

# Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 5 May 2004

Present: Lou Bean, Deborah Kenney, Sue Rothrock, Ken Sutton, Rick Grier-Reynolds, Jacqi Tanzer and Danny Schweers, Secretary. Also present: Beverly Barnett and Alton Dahl.

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. The guests were welcomed, especially since they weren't there to complain.

NEW FIVE ACRES RESTORED - Beverly Barnett made an offer to use the 1978 stewardship plan for forests as a plan to restore the newly acquired five acres of Sherwood Forest. That plan was passed by the whole village. Botanist Janet Ebert has given us lots of help, including identifying 130 plants in the five acres on May 2. Beverly spoke for an ad hoc committee that could be a sub-committee of the Civic Committee.

Alton Dahl recommended that we (1) send info packet and offer living-room workshops to neighbors, to recruit them as volunteers and to get them on board; (2) mark boundaries effectively, possibly with split-rail fence with access to neighbors; (3) remove invasive species of plants; (4) lay out and mark trails; (5) plant a few large trees in open area, perhaps oaks, which are rare in other areas; and (6) construct a walking path through the wet lands with possible use of board walks. The last item may take a year to complete but the drier paths could be started immediately with volunteer labor. Discussion of plan and possibilities ensued, after which the sub-committee's work was approved.

Sue noted that environmental survey found an old cesspool and well, both mostly filled with dirt; there were no buried tanks. New wetland discovered; that needs to be recorded.

SIGNS - We are getting new street signs at a good price.

SEWER PROBLEM NEAR STILE - put hole in different place than requested. Now fixed.

ROAD WORK PERMITS - No one should work on roads without a permit. If the roads aren't repaired properly, we need to know who to bill for our road work.

YEWS ON GREEN - Jeff Hannum cleaned up fallen limb from cherry tree near Cherry Lane. He will take care of yews, which are nearly 30 feet tall.

MOWING - Price remains the same this year as last. On first mowing, the mowers left the wildflowers, which were glorious.

STATE DRAINAGE GRANTS - Bid from Downing to repair drainage near Arden Craft Shop Museum is \$13,775. Sue suggests applying for a state grant to take care of this.

BEER GARTEN/GROVE - Ken suggests better way across riprack and big rocks to access the Memorial Garden from Gild Hall. Rick notes that big rocks are temporary and he will call to make sure they are taken out.

PATHS - Sue has map and widths. Another usurped path runs from Lower Lane to Ardentown's property. Two sheds sit on the path now, which hasn't been used for years, and once joined a path in Ardentown that has disappeared as well. Discussion ensued about other paths and ROWs. Rick suggests notifying leaseholders of the situation. Sue suggests abandoning paths no longer in use and which will never be used, adding that land to the leaseholds. Deb suggests letters to leaseholders and Trustees, a suggestion accepted by the committee.

POSTS - Are made up and ready to go. Ken will walk with Dave Burslem to install posts except for Sunset Lane posting, which Sue will handle, since we may want to open road at some future time.

DON HOLCOMB - Mill Road in front of his house had monstrous tree stump where road becomes narrower. Can we examine this now that stump is deteriorating? Road is deteriorating, too. Let's do something. Sue agrees to meet with Lou and Don to examine situation.

MILLER and WALNUT ISLAND is going well. Deb suggests recruiting teens who are doing community service. Jacqi will put announcement in *Arden Page*.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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