

MINUTES OF REGULAR PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

Note: There were no regular Meetings of the Playground Committee May to August 2020, since the Arden Playgrounds were closed at the request of the Governor of Delaware because of the pandemic.

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:15 pm at the BWVC by Chair Larry Walker, and Barbara Henry and Frank Maier were in attendance.

Larry presented information on the wide range of actions taken during August 2020 by various towns throughout Delaware, plus New Castle County, on re-opening public playgrounds. The responses ranged from continuing to keep playgrounds closed to completely opening them up without meeting all the Governor's Guidelines, so there was no clear pattern for Arden to follow. After a discussion on the Playground Committee's willingness and ability to meet all of the Governor's Guidelines, the group felt that it was not reasonable to expect a volunteer committee to perform a daily sanitizing of all equipment, or advisable for the Committee to install and restock hand sanitizer dispensers on the Greens. Everyone felt most comfortable with following the lead of New Castle County, which simply posted signs asking playground users to wear face coverings, observe social distancing, and use sanitizers, along with hand washing. The sign would state that the equipment would not be sanitized regularly.

Larry was asked to adapt the sign posted by New Castle County to meet the needs of Arden, and then to order the necessary signs. He was also asked to find out information and material costs for performing a weekly disinfection of equipment, probably utilizing a pressurized sprayer. The Committee later could consider disinfecting equipment weekly with Committee Members doing it on a rotating basis, or hiring an individual to do the work.

The basketball court would not be re-opened at this time, as social distancing would not be observed by players while playing the game.

Ruth Panella, former Committee Chair, told Frank and Larry that she is moving the spare parts for the Playground Equipment into the Spring House from her basement.

After the Meeting closed, everyone conducted a Playground Equipment Safety Inspection on the Sherwood Green, since there had been no Inspection since the Playgrounds closed in April. All the equipment was found to be in safe condition. The Equipment on the Village Green still needs to be inspected.