

**Village of Arden
Advisory Meeting
January 2, 2018**

Attendance - Jeff Politis, Ed Rohrbach, Elizabeth Varley, Al Marks, Carol Larson, Danny Schweers, Walter Borders, Mike Curtis, Cookie Ohlson, Ruth Panella, Barbara Macklem, Cecilia Vore, Warren Rosenkranz.

Guests - Carol DiGiovanni, Pam Politis.

Call to Order - Danny Schweers, Advisory Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. at Buzz Ware Village Center and presented the following:

AGENDA

Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Discussion of Items to be Listed on Town Meeting Agenda

- Deceased Residents to be Recognized
- Visitors
- Officers
- Trustees
- Assessors
- Committees
- Old Business
- New Business
- Good and Welfare

Refreshments for Town Meeting

Old Business

New Business

Set Town Meeting Agenda

Guests' Comments and Questions

Adjourn

Minutes – September 2017 Advisory Meeting minutes approved.

Visitors - The Wilmington **HOPE Commission** has worked with our community partners in the transformation of Wilmington's most underserved communities. (10min)

Recognition of the Departed - Bill Morley, was a 3rd generation Ardenites. His grandfather was town official, his father was a Trustee and his Aunt Mary was Village secretary for approximately thirty years. Bill attended the Arden school and was a lifeguard at the Arden swim pool. The family ran the co-op store at Marsh & Grubb Roads in the odd fellows building.

Tanya Wahl she worked as a dog groomer for Mandy Tocco. She lived at Hillside and Millers for many years.

Virginia Henry lived in Arden these last 12 years and is the mother of Barbara Henry and mother-in-law of Danny Schweers.

Jeff encourages anyone who wants to read a little something about those who have departed to just let him know.

Communications Report – Jeff Politis

In late spring Del Dot will be closing ramp at Marsh Rd & Carr Rd/I-95. There will be some traffic changes and detours outside of Arden which they hope will decrease the traffic flow on Harvey Rd. Have to decide where to report this: either Chair's Communications report, Civic's report or Safety's report.

Jeff will prepare a motion to address if the Town Chair were unable to attend Town Assembly, in which case the Advisory Chair would be the backup/stand-in. It also allows that it is inappropriate for the Town Chair to speak to any motion but the Chair is allowed to get up. But to do so, someone has to sit down to act as Chair.

Motion that the Advisory Chair could act as Town Assembly Chair until voted on at TA.

Trustees' Report – Mike Curtis

The Trustees have decided that they would eliminate one extra domicile resident leaseholder who has an attached ADU. They would not be charged for two domiciles but only charged for one domicile. Clarification: it is for “only attached domiciles” and there are eleven of them. Just like the county rule: they have to live in the house, etc. No longer charged because it is attached and you live in the house.

Treasurer's Report – David Michelson

David will not be running for office again. Will need a nomination to put forth in March.

Board of Assessors' Report – Warren Rosenkranz

Not a committee of the Village.

Advisory - Danny Schweers

Nominations for Officers and Committees will be presented under the Advisory report. Also, further nominations will be taken from the floor of Town Assembly. Will continue accepting nominees until March meeting. By Town Meeting, all committees are responsible for having complete slate of nominees. Submit nominees to Danny. Note: absentee ballots will be accepted. (Put this at bottom of postcard if there is room).

Committee Reports - (Descending Order) (D: Jan & June. A: March & Sept)

Safety - Brooke Bovard (Absent)

Danny will contact about agenda items or any motions.

Registration – Cecilia Vore –

Playground - Ruth Panella - No motions.

Forest- Carol Larson - No motions.

Community Planning – Ray Siegfried (Absent)

Don't know if they have a motion or just discussion regarding the purchase of 16 Ravine Road. Jeff will contact Ray for clarification.

Civic – Ed Rohrbach, Al Marks – No motions.

BWVC – Denis O'Regan, Walter Borders – No motions.

Budget- Denise Nordheimer- No motions. No report.

Audit – Cookie Ohlson - No motions.

Archives -Lisa Mullinax- (Absent). Barbara Macklem stood in - No motions.

Hospitality –

Registration	January 2018
Safety	March 2018
Archives	June 2018
Audit	September 2018

Old Business

Reinstate Legislative Reference Committee will be presented under old business.

Motion is tabled and, if goes through one full meeting without being untabled, it maybe reintroduced. Not sure if it is under new or old business, so Jeff will check with town parliamentarian. Danny suggest presenting it under Old business.

MaryAnn prepared an amended motion.

Tabled Motion how to handle it.

Bring back on the floor the motion that was tabled at the June Town Assembly concerning reinstating Legislative Reference Committee. Another option is to not untable the motion and present a new motion.

Jeff will call Mary Ann to see what she wants to do.

Old motion is very long and was tabled. Need to end it. Two thoughts on how it dies. If you do nothing, it automatically dies. The other thought is if it is not lifted off the table it is not dead. Jeff will research this.

New Business –

ACRA- Pam Politis

Discussion of Village of Ardens, relationship to ACRA.

Maybe make **a motion** to clarify support for ACRA and the use of the BWVC. They recognize that ACRA asks a lot of BWVC. They wish to clarify with the Village the intent of the use of the building. ACRA board suggested a written agreement on how ACRA can use the BWVC, but the BWVC Committee did not believe this is within their policy or practices.

Good & Welfare

Other Questions

Ongoing discussion about Town Assembly meetings being overly long and drawn out.

One reason the meetings are long is that some people want a full hearing on that committee's business within the Town Meeting. They want to opine on every last thing. It is making the Town Meetings such a labor because of the length and tone of the meetings.

The person who is presenting a committee report is not expected to respond to the person at the microphone (even if what is said is wrong or misguided) unless they are asked a direct question.

Committees are working committees. They are not an open forum.

Before attending a Town Meeting, people can prepare themselves by searching the wealth of town information that is available on the Village website. (Committee minutes provided the minutes are copious, Town Assembly minutes are on line dating back to 1944). Talk to committee members.

Direct democracy demands that people are better and that they take some responsibility.

In Summary - The point of a Town Meeting is not only to present committee reports. It is important to hear committee reports. Rather than having discussions about committee reports, especially if it is not pressing, we ask people to go talk to the committees. The point of Town Assembly is to deal with government business. The Town Assembly is the ruling government body of the Village and that is where discussion happens. It is very appropriate to question committees at Town Assembly, but there have to be limitations from a time that we can simply say at this point this is a broader discussion, can you take it to a committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Resko

Village Secretary