

# Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 2 February 2005

Present: Lou Bean, David Gerbec, Deborah Kenney, Sue Rothrock, Jacqi Tanzer, Ann Schmittinger, and Danny Schweers, Secretary. No one was absent!

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. No changes were made to last month's meeting.

**YEWS:** Still not cut but just as well since our finances are low. The yews were originally planted on the Arden Green near Craft Shop Museum as a low screen for cars parking on the green.

**STATE ROAD FUNDS:** Sue talked to their office. Person there said Ardencroft did not spend their \$5,000, so money was cut to all three villages. Another story was that another development needed the money instead. Ardencroft was saving their money over a period of years to spend it on a large project. \$5,000 doesn't go far on road work. A section of road costs \$20,000 to repair. \$5,000 will only buy four speed bumps.

**MEADOW LANE SEWER ACCESS DETERIORATION:** Sue contacted New Castle County but they have not gotten back to her yet. Roads have been covered with snow and ice; temperatures below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

**BROADBENTS' REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL:** Sue suggests that, since their request goes against established Town policy, it should be brought before the Town Assembly. Sue doesn't feel the Civic Committee can grant exception to policy, especially since the urban foresters have said the trees are healthy and pose no danger. Committee agrees to send the Broadbents a letter asking them to bring their request to the next Town Meeting.

**INDIAN CIRCLE TREE:** No word back on tree removal.

**FIRE HAZARDS IN FORESTS:** Urban forester working on proposal to get \$10,000 grant for three Ardens to remove ivy and low brush.

**NOMINATIONS:** At least one person is considering running for Civic Committee. Sue and Deborah will be running. Need two more nominees. More names are suggested.

**TRASH CORRALES:** In process.

**CREATION OF ARDEN FORESTRY COMMITTEE:** Sue suggested a separate Forestry Committee, one that would attract people who have no interest in serving on the Civic Committee, because it deals so much with public works such as road repair, lawn mowing, and storm runoff. Also, forests are often the last of the Civic Committee's responsibilities to get attention. Before this could be implemented, funding would have to be addressed. Deborah agreed to write a proposal to bring before the next Advisory Committee and then the Town Meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

**MANDATORY RECYCLING:** Sue went to a Dover meeting about mandatory recycling. Proposal has not been finalized. At present, glass would not be included in the recycling. Sorting would not be required. Paste board (such as cereal boxes) would be recycled. Municipalities would be charged for their recycling. Goal is 85% participation in recycling in Delaware. Once mandatory recycling is put in place, we will have to renegotiate our trash and recycling contracts.

**MOSQUITO SPRAYING:** Town Assembly, at its last meeting, voted not to spray with pesticides.

**RECYCLED-RUBBER TREE MATTS AROUND TREES ON GREENS:** Bev Barnett asked Sue to look at these matts, which would fit as skirts around base of tree. Comments were that they were costly and not attractive.

**BROKEN GRATE ON STORM-WATER CATCH BASIN:** It has been repaired by Downing, who sent us a bill.

**SNOW PLOWING:** Pond Lane was plowed and sanded after kids had fun. Snow clearing happens automatically; salting and sand needs to be requested. Laughter accompanied usefulness of barrels full of sand that DelDOT put in place. They are open to the rain, then freeze solid in cold weather, making sand useless.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. Next meeting is first Wednesday in March, Wednesday, March 2.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danny Schweers, Secretary