday on Town Bulletin Boards, and on the Arden website.

The Arden Trustees have designated Carl Falco to replace retiring Trustee Aaron Hamburger. Their choice must be confirmed through a Referendum vote, and approval by over half of all eligible voters. The Registration Committee is currently conducting this Referendum. Ballots were mailed on March 10, 2008, and will be counted on Monday April 7, 2008 in the Buzz Ware Village Center. The public is invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia Vore, Chair

The Report was Accepted.

Steven reminded all Residents to vote in the Trustee Referendum to make it easier on the Registration Committee. Then they do not have to call those who have not voted.

16.1 SAFETY

Pete Renzetti reminded all Residents that with the arrival of Spring, there will be increased youth activity, so he asked residents to keep on the lookout in the sensitive places in Town where there has been in the past inappropriate behavior. He encouraged everyone to call the County Police's non-emergency number to report anything suspicious.

The Report was Accepted

17.1 OLD BUSINESS

Jeff Politis spoke in favor of Tom Wheelers' request of Arden making a financial contribution to the FAA lawsuit, and he made the following Motion:

MOVED, The Village of Arden will voluntarily contribute to the legal expenses of the FAA Lawsuit, and the amount will be \$10,000.

The Motion was Seconded.

Lynda Kolski spoke against the Motion. She felt that voluntary contributions from individuals would be better. In light of the recent Land Rent increases, she did not want the Town to take on additional financial obligations.

Ray Siegfried said that Community Planning is looking into this matter, and at this time there are a lot of questions. There are many things involved, and the Committee wants more information before making a recommendation to the Town. He said he would vote against the Motion until he had more information.

Barney King said that during the winter, the residents are not as aware of the airplanes, but it would be worse in the summer. His main complaint in the Spring, Summer, and Fall was the motorcycles and loud cars on Harvey Road were much noisier and bothersome than the airplane noise, and that should be addressed sooner.

Alton Dahl made the following Amendment to the Motion:

The amount of the Town's voluntary contribution would be \$1,000, which was approximately \$5.00 per Leasehold.

Jeff Politis accepted the Amendment, but offered to Table the issue until the next Town Meeting.

The Motion was Tabled.

18.1 NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business introduced.

19.1 GOOD AND WELFARE

Ralph Ponte is in the hospital after suffering a stroke three weeks ago, and he has our best wishes.

19.1 ADJOURNMENT

There was a Motion for Adjournment, which was Seconded and Approved Unanimously.

Faithfully,

Larry Walker
Secretary to the Village

| | 2007-2008 APPROPRIATED | 2008-2009 APPROPRIATED | 2009-2010 FORECAST | 2010-2011 FORECAST | 2011-2012 FORECAST |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| NON-BUDGET EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | | | | | |
| County (Property + Crossing Guard) | 61,859 | 74,481 | 75,226 | 79,777 | 84,604 |
| School (Brandywine + Votech) | 248,632 | 274,146 | 284,691 | 293,672 | 302,456 |
| Sub-Total: Property Taxes | 310,491 | 348,627 | 359,917 | 373,449 | 387,060 |
| Trustees Administration | | | | | |
| Audit | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,675 | 5,850 | 6,025 |
| Insurance | 11,000 | 11,000 | 12,000 | 12,360 | 12,750 |
| Professional-Legal | 15,000 | 13,000 | 10,000 | 9,000 | 8,000 |
| Professional-Engineering/Misc | 9,000 | 9,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Professional Bookkeeping | 0 | 4,800 | 5,200 | 5,620 | 6,070 |
| Office Rent | 2,436 | 2,520 | 2,520 | 2,570 | 2,620 |
| Payroll Taxes | 1,184 | 767 | 780 | 800 | 850 |
| Salaries | 11,496 | 7,308 | 7,530 | 7,760 | 7,990 |
| Sub-Total:Trustees Administration | 55,616 | 53,895 | 48,705 | 48,960 | 49,305 |
| Long Term Debt(Sherwood Forest) | 16,180 | 16,176 | 16,716 | 16,176 | 16,176 |
| Grants-State of Delaware | | | | | |
| Grant to Civic Committee | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Municipal Street Aid | 18,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 |
| Trail Renewal Grant | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 |
| Sub-Total: State Grants | 18,950 | 14,950 | 14,950 | 14,950 | 14,950 |
| SUB-TOTAL: NON-BUDGET EXPENSES | 401,237 | 433,648 | 440,288 | 453,535 | 467,491 |
| BUDGET EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Advisory | 300 | 300 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Archives | 1,440 | 1,440 | 1,584 | 1,742 | 1,917 |
| Assessors | 50 | 75 | 75 | 75 | 75 |
| Buzz Ware Village Center | | | | | |
| Program/Administraion | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Maintenance | 2,500 | 2,500 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Renovations | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Roof Renovations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub-Total:BWVC | 6,500 | 6,500 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Civic Committee | | | | | |
| Snow Plowing | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Roads & Commons | 37,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 |
| Trash & Special Pickup | 46,500 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 48,000 |
| Sub-Total:Civic Committee | 83,500 | 86,000 | 86,000 | 86,000 | 86,000 |
| Community Planning | 1,600 | 1,600 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Forests | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Playground | 2,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Registration | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Safety Committee: | | | | | |
| Safety-General | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Town Watch Co-ordinator Fees | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 |
| Harvey Road Speed Enforcement | 2,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Sub-Total Safety Committee | 5,400 | 4,400 | 4,400 | 4,400 | 4,400 |
| Town Expenses: | | | | | |
| Secretary | 6,852 | 5,004 | 5,234 | 5,475 | 5,727 |
| Professional Bookkeeping | 2,784 | 4,000 | 4,200 | 4,400 | 4,600 |
| Treasurer | | | | | |
| Town Payroll Taxes | 996 | 525 | 550 | 575 | 600 |
| Town Administrative Expenses | 3,250 | 3,750 | 3,800 | 4,000 | 4,200 |
| Gild Hall Rental | 1,300 | 1,300 | 1,350 | 1,425 | 1,500 |
| Sub-Total:Town Expenses | 15,182 | 14,579 | 15,134 | 15,875 | 16,627 |
| Donations: | | | | | |
| ACRA | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Arden Page | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Arden Library | 600 | 650 | 650 | 675 | 700 |
| Fire Companies | 1,450 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,650 | 1,700 |
| Ardencroft Parkland Purchase | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub-Total:Donations | 5,050 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,325 | 5,400 |
| Contingencies | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| SUB-TOTAL: BUDGET EXPENSES | 130,022 | 132,144 | 132,043 | 133,017 | 134,019 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 531,259 | 565,792 | 572,331 | 586,552 | 601,510 |

VILLAGE OF ARDEN

2119 The Highway

Arden, DE 19810

“You are welcome hither.”

Notice of Next Town Meeting

Minutes of Previous
Town Meeting