

# Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 21 April 2004

Present: Lou Bean, Deborah Kenney, Sue Rothrock, Ken Sutton, Jacqi Tanzer and Danny Schweers, Secretary. Absent: Rick Grier-Reynolds

Ken Sutton called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR** - Jacqi nominated, Ken seconded, that Sue Rothrock be elected chair of the committee. She was, unanimously, after which she chaired the meeting.

**DUTY SHARING** - Ken suggests duties can be better shared. Sue agreed and noted that the work is easier now that there are better people taking care of trash and state roads.

**SIGNS** - Applause for Lou Bean's recent work on street signs, last done about eight years ago. Procedure is to give each sign two coats of white paint, then surface is sanded, leaving only white showing in recessed areas of lettering.

**HOUES' PROPERTY** - Trustees are now thinking that problem began in 1962 when a neighboring house was allowed to raise their foundation two feet, affecting runoff. Now, when it rains, it is like a seasonal spring eroding the driveway.

**WOODS CLEANUP AND TRASH PICKUP** - This Saturday, April 24, 9AM at Water Tower and at Marsh Road and Naaman's Creek, meeting at Pete Renzetti's afterwards. He might not be there but his house is ours. Recycling bins are out of stock at the moment. Lots of people are using the recycling bins. Good! Robert Perkins called about the Pump Path, saying that she's been putting down wood chips and will continue to do that for the time being. For this she has been thanked by Sue Rothrock.

**SUNSET ROAD** - Sue has prepared a letter to leaseholder at 1904 Orleans Road asking them not to park on town R.O.W.

**POST LOCATIONS** - Someone needs to walk around with David Burslem and show him where posts should be located. Deb offered to do this.

**SHERWOOD FOREST** - At June Meeting, we will ask the Town Assembly for a new survey of the Village be conducted to include the Avery Property. Afterwards, we will need to put up fencing at border with Sunset Farms similar to fence at Buckingham Greene. Discussion ensued about civil suit with Buckingham Greene. "Money's not pretty," comments the Secretary. Avery Property will be included in the Woods cleanup. Also, the botanist who surveyed the Arden Woods will look at the new acquisition.

**SEWER PROBLEM IN ARDENTOWN** - Joan Fitzgerald owns property at Harvey and the Stile, behind house in front. Has no sewer connection or septic tank. House is sitting on top of cesspool! Sewer hook-up will come into Arden. Permission to do so is granted unanimously. Discussion of septic systems still existing in Arden followed. When David McClintock, in a recent interview, was asked what the biggest improvement he'd seen in his many decades in the Ardens, he said, "The sewer!" Before that, he said, this place often smelled terrible.

**NEW YEWS ON THE ARDEN GREEN** - Telford wants to cut the yews down to six feet. They were originally planted to shield parking. Deb introduces idea of opening them up and well as down. Ken suggests cutting them down, another example of how overgrown Arden has become. Decision is to trim them severely.

**MOWING** - Bob Osborne has been mowing for years. He hasn't raised his price in years and does take care of problems when they arise. His price is so good, we just need to let him know if there are problems. Sue's recommendation is to keep him. Deborah volunteered to keep in touch with him. If extra mowing needs to be done around Buzz Ware Village Center, folks at the BWVC need to be contacted to take care of that.

**WALK ABOUT** - Sue has split town in five sections as indicated on provided maps. Each committee member is responsible for surveying the roads on their section and noting problems within the next two weeks. Mark potholes and much-patched problem areas.

STATE GRANTS - Sue talked to Alton Dahl about fixing drainage at corner at Miller and Cherry Lane near the Arden Craft Shop Museum. Water collects there and turns to treacherous ice in winter. We did get money from state for last year's project. Steve Tanzer personally picked it up from Dover on last possible day. Other issue is lines on The Highway in front of Gild Hall at request of postman, who also has concerns at circle at Orleans and Millers Road.

ISLAND AT MILLER AND ORLEANS - Sue suggested making the island a triangle instead of a circle. To do this may take years, as was the case at Lower Lane and Millers Road. Jacqi has two estimates for work on the island. One landscaper bid \$600 to do landscaping, labor only. We would provide materials. He'd put packasandra in large area and move all the flowers to smaller bed as well as a stone border between the two beds. \$2700 is other bid that includes labor and materials with a drawing. Biggest issue, we're told, will be watering. Fall might be the best time to do this work, rather than during the summer's heat. Money will come from Commons fund. Area has been Rototilled and had dark hummus added recently. Discussion ensued about difference in two bids, especially that, with first bid, committee would be responsible for gathering materials. Agree to go with lower bid and try to get free packasandra from woods behind Threefoots.

ABUSE OF TRASH SERVICE - Someone mentioned to Ken that Wayne Hull, who has his own home remodeling business, uses our trash collection every week to save money instead of taking renovation trash to the dump. Is this OK? No, says Sue. It may not cost the Village anything or very much but it bears watching. Sue asks that observations or complaints be put in writing.

STORM SEWERS OFF SHERWOOD ROAD - Some sewers go into Sherwood Forest and make a bog of the fire trail. Alton Dahl suggests getting frogs to control mosquitoes. Ken sees trees falling down as their roots systems fail, in this area that stays wet for long periods of time. Storm drains are only ten years old or so; water does not get to creek. Sue suggests extending drainage beyond leaseholds at least. Ken says that won't resolve the larger problem of bog on fire lane. Need drainage of bog. Ken would like to show us problem area, especially now while it is still wet.

BEER GARDEN - Jacqi noted that the drainage issue has been resolved.

MEETING SCHEDULE - First Wednesday of each month except August and January. Sue suggests that committee members who miss three meetings in a year be asked to resign. Ken suggests that, after three missed meetings, the person be asked to reconsider role on committee. Next meeting will be May 5.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danny N. Schweers  
Secretary, Village of Arden