

Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 2 March 2005

Present: Lou Bean, David Gerbec, Deborah Kenney, Sue Rothrock, Ann Schmittinger, and Danny Schweers, Secretary. Jacqi Tanzer was absent.

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m. on this cold and blustery night.

YEWS: Larry Walker was going to trim the yews, but gave the work to someone else, who started trimming them. A resident, Jeff Politis, called Sue to complain. A petition went around, signed by 21 residents, to Save Our Yews. The yews were planted in mid-1960s. Don Stephens planted them, at a time he still owned the Craft Shop and Weave Shop, to screen a parking area he set up on the Arden Green from rest of Green. People started parking there, but the planting of the yews and the development of the parking area were done without village approval and, in response to unfavorable reaction, the parking was stopped but nothing was done to the yews, not even maintenance. Now, 40 years later, they have become immense, crowding into other trees and smothering an azalea. Sue noted that yews, except for the fleshy part of the fruit, are toxic to most animals and children, including the seeds.

NOMINEES: Deborah Ricard, Dale Brumbaugh and Mary Marconi have agreed to be nominees; others have been asked.

MEADOW LANE SEWER DETERIORATION: The work is on the County's list to replace both manholes. The County says it will maintain area around manholes so it is done properly.

BROADBENTS TREE REMOVAL: Sue has letter from Urban Forester for Indian Circle tree and trees causing the Broadbents' concern. The U.F. recommends contacting an arborist. We have several trees on our watch list, including the Fels Oak. Steven Threefoot will ask the Broadbents to address the town meeting, since the Civic Committee cannot, on its own, change established policy.

ARDEN FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: Deborah has written a proposal for the next Advisory Committee. Sue has talked to Steven Threefoot and it will be discussed at Advisory. His feeling is to keep it as a sub-

committee under Civic initially, especially since the Town Budget is not easily changed. Sue thinks Civic can surrender part of its budget, perhaps \$1,000, to the Forest Stewards. Our Commons Budget is around \$20,000, but most of that goes towards maintaining the greens, especially mowing. Recently, we have spent very little, if anything, on the forests. Also, Steven suggested that we wait until March, 2006 to elect members to this committee, since that is when Town elections take place.

RECYCLING: We have a Special Bulk Pickup in April and the Woods Cleanup is scheduled for April 23rd, a Saturday. We try to do these close together. A letter will go out announcing both. Sue learned recently that residents don't have to remove freon from old air conditioners and refrigerators, if they go to the Recycling Center, which also recycles electronic goods. Sue recommends the village have a special day to collect unwanted electronics. This would include computer equipment, telephone equipment, audio and video electronics, etc. Our only cost would be to pay someone to deliver the items to the Recycling Center. After everyone approves the idea of an Electronics Recycling Day, Sue suggests getting the other two villages involved. Deborah recommends notifying everyone about this plan in the flyer, so they don't set out electronics for the Bulk Pickup. As for "White Goods" such as refrigerators, they should be left to individuals to take to the Recycling Center.

CLEANING UP AFTER DOGS: Annie wondered about town policy concerning people cleaning up after their dogs. Sue says there is no policy but many dog owners do clean up after their dogs, though it is a problem. Annie suggests making an announcement to encourage more people to clean up after their dogs. The sense of the Committee is that some members of the Doggie Group that meets daily on the Arden Green does not clean up after their dogs, which romp and play where the Frisbee teams romp and play. Every year ACRA has to clean up before the Easter Egg Hunt.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
April 6 is the next meeting, at 7:30 p.m.

Faithfully submitted,
Danny Schweers, Secretary