

Arden Civic Committee Meeting Minutes (approved)
2 July, 2003

Present: Sue Rothrock, chair, Lou Bean (Emeritus), Deborah Kinney, Ken Sutton, Jacqi Tanzer. Absent: Rick Grier-Reynolds. Also present: Steven Threefoot, Chair of the Town Assembly and Danny Schweers, Secretary.

The meeting began at 7:33 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

ROAD REPAIR: Sue Rothrock reported that the roads are being repaired, slowly, though there have been no complaints yet. Lou noted that the curbstones around Sherwood Green looked very good.

CELL PHONE POLE: Steven Threefoot summarized the previous meeting of the Town Assembly, noting that he and the Civic Committee Chair were not authorized to conclude a contract with T-Mobile for a cell phone pole to be erected near the water tower, but that the Civic Committee could still propose a contract at a future meeting.

REPAIR OF ARDEN GREEN: As a private citizen, Steven Threefoot noted that the Arden Green needs its holes filled, topsoil added, the ground aerated, and the gradient shaped for proper drainage. He agreed to look into available grants. The committee members then discussed possible timing, costs, fund availability, and feasibility and agreed to pursue such improvement.

CELL PHONE POLE: After Steven's departure, the Committee discussed the cell phone pole further, noting that opponents of the pole were concerned not with legalities of lease nor with financial issues but rather with the mechanics of how the pole would be erected and maintained. Damage to the forest was a prime concern, both in the erection of the tower, its maintenance, and the addition of additional antennas. Would trees be cut? Would limbs be cut? Would roots be damaged? Would soil be compacted and water runoff increased? Opponents did not believe erection of the pole was compatible with preserving and protecting the forest. While committee members noted that the site of the pole was not in the forest, but on a road right-of-way, they believed the opponents' concerns would need to be addressed before the Town Assembly was again asked to consider the proposal. Sue agreed to present a list of concerns to T-Mobile and continue from there.

MEADOW LANE BRIDGE: Sue Rothrock reported that Anthony Borsello not only repaired the bridge damage but also rejuvenated other areas of the bridge and pulled off the vines growing on it. Looks great! The committee noted that the problem is that new drivers for Waste Management back into the bridge, not being able to see it since its walls are so low. This problem, noted at previous meetings, found no solution at this meeting.

BEER GARDEN DRAINAGE: No progress.

ARDEN CLUB BULLETIN BOARD: In place!

PATH MARKERS: Committee approved David Burslem's \$1700 bid to produce and erect 4x4 cedar posts at the end of each path, with each path's name carved into the post. They decided Sunset Road should not have its name changed to Sunset Path; even though it is used now only as a path, changing its name might be interpreted as the village giving up right of way for a road.

DISEASED OAK ON ARDEN GREEN: Sue Rothrock reported that Telford Tree Service's bid to remove the diseased oak tree from the Arden Green was \$1,000 less than the bids of the Kearns Brothers and De Stabino because they would not use a crane but use climbers instead. Since the village has had excellent experience with Telford, their low bid was approved. It was generally agreed that the replacement tree should be only 50 feet tall, not 80, so its upper branches might be tended to more easily.

ISI AND LANDSCAPING: Jacqi Tanzer reported that Damon Forshero has begun

Harvey, Orleans and Millers, and Walnut and Miller. Residents are encouraged to donate plants for the islands.

MOWING: Sue Rothrock reported that our contract with the mowers is for cutting every two weeks but sometimes this is inadequate, as was recently the case after 4.5 inches of rain fell in a day and the grass grew quickly, making the Sherwood Green unacceptable for use by the ACRA summer camp. The solution is to hire Joel Schwaber on off weeks, as needed, to cut the grass.

SNOW REIMBURSEMENTS: Sue reported that no one has seen the \$1,942.20 check yet--federal funds funneled through the state.

ARDEN WOODS SURVEY: Sue Rothrock has received the botanist's report on the survey of the Arden Woods listing 178 species of plants, 59 of which are alien species, which are most prevalent near leaseholds.

NEXT MEETING: Sept. 10. Ken Sutton noted that "I just get shadier every year," referring to his leasehold. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Danny Schweers, Secretary