

Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 4 May 2005 – DRAFT

Present: Steve Blades, David Gerbec, Sue Rothrock, Ann Schmittinger, and Danny Schweers, Secretary. Guest: Lizzie Broadbent. Also present: Mary Marconi, Jeffrey Politis and Sally Sharp of the Forest Subcommittee. Absent: Lou Bean, Deborah Kenney.

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Minutes were approved with corrections.

BROADBENTS' LOOMING TREES: Lizzie had \$107,000 in damages when tree hit house. She fears she will lose insurance if house is hit by another tree, besides having additional expenses and possible injuries. After reiterating points she had made at the last meeting, committee members discussed the health of the trees, how to assess risks and monitor erosion, how to limit erosion, how to determine sources of runoff, how much blame to give Frank Stephens, and how these trees differ from the two that fell. An urban forester in March and another in November, 2004, both gave these trees a clean bill of health. Both were state employees. Sue has researched tree consultants, including Russell Carlson. Bartlett is the best local expert. Sue suggested using their expertise and, when urban forester visits, to have him assess trees again and suggest options.

FOREST SUBCOMMITTEE: Sue will give forest subcommittee members various documents, including established policies and maps. She told them of a possible \$10,000 grant to control invasive in the three Ardens and on-going fencing issues. Annual Woods Cleanup will be this subcommittee's responsibility, to coordinate the volunteers, set the date, get refreshments, etc. Signs in forest have been produced and need to be posted, including a large wooden sign for Sherwood Forest (the new addition).

[Lizzie, Mary, Jeffrey, and Sally depart meeting.]

SPECIAL TRASH PICKUP: Sue had scheduled a date with Waste Management but somehow it never got on their calendar and so was re-scheduled. A lot was picked up by regular trash. Even before that, the metal people came by and neighbors looking for a bargain. We need to re-name it "Bulk Pickup" so regular trash isn't put out. Trash men missed stuff at Pete Renzetti's (but came back to get it as soon as we complained). Barbara Macklem complained that the planters around her mailbox got taken, a decorative element to her, but looked like bulk items to someone else, and so they disappeared, as likely taken by neighbors as by Waste Management.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING: Went very well. Larry Walker only charged us \$100 to haul it all away.

YEWS: Their disappearance has been applauded. People like the more open look of the Arden Green.

HOUES PROPERTY, BUZZ TRASH CORRAL: nothing to report.

MOWING: Price went from \$7,100 to \$8,324 for the year. Still a good price.

MARY'S GRAVEL: Mary Marconi will buy gravel for town road and committee will reimburse her.

ROADS WALK: Members turned in their reports to Sue, who will compile them. Sue noted how expensive it is to resurface a road. Mill Lane, which is not very long or wide, cost us \$20,000 to resurface.

TREES: All the trees we cut are dead or clearly dangerous. None are healthy. Wisteria at Field Theatre was trimmed. Also, the Arden Club has donated a stone to be used as a step up to the stage.

BLUE DeIDOT SAND BARRELS: are gone.

BARRY LEASEHOLD: The Arden Book's map shows a path between 2206 and 2210 Lower Lane. The leasehold at 2210 (formerly the Pig and Whistle diner) now has use of those ten feet of right-of-way and the path has long disappeared. Sue recommends formally surrendering that land to the leasehold, so it will be taxed. She had written a letter to Trustees, but nothing was resolved.

DRAINAGE PROBLEM #3974: There's a drainage problem on Woodland Lane. There is a berm at 2309 (Melton's) and in front of the Field Theatre. Mary Marconi's leasehold at 2311 has curbstones. Water pours into the leaseholds after that. Downing gave us a bid of \$4,475 for 400 feet of berm and two or three driveway openings. This would take water to a storm drain. Sue will poll leaseholders if they will agree to a berm. Danny suggested that, if they want something better, that leaseholders should be given option of paying difference between cost of berm and what they choose.

DRAINAGE PROBLEM #3975: Harvey Road and Little Lane. Water comes off Harvey Road and down Little Lane, the result of last paving of Harvey Road. Bruce Downing suggests channeling water around both sides of island at Harvey and Little Lane so it continues down Harvey Road. Bid: \$6,555.

DRAINAGE PROBLEM #3976: Water in front of Buzz hits speed bump in front of Sadie's house. Speed bump acts as a dam, sending water into Sadie's yard. Speed bump needs to be cut.

PROPOSED GRANT: Sue will ask Wayne Smith to cover these three drainage projects. Excepting last year, the Village had gotten \$10,000 to \$13,000 a year from his office for road repair.

FIELD THEATRE REPAIRS: Shakespeare Gild would like footrails and fences repaired. Ann talked to Cecilia; Sue looked at it with Cecilia. Sue says repairs will be simple. Ann says some boards are cracked and will need to be displaced. Ann has list of repairs.

NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 7:30 P.M.
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:15 p.m.

Faithfully submitted,
Danny N. Schweers, Secretary