

Arden Civic Committee Agenda

Wednesday, December 23, 2020

7:30 p.m. via Zoom Meeting

Call to Order

Approval of November 25, 2020 Minutes

Categories

- Administrative
 - Budget Status
 - Treasurer Reports
- Roads
 - Marsh Road Fire Lane
 - Potholes and Possible Sinkhole
- Projects / Grants
 - Water Management Grant
- Permits / Reservations
- Maintenance Projects
 - Road Repainting
 - Adopt a Drain
 - Trash Can Holders
- Tree Work
 - White Pine on Village Green
 - Storm Clean-up
 - Follow-up on Identified Trees
- Greens
 - Ceremonies/Gatherings/Fires
- Seasonal Contract Oversight
 - Snow Contract
 - Leaf Removal (Memorial Garden and Sweep)
- Miscellaneous
 - Candidates for Committee

Other Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/480638694?pwd=SEE5dEZmN09jaFNQeUZCSE1OWIFsUT09>

Meeting ID: 480 638 694

Password: 537947

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,480638694# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,,480638694# US (New York)

This information is also online
at www.arden.delaware.gov on
the Civic Page.

Attendance: Steve Benigni, Carol Larson, Harold Kalmus.

Absent: Rick Ferrell, Mark Wood.

Call to Order - Steve Benigni, Chairman, commenced Zoom meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – November 2020 Civic Meeting Minutes approved per the following changes: Change “receding” to “reseeding” (page 3- Roads: sentence “It is not necessarily just “receding” “reseeding” the area to keep it intact”). Carol would like to change the word “major” to “significant” (top of 3rd page under draining category). Misspelling: “Burslem” (under category Drains & Debris).

Categories

- Administrative
 - Budget Status

Civic Committee Revenue & Expenditures (Projection)
December 23, 2020

Budgeted Revenue & Carryover

• 2020-21 Budget.....	\$58,000
• MSA (Actual)	18,893
• MSA (Carryover from 2019-20).....	1,372
Total:	\$78,265

Expenditures (Includes Contractual and Expected)

• American Grass	\$12,375
• Leaf Removal (American Grass).....	850
<small>(Memorial Garden 500, Sweep 350)</small>	
• Arden Construction Retainer (Snow).....	600
(____ hours @ \$100 to \$125 per hour).....	4,000 (2018-19 + first snow)
• McKenna American (Meadow Lane Resurfacing).....	24,200
• Dave Claney (Hours & Receipts)	955 + 200
D.C. Payroll Taxes	95
• 1000 Hands Horticulture (S & S Memorial)	625
• 1000 Hands Horticulture (Mulching V. Green)	550
• Trees	4,300
Ash Tree Treatment	209
• White Pine on Village Green	3,000
Tree Tech Consulting Fee.....	555
• Other Road Maintenance	1,000
• Trash Cans	4,000 – 5,500 + _____
• Remove Path Barriers	610
• Replace Road Signs	3,400 + 500 Mat/Labor
• Other Landscaping	
• Other	1,200 (per committee guess)
• Miscellaneous	
Total:	~ \$64,724

- Treasurer's Reports
Skip Bailey thinks Arden will be reimbursed approximately \$20,000 for the amount spent on Meadow Lane.

Steve read a letter from Skip. A significant part of his letter read as follows: "This would allow the MSA account to get replenished per state MSA guidelines. We can then use MSA funds for snow plowing, street signs and other work related to Arden roads". Based on this statement, if there is a bad snow year over and above projections, then MSA funds can be allocate to snow removal and use for street signs.

Believe MSA funds if not used they roll over to the next year.

- Roads / Drainage
 - Marsh Road Fire Lane
 - Potholes and Possible Sinkhole
Sinkhole near Rob Montejo leasehold (2102 Millers Rd) its right in front of his garage/shed on Millers side. There is a hole that you can see down into the drain. Carol pointed out that there is also a lot of water that runs down from the leasehold behind him (Diana Kadash, 2217 Hillside Road) and runs under the house. To complicate it, there is a drainpipe coming diagonally across Millers from drain across the street. Need an expert to evaluate situation. Have Rick look into it and make recommendations. If per the professional's opinion it needs to be addressed immediately, then contractors need to notify Civic Committee for final approval.
 - There is a rut on the corner of Millers and Woodland (Melton's leasehold). Trucks turning corner deepen the rut. It might need a swale or some kind of water retention structure. This might be a part of the Water Management Plan.

Also, a mesh was used to reinforce the parking area on Sherwood. Thinking about using mesh in other places to repair and prevent ruts.

- Projects / Grants
 - Water Management Grant
Will do a presentation at the January's Town Assembly with updates.
- Permits / Reservations

Solstices ceremonies had small cans of fire on the Green. How are those types of gatherings handled in terms of needing a permit or not? Carol believes Jill Althouse -Wood obtained a permit and she will confirm. No action required.

- Maintenance Projects
 - Road Repainting - Wait for Rick's report.
 - Adopt a Drain - Only two people responded: Dorinda Dove & Marianne Cinaglia both offered to tend to the drain near their home. Marianne needs an implement, a rod, that can be left near drain at Hillside Rd and Millers Rd. The corner property has ivy where a rod could be left. Carol will contact Marianne to let her know where the rod is, provided the leaseholder agrees. Not sure Adopt a Drain will work. Harold Kalmus will post another article in the Arden Page and see if there is any more interest. Several neighbors are taking care of drains, but not notifying Civic to let them know that they are doing so. Due to the lack of communication, there is no way of knowing which drains are maintained.
 - Trash Can Holders – Scheduled for January.
 - Fence rails and one post damaged by a fallen tree on Millers Rd approaching Marsh Road. Contact Dave Claney to fix.
- Tree Work
 - White Pine on Village Green
Tree Tech Consulting submitted White Pine Assessment; Arden Green Report with recommendations to make reasonable expenditures to save the tree by reducing the crown by pruning, clean branches off on one side. Other issues are what kind of cabling support should go in tree? Need to find someone to install cable. Does not recommend bolting. Is this a village decision or Civic decision?

Jeff Steen was very involved in the inspection process. Jeff Steen complaint was having handled it without having a written complaint from the original person who made the complaint (Warren Rosenkranz) and under what authority they made the complaint. Jeff wanted documentation of each step in the process. Carol complied with Jeff's request and contacted Warren, and is in the process of gathering documentation to prove that all steps were well thought out and that they came to the right conclusion.

- Carol at present is searching for an arborist for trimming and support. (not bolts).
- Storm Clean-up
Need a storage facility.
 - Follow-up on Identified Trees
Fallen branch on Village Green near Inn Lane. Carol is waiting to hear back from Ron about his schedule.
 - Greens
 - At the stile removed a log. Plan to cut back shrubs around it. Removed brush along Woodland so they can mow up to the trees.
 - Ceremonies/Gatherings/Fires
Solstice ceremonies had small containers with fires. No action is required. It's public space.
 - Seasonal Contract Oversight
 - Snow Contract - Last week there was a freezing rain snowstorm and the town policy is to not salt. Need copy of snow contract to determine the specs. County supplies sand if ordered by October. Steve will contact Burslem about contract specs. Heidi Hoegger's leasehold is adjacent to woods and the snow is dumped near or on her turn around, which is problematic for her. Need to have Burslem plow and dump snow near the wood side away from her parking/driving area.
 - Leaf Removal (Memorial Garden and Sweep) Billed by American Landscaping, LLC, \$850 extra above their contract price for Memorial Garden clean up. Need contract to see if cleanup of Field Theater and Memorial Garden is part of their contract.
 - Miscellaneous
 - Candidates for Committee - Harold is not running if his term is up. Rick and Mark will run again. Need 3 new candidates. Ask Ed Rohrbach if he is interested in submitting his name.

Other Old Business

New Business

Adjourn 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Resko, Village Secretary