

Arden Civic Committee  
December 3, 2013

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM

Attending: Rodney Jester, Tom Wheeler, Ed Rohrbach, Al Marks,  
and Jeff Steen.

At first glance Hold Harmless letter from the Arden Club does not seem to be sufficient for our needs. Tom Wheeler will ask the Towns lawyer if this will do. Committee wants an actual agreement that clearly indemnifies the Town. We also want it backed up in writing by the Clubs insurance company. While the Town chairman signed the Hold Harmless agreement it is Civics opinion that he should only have taken that action if Civic had requested him to do so. Rodney will write a letter to the Club requesting a letter of indemnity and an insurance certificate naming the Town as the named insured. it will also request that the Club deal directly with Civic Comm. in the future.

Jeff Steen has attended to voice his concerns and opinions on the Fels oak. Ed and Al made a protest over any of the information that Jeff presents due to a prior disagreement.

Tom Wheeler and Jeff Steen made measurements of the area under the drip line of the Fels oak. The drip line is approx. 40 feet from the base of the Fels oak. The base of the Fels oak is approx. 46 feet from Millers road. These measurement were taken by sight and additional measurements may need to be taken. The logic for this is to determine the area under the Fels oak that may have been disturbed by installation of playground equipment, excavation,geo-textile, gravel placement,and mulch. A significant potion of the area has been disturbed by these prior actions. The work around the playground equipment was done to existing standards at that time. Equipment in the drip line area continues to have an impact on the oak. We may need to change our practices in the future. Some may be to move the equipment to other locations,use less mulch. Jeff recommends that where possible we remove the mulch,remove the fabric, remove the gravel if it can be done without doing further damage, and replace it with topsoil. Jeff feels we should seek expert opinions from someplace like Longwood Gardens, not a local landscaper. Both Civic and Playground Committees have inherited these problems from past actions and will work together to mitigate impact in the future.

Playground committee meets on Thursday and will discuss these issues.

The McKinneys have been informed that Civic will not remove the tree they inquired about.

Downing has not finished the roadwork .

The grant for trimming trees to accommodate the firetrucks has been approved.

Submitted

Rodney W. Jester