

Arden Civic Committee Meeting – 7 September 2005

Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

PRESENT: Lou Bean (member emeritus), David Gerbec, Sue Rothrock, Ann Schmittinger (arrived for last 30 minutes), Sally Sharpe (forest sub-committee chair), and Danny Schweers (secretary).

DAMPNESS IN MEMORIAL GARDEN: Ruth Bean, the Village's Memorial Garden coordinator, said she has been upset with wet ground in Memorial Garden for many years. She had thought it was wet because of the pool, but no longer. She, David Gerbec and John Demsey all say it is still wet, even in the swale, even after two weeks with no rain. Elizabeth Varley has wondered if it might be a leaking pipe from or near the Arden Club. Somewhere there should be diagrams of water pipes in the area. What Ruth remembers is a drain system going from Gild Hall into the Memorial Garden, to handle runoff. Talk of finding records, asking about people. With the damp, mowers are getting stuck.

FOREST SUB-COMMITTEE: At its last meeting, the Advisory Committee considered the future of this sub-committee. Recommendation was to keep sub-committee part of Civic for the time being. At the moment, Forest Sub-Committee has \$1,000 from town budget. Also have \$1,787 from a yearly Trail Grant that we must account for spending. Some of this can be used to clean up Grocery Path. Civic has received a \$2,000 grant for taking down poplars near sewer. Felling of Broadbent trees will come out of Commons budget. Marianne Cinaglia received three calls after last town meeting; Sue has received another, all from people wanting trees near their leaseholds taken down. Tilford will be the diagnostician to determine whether trees are diseased and should come down. Policy is still to take down trees on Village land only if they are diseased. Healthy trees can only be taken down by a vote of the Town Assembly.

Forest Sub-committee is removing tiles at end of Hillside and removing debris from Sherwood Forest addition. Considering sending around a flyer for people to gather in the Sherwood Forest to remove debris.

SPRAYING INVASIVES: Sue suggests attacking the ivy in a grove of norway maples. Grant is open to not spraying. Ardentown and Ardencroft have already sprayed large areas, 2.5 acre each. Sue wants to be the control group, the village that doesn't spray.

LUMBERING: Sue talked to Tilford, who has done lumbering. He says that no revenue could be gotten from these two beech trees.

SURVEYING: Trustee Connee McKinney would like to see entire boundary of Arden surveyed.

DUMPING: Another dumping has occurred from Sunset Farms into Sherwood Forest.

VANDALISM: Three path posts have been uprooted.

WOODS CLOSING: The annual motion to close the woods from dusk to dawn will be made at the next Arden Town Meeting.

CELEBRATION: October 2nd, celebration of Marianne Cinaglia's tenure and accession of five acres to Sherwood Forest.

ROADS: Got bid from E. Earle Downing, around \$37,000 worth of work. We have \$18,000 and usually get municipal street aid of \$21,000 but that is going down. Need about \$5,000 in budget for snow plowing to cover 30" snows in March. One storm can cost \$3,500. Have \$45,000 in municipal street aid this year. Berm along Sadie Somerville's leasehold would cost \$2,800 to put back in to keep Sherwood Road water from going across property. Rodney Jester and Randy Hoopes will dig channel to take water down the hill once the water is past Sadie's, before it gets to Randy's. One project to be reduced is the berm along Woodland Lane. Motion by Sue, seconded by Ann, approved unanimously.

PATH: Grocery Path, need plantings and need to get rid of mud.

SUNSET PATH: Where are the survey markers? There are some posts there, metal pins, one near Macklem's leasehold, the other in the middle of B.R. Phillip's driveway, but Sue doesn't know where.

TRASH CORRAL: David Gerbec will take care of.

SIGN IN SHERWOOD FOREST: Has been erected.

BUDGET \$18,000 for woods; \$19,000 for commons; \$500 for special trash pickup, \$42,000 budgeted for trash plus gas surcharge, which was \$187 in April, up to \$250 in August, before Hurricane Katrina gasoline spike.

LEAF REMOVAL: May not be able to this year. Bring up at town meeting. We need to send letter out again.

ULTIMATUM LETTER: Carol DiGiovanni wants town property cleaned up.

ADJOURNED: 9:14 p.m.

Faithfully submitted,
Danny N. Schweers, Secretary

