

## Civic Minutes 4.14.2020

Zoom attendance: Mark Wood, Steve Benigni, Harold Kalmus, Carol Larson. Absent: Mick Fitzharris

Visiting Al Mark. Called to order 7:37, Items up for discussion: Chair of committee, budget, projects pending

Discussion of Trash cans on the green. Al mentioned that the lid is missing from the north end can. Waste Management is not picking up regularly because they can't lift the cans out of the wooden boxes. \* Harold said he would look at whether it's possible to add a door to the wooden structure holding the can so that access is improved for WM contractor.

Al Marks: He had asked Dave Claney to stain the new backdrops at the Field Theater. Committee agrees that this should proceed.

Fence on Lower Lane at Harvey was broken by a fallen limb. Carol cut up branch and most wood was taken away for firewood. Brush remains; fence support and rails are broken. Dave Claney was informed so he would clear brush but we should decide about what happens to the fence. Discussion regarding replacing fence since this is the area where the stile might be moved to be more visible. It's hidden now in large azaleas. Do we move the stile or place an additional one? Al said Ed Rohrbach has an extra carved sign for the top of the stile.

Any action is tabled until committee members can look at the area to determine where the stile might be moved for visibility. This will guide whether or not the fence needs to be replaced.

We discussed lilacs at the Walt Whitman memorial – after drastic pruning of the large lilac, there is regrowth. Discussion of number of lilacs. Historically there were five or more lilacs. \* Carol will source another lilac for the site, Al mentioned Lowes and Home Depot. Signage for the Walt Whitman Memorial was suggested, and the same for the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial across the Green.

Road sign replacement: discussion of process of finding signs in need of replacement. Al contributed that Prison Industries creates inexpensive signs for Ardentown. Contact info can be acquired from Cheryl Regan, chair of Public Works in Ardentown. Harold said that Denis O'Regan replaced Arden road signs in the past.

Discussion of support funding for Village projects: Steve Benigni asked about funding sources, both private and governmental sources were considered. Past examples included the Arden slide and tree planting grants.

Harold asked if we should consider it a conflict of interest having Carol serve on the committee and as a Trustee. Civic has other members serving on multiple committees and we discussed the difference between Arden govt. structure and that of Ardentown. Committee did not object and care should be taken not to overlap responsibilities

Discussion of snow removal contract: Since there was no snow removal in 2019-20, should the committee consider approaching Jim Burslem about the \$600 retainer and \$200 prep fee? Committee agreed that the retainer was owed to the contractor for reserving his time – perhaps the prep fee could serve for next year. \* Mark Wood will approach Burslem to ask about the fees. \* Carol will send Mark the contract online.

Steve mentioned seeding of the plastic mat on Sherwood Green. We need to confirm how much the Arden Club has seeded and reseed areas accordingly. \* Carol has 50 lbs of turf seed available and will check the mats.

Steve asked if there are any extraordinary expenses coming in the next year. Discussion of the financial position of the Village and the cash flow. Most expensive emergency expenses would be tree removals, difficult to predict.

The committee confirmed Steve Benigni as chair with support for specific areas from the committee.

Adjourn 8:45. Next meeting: May 12, 7:30 pm.