

Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 8 September 2004

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

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m.

REPLACEMENT OF A COMMITTEE MEMBER.

Sue Rothrock moved that we ask Rick to resign since he has missed so many meetings. If he does so, we can nominate a new member at the Town Meeting at the end of the month. After an acrimonious discussion, Ken Sutton resigned.

SHERWOOD FOREST FENCING. Aaron Hamburger, at last night's Advisory Committee, recommended putting up a temporary orange plastic snow fence until we can afford the \$33,000 for a real fence. Jacqi offers to contact Dave Burslem to take on this work.

SHERWOOD FOREST DUMPING. A new neighbor moved in and dumped all his cut bushes and uprooted fence posts into the newly acquired five acres of Sherwood Forest. Stephen Threefoot sent him a registered letter, giving him a month to remove the debris but, before the month was out, Bev Barnett gathered the debris and piled it at the back of that man's property.

MILLER'S ROAD AT WALNUT. We have a student willing to work on planting.

SEWER REPAIR. Near Broadbents, workers from Hardy & Sons threw torn up concrete into creek. Sue complained and they cleaned it up the next day.

BEER GARDEN DRAINAGE. Working much better says Jacqi. Sue says we have gotten an unexpected bill for an additional \$1,700. The Arden Club may create a new path to the Memorial Garden.

PATH SIGN POSTS. Barbara Macklem has sent additional correspondence asking why it says "Lovers Path" instead of "Road". Answer: So people won't be tempted to drive down it. Danny noted that Advisory Committee agreed last night that parking issues are a matter for the Safety Committee to resolve.

RECYCLING. Has gotten off to a good start and is a big improvement because they take many more items than before and do so every week, not twice a month.

REMOVAL OF TREES ON LEASEHOLDS. Sue read the following letter, which the Committee then approved:

June 20, 2004

To the Trustees of the Village of Arden,

This letter pertains to the removal of trees on a leasehold and adjacent to the Sherwood Forest or the Arden Woods. The Civic Committee does not believe it is the responsibility of the leaseholder to replace trees or shrubbery removed for construction, a damaged or dying tree, or for the safety of person or property. The Civic Committee will assess each situation at their convenience, and decide whether trees, shrubbery, or other vegetation should be planted on the woods' edge by the Civic Committee.

Sincerely,

Civic Committee of the Village of Arden

NEW BUSINESS

SIGN AT BUZZ. A parking sign behind the Buzz Ware Village Center needs to be replaced. Also want a handicapped-parking sign out front attached it to a wooden trash-can corral. Deb and Jacqi will both contact people about erecting the corral. Other signs needed are Rules of Commons and Use of Indian Circle. All entrances to forest need to be signed, \$500 to \$700. These would be metal signs. All signs were approved unanimously. Danny recommended moving street signs at Orleans and the Highway so people driving into Arden face them where the streets divide.

SIGN IN SHERWOOD FOREST. We need big permanent sign in Sherwood Forest that says: "This parcel of land has been acquired and will be maintained undeveloped by the Village of Arden with financial assistance from the Delaware State Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund, New Castle County, the Villages of Ardentown and Ardencroft, and our many neighbors and friends."

YEWS ON THE GREEN. Telford has not trimmed the yews. We could restore the yews to their original purpose: to delineate parking which is otherwise absent on the Village Green. Not a good idea if curb stones are in place. Committee agrees to trim the yews between four and six feet. Sue will contact Jeff Hannum about this work.

DYING OAK NEAR MEADOW LANE. Sue has asked Jeff Hannum to look at the dying oak whose dead branches Ruth Bean has called attention to. Another situation is on St. Martin's Lane.

SEA OATS AT SHERWOOD GREEN. Jacqi noted that a pink flamingo has appeared. Sue noted that the sea oats were a mistake out front, because they are hiding the good shrubs and their roots are interfering with other plants. Jacqi will get someone who knows plants to remove them. Damon is one possibility.

HOUES PROPERTY. Recommendation is to put in a drain to remove water from between the two houses and divert it to a storm drain that would also have to be built. Sue will get this going. Downing has already examined the drainage and given a bid.

GRATE NEAR ARDEN GREEN RAIN GARDEN. The grate on the storm drain has broken but replacements are not available. Deb suggests re-doing that drain at the same time the work on the Houes property is done. Sue is pleased with Downing's work. Deb will ask Downing for an estimate on the work.

NOMINATION FOR TOWN MEETING. Sue will ask Natalie Hubbard, since she is alternate. Annie Schmittinger is recommended.

NEXT MEETING. October 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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