

The Board of Assessors
Village of Arden
Meeting May 2, 2019, BWVC

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Mark Wood, Chair

Present: Mark Wood, Pam Politis, Debbie Ricard, Elizabeth Varley, Tom Wheeler,
and John Scheflen,

Not Present: Brooke Bovard

Public Meeting

Members of the public: Michael Oates, Warren Rosenkranz, Jeffrey Politis, Jeffrey Politis

Comments from the public

1. One commenter said that in recent years there have been errors in the assessment, the Trustees and the Assessors should establish a process to avoid errors in assessment. One suggestion was to have the Assessors create a spreadsheet that specifies exact land rent per leasehold to be collected. Another suggestion was to have the Assessors and Trustees work together on a spreadsheet to build agreement between the Assessors and Trustees about how land rent is to be collected.
2. Discussion concerning whether the spreadsheet should be made public occurred. If the spreadsheet is part of the Assessors report, then it should have the accessibility as required for Assessors report.
3. Question: has the formula for assessment been finalized? It has not. Michael Oates made a request for access to the Assessors' land rent formula for assessment with adequate time to examine and determine whether an alternate assessment should be proposed. The Assessors's report delivered at the June town meeting will include the Assessor's signed report with the proposed assessment.
4. Reminder that the job of the Assessors is to determine Fair rental value, including equitable land rent assessment.

5. Discussion about anticipated increased taxes (county and school) was discussed. Request that the Assessors collect to provide town financial stability.
6. Discussion of impact of ADU disruption on land rent collection when Town Assembly voted to allow residents to add an ADU without Town Assembly
7. Assessors were urged by a member of the public to consider environmental aspects of the land in the land value. For example, impervious surfaces cause the community to have to deal with more water run-off.
8. One proposal from member of the public was to have the simplest assessment possible, one rent rate per square foot for every lot.
9. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.