

**Village of Arden**  
**Advisory Meeting Minutes**  
**January 6, 2020**

**Attendance:** Danny Schweers, Jeff Politis, Cecilia Vore, Cookie Ohlson, Carol Larson, Elizabeth Varley, Al Marks, Lisa Mullinax, Denis O'Regan, David Michelson, Larry Walker.

**Guests:** Carol DiGiovanni, David Claney, Deborah Ricard & Marianne Cinaglia.

**Call to Order** – Danny Schweers, Advisory Chair, called meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. at Buzz Ware Village Center. The following agenda was presented:

AGENDA:

Advisory Committee Meeting  
Monday, January 6, 2020, 7:30pm at The Buzz

- 1) Acceptance of Previous Minutes
- 2) Discussion of Items to be Listed on

Town Meeting Agenda:

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- 2a) Call to Order
- 2b) Approval of Minutes
- 2c) Recognize New and Departed Residents
- 2d) Visitors
- 2e) Reports by Officers and Trustees
- 2f) Assessors Report
- 2g) Committee Reports in Ascending Order
- 2h) Old Business
- 2i) New Business
- 2j) Good and Welfare

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- 3) Refreshments for Town Meeting
- 4) Old Advisory Committee Business
- 5) New Advisory Committee Business
  - 5a) Nominations for March Election
- 6) Set Town Meeting Agenda
- 7) Guests Comments and Questions
- 8) Adjourn

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Acceptance of September 2019 Advisory minutes approved as presented.
- 2) Discussion of Items to be Listed on Town Meeting Agenda:
  - a) Approval of Minutes
  - b) Recognize New and Departed Residents
  - c) Visitors 5 minutes - No known visitors
  - d) Officers/Trustees
    - Town Chairman's Communications Report – Jeff Politis
    - Trustee - Carl Falco
    - Treasurer - David Michelson
    - 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 Advisory Committee meeting.

All committees are responsible for having complete slate of nominees. Submit nominees to Danny. Note: absentee ballots will be accepted. **(Standard procedure: List at bottom of postcard. Cecilia will draft ballots and provide to Danny who will post in February's Arden Page).**

e) Assessors – Mark Wood (Absent)

Elizabeth Varley - Date of open hearings will be provided. Mark Wood was elected Chair and Pam was elected Secretary.

f) Committees Reports (Descending Order)

*(Descending: Jan & June. Ascending: March & Sept)*

**Safety – Brooke Bovard (Absent)**

Registration – Cecilia Vore

Report on the Fall referendum

In March elections

Absentee voting will be on website

Cecilia provided (Village of Arden Committee member, Chairs, term June 25, 2019) print out to be updated and requests that if there are any changes to note them (This is on the Village website). Also, election results of the committees' elections can be referenced on the website in the Registration section to see who ran in the past.

Playground – Daryl Holcomb (Absent)

Larry Walker - The committee is in the process of formulating what direction the committee wants to take in regards to the \$33,000 grant. The dilemma is that all equipment which dates back to the 1950s will be removed and there is not enough money to replace it all. Jeff encourages committee to obtain estimate of total cost to replace and then see what is available and consider if installation needs to be phased in over several years.

Forest- Carol Larson

Community Planning – Mark Wood (Absent)

Civic – Al Marks.

a) There are two positions whose terms will end this March (Al Marks and Rick Smyth) and those two members will not be running again. A third position (Mick Fitzharris) term ends 2021. Al will confirm when Mick plans to resign. Standard Procedure: Should he resign by January Town Assembly, then the committee will nominate a replacement at the January Town Assembly and ask for any nominees from the floor. They will be confirmed at the Town Assembly. If he fulfills position till March, then two nominees' names will be put on ballot for his position.

Harold Kalmus's and Mark Wood's terms are not up until next year.

b) Civic recognizes a need for one enforcement of all the various Village Ordances and wants to know whose responsibility this falls under. In essence, an enforcement officer for the Village of Arden.

Denis O'Regan says in general, better enforcement on all the Village Ordinances should be addressed by Community Planning. The structure of how we do things in this community is not as good as sending out tickets and so forth in violation of ordinances. If you are not going to continue to entrust it to the committees, then can Community Planning come up with a plan to address the enforcement of Village Ordinances?

Jeff points out that times have changed. It is a question of volunteer time, energy and what people are willing to do. He questions how long can we operate with only volunteers, or do we need an enforcement officer or a town manager? Recommend that Community Planning take a look ahead and identify how we need to be looking at this. There is a financial impact but we also need to ask how far are we willing to let things go until we say we need to do something different. Al Marks will contact Community Planning and make them aware of this recommendation.

BWVC – Denis O'Regan

Budget - Brooke Bovard (Absent)

No budget report in January

Audit – Cookie Ohlson

Archives - Lisa Mullinax

g) Old Business

h) New Business

i) Good and Welfare

3) Refreshments for Town Meeting

### **Hospitality – 2020**

Community Planning. January 2020 (Forest switched Community planning in September)

Playground March 2020

Registration June 2020

Safety September 2020

4) Old Advisory Committee Business

a) Posting minutes to website. A few committees are behind in their posting minutes. (Playground - Need to go back and post missing minutes. Larry confirmed. Another committee that has minutes has fallen way behind on the posting. Jeff will talk to them again.). On average, committees have been diligent in posting their minutes. Ask committees to review their posting and post any missing minutes. Minutes must be available to meet FOIA compliance whether in hard copy format or posted to web. If you need help, contact Liz.

b) Village website - The template of the Village website is no longer supported by the manufacturer, which has resulted in our website looking rather bare. It now is showing just content and the masthead at the top is gone. No content

has been lost. The new theme is geared towards cell phones and tablets. Danny says he does not want to do anything more with website since it may be moved over to the state server. Right now, Community Planning is researching the pros and cons of the Village website being hosted by the state. No decision has been made as of yet. For clarity, Community Planning Committee is not the owner of the Village website. At some point, if Community Planning recommends to move forward, then the Secretary or Town Assembly need to get involved.

#### 5) New Advisory Committee Business

a) March Election Nominations: Danny requests that all committees try to find their own nominees.

b) Pokémon go stops - should we consider a letter to the company requesting to remove Pokémon stops in Arden? These stops create a lot of car & foot traffic at all hours. It also takes up limited parking space or in other cases they park illegally. Individuals can request to have these stops removed, or the Village can request to remove these stops. Advisory recommends the town officers contact Pokémon Company to request Arden stops be remove from all current and future Pokémon stops. Jeff will contact Ardentown and Ardencroft to see if they would be interested in participating.

**Advisory Meeting Motion** That advisory make a motion at the January Town Assembly to request removal of all Pokémon present and future Pokémon stops.  
Approved.

c) Package deliveries happen at all hours of day and night, creating traffic issues and dangerous speeding throughout the community – consider a “delivery ordinance”? Table the discussion. Jeff suggests think about it over the next three months. Carry this over to **old business** for further discussion.

6) Guests Comments and Questions

7) Set Town Meeting Agenda

Recap agenda as discussed:

Advisory – Nominees of officers & Committees members for upcoming elections.

Advisory Motion: to remove Pokémon stops from the Village.

Reminder: All motions will be presented with the committee reports.

8) Adjourn 9:58 p.m.

Next Advisory Meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2020, 7:30 p.m. at the BWVC.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Resko,

Village Secretary