

## Arden Civic Committee Agenda

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

7:30 p.m. via Zoom Meeting

### Call to Order

### Approval of June 23, 2021 Minutes

### Categories

- Administrative
  - Budget (Current & Next Year)
- Roads
  - Priorities & Budget
- Waste Management Contract
  - Trash Tech Proposal
  - Composting
- Projects / Grants
  - Water Management: Joint Meeting
- Permits / Reservations
  - Parking
  - IT / System Overhaul
  - Volleyball & Bamboo Poles
- Maintenance Projects (Status)
  - Fences
  - Signs
  - Trash Can Holders
  - Path Barrier Removal
- Tree Work
  - Grants?
- Greens
  - Arden Club Conduit Request
  - Branch Removal
  - Stile Path Clearing
  - Completed / Planned / Prospective
- Seasonal Contracts
- Miscellaneous
  - Bamboo Encroachment

### Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/480638694?pwd=SEE5dEZmN09jaFNQeUZCSE1OWIFsUT09>

Meeting ID: 480 638 694

Password: 537947

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,480638694# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,,480638694# US (New York)

This information is also online  
at [www.arden.delaware.gov](http://www.arden.delaware.gov) on  
the Civic Page.

### Other Old Business

### New Business

### Adjourn

**Attendees:** Steve Benigni, Mark Wood, Rick Ferrell, Carol Larson, Ed Rohrbach

**Call to Order** Steve Benigni, Chairman, commenced meeting at 7:29 p.m.

**Approval of June 23, 2021 Minutes as presented**

**Categories**

- Administrative
  - Budget (Current & Next Ye

**Civic Committee Revenue & Expenditures *(Working Document)***

July 22, 2021

**Budgeted Revenue & Carryover**

|                                     |                                  |                 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| • 2021-22 Budget.....               | \$58,000                         |                 |
| • MSA (Projected).....              | 18,905                           | (arbitrary)     |
| • MSA (Carryover from 2020-21)..... | 3,695                            |                 |
|                                     | <b>(Available MSA: \$22,600)</b> |                 |
| <b>Total:</b> .....                 |                                  | <b>\$80,600</b> |

**Expenditures (Actual or Projected)**

|                                                              |                                                                     |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Grass &amp; Leaf:</b> .....                               |                                                                     | <b>\$14,025</b> |
| • American Grass .....                                       | 13,175                                                              |                 |
|                                                              | <i>(15.5 biweekly periods @ \$825)</i>                              |                 |
| • Leaf Removal (American Grass).....                         | 850                                                                 |                 |
|                                                              | <i>(Memorial Garden 500, Sweep 350)</i>                             |                 |
| <b>Snow and Salting:</b> .....                               |                                                                     | <b>\$7,320</b>  |
| • Arden Construction (Projected based on 2020-21).....       | 7,320                                                               |                 |
|                                                              | <i>(plowing @ \$100 – \$125 per hour)</i>                           |                 |
|                                                              | <i>(salting @ \$320 per hopper and \$40 per bag)</i>                |                 |
| <b>Road Repair &amp; Maintenance:</b> .....                  | <b>0</b>                                                            | <b>(YTD)</b>    |
| • Smith Paving (road markings, drain & asphalt repair) ..... | 0                                                                   |                 |
|                                                              | <i>(\$5,850 for current fiscal year paid by previous MSA funds)</i> |                 |
| <b>Street Signs:</b> .....                                   | <b>0</b>                                                            | <b>(YTD)</b>    |
| • Materials (expected: _____ ) .....                         |                                                                     |                 |
| <b>Miscellaneous Repair &amp; Maintenance:</b> .....         | <b>342</b>                                                          | <b>(YTD)</b>    |
| • Meadow Lane Fence Repair .....                             | 106.38                                                              |                 |
| • Millers Rd. & Memorial Green Fence Repairs .....           | 235.93                                                              |                 |
| • Dog Waste Containers (expected: \$5,882) .....             |                                                                     |                 |
| • Path Barrier Removal                                       |                                                                     |                 |
| <b>Tree Service: (Expected: approx \$4,000?)</b> .....       | <b>0</b>                                                            | <b>(YTD)</b>    |
| • Stile Path Fallen Tree Removal .....                       | 97                                                                  |                 |
| • Village Green Elm Removal (Ron's).....                     | TBD                                                                 |                 |
| • Replacement Tree(s) .....                                  | TBD                                                                 |                 |
| • White Pine on Village Green .....                          | TBD                                                                 |                 |

**Comments/Questions:**

\$20,000 projected left-over funds. Prioritizing the \$20,000 and hold as a reserve for latter in the year and available if necessary.

MSA funds (\$22,600) use for infrastructure and repairs only (not snow etc.)  
Let the work drive the projects. Approved Rick's prioritized plan

- Roads
  - Priorities & Budget

Email sent by Rick reads as follows:

The following were identified as areas for paving repair and maintenance focus for the upcoming year. These areas were selected on the basis of pothole and alligator deterioration. The recommended repair is to mill the deteriorated (failed) areas and repave to the stone borders. These areas are depicted in the road layout colored in "green" (attached):

1. Green Road between Cherry & Walnut
2. Wind Lane
3. Hillside Road across Harvey Road also towards Marsh Rd
4. Intersection of Mill Rd. & Millers Road
5. Meadow Lane (near Heidi's) pot hole needs to be graded so that it will drain away from her leasehold. Speak to her to clarify specifications.

Total area: approximately 10,000 ft. in all 4 locations.

Total Cost: \$20,000.00

Map of Arden payment markings follows the minutes

### **Comments/Questions**

Pot hole near Heidi's leasehold needs repairs. Needs to be graded so it drains away from her leasehold.

Alligator near Liz

Walk around with Smith, Steve and Rick to assess and prioritize.

- Waste Management Contract
  - Trash Tech Proposal

Steve researched all waste haulers listed on the Delaware Solid Waste Authority website. Only a few are capable of signing a contract with the Ardens. He tried contacting Evergreen four times, but no response. Trash Tech is very interested in a contract with the Village. They provided a bid that would save \$4,100 (Ardens savings is part of package based on providing service to all three Ardens) over and above what we think Waste Management's new contract quote (3% increase with no other changes in service). Trash Tech yard collection would be every other week, not weekly.

The question is, is it worth a savings of \$4,100/year (but having to switch to every other week yard waste pick up? How much is that worth?

Risk with new company on how is their service.

Majority of residents are pleased with Waste Management's services.

Waste Management is familiar with the layout of the community and its residents.

Courteous service.

A long history with the community.

Concerned if they would risk less cooperative service by switching to a new company.

Ardens are heavy with yard waste and every other week would not probably be received well.

Unless Waste Management comes in with a new contract that is unacceptable, are we going even to consider Trash Tech? Jeff believes Ardentown and Ardencroft are not interested in changing companies. The group thinks they need more information. Hesitant to make a change. The savings is minimal. Wait for new contract.

- Compost

Steve and few others residents went on a field trip to observe Mt Cuba's compost operations. They were very impressive and excited about a

possibility in the future to consider moving our yard waste system to a compost system. They are aware that there are so many challenges and many questions. Where would a three-community wide compost site be located? How would people move their waste to compost station? A heavy-duty chipper would be required. Need to be turned over periodically. In essence, a positive experience, but a lot of questions to answer. Waste Management would love the Ardens to do this because they are not interested in the yard waste. They had a liaison who also attended the Mt Cuba's compost demonstration.

- Projects / Grants
  - Water Management: Joint Meeting  
Will be scheduled in September (Zoom) meeting at 7:30. Need to publicize. Drew is expecting committee members to attend: Community Planning, Forest, Safety, Civic and the public. Carol will set it up.
  
- Permits / Reservations
  - Parking  
The Swim Guild for the first time hosted a tournament with Brandywine Swim League, which was a big event. Because many of the Swim Guild members were new to the board, they probably were not aware of the town's parking policy, there were some major parking problems. Parking encroached so much on all the surface areas to the point that it was alarming (Parked on Sherwood Green, BWVC, over the curbs, around the playground, up the streets). Someone explained it was like a free for all that could have gone a different way. Also, if there was heavy rain, the Greens would have had extensive rut damage.  
Historically, parking has been an ongoing problem. Current practice: when the club has overflow parking, they unlock the chain to the entrance to Sherwood overflow parking lot and ignore the sign that says permit parking by the Civic Committee only. Civic Committee has never been notified. Similarly, the BWVC has a policy for parking over a certain number requires an attendant to direct parking. Never enforced.

Civic needs to determine what is being managed because there are different solutions. Manage to protect surface area from damage? Or manage the safety of the people ebbing and flowing from the parking area? Or is it both?

Managing to protect the surface area - whoever is sponsoring event needs to understand if they exceed the number of parking spaces allowable, not only do they need permission of the Civic Committee, but

might be responsible for resodding the area. They have to be aware of this before going into event and they as a group have to make a decision whether they are going to hold event or not because of that liability.

If we are trying to manage the ebb and flow, then it requires an attendant who is out there directing parking.

The onus is not on Civic Committee, but the onus is on the group that is sponsoring the event. It is up to them to police themselves and deal with the consequences.

Not enough parking in general

For discussion

Parking on Green especially if there is a commitment to community events. Probably would not be approved.

Ancillary parking and onus on them. Park somewhere else and walk over. (Example: make arrangement with Montessori school after school hours to park and shuttle them over to event).

If we impose restrictions, maybe we would not host such a large event in the future.

In the future, there would need to be communication between all the entries involved, especially the Arden Club, about parking. Civic needs to determine parking limits, determine capacity. Permit designed specifically for reserving parking.

- IT / System Overhaul  
Redesign permit form before contacting IT person to schedule time to fix online form. Carol and Steve will get together to work this out.
- Volleyball & Bamboo Poles  
Can't leave equipment after game is over.
- Maintenance Projects (Status)
  - Fences  
Dave Claney repaired fence on Millers Rd & Memorial Green overflow.
  - Signs  
Thanks to Mark Wood who has been installing new signs throughout the town. Sore shoulders but he is working it out.

- Trash Can Holders  
Harold said it will be addressed very soon.
- Path Barrier Removal
- Tree Work
  - Grants for planting trees are from the Forest Service. The grant has been changed. They readjusted evaluation to favor communities with much lower tree canopy coverage. Arden has an 80% tree canopy coverage, where other cities like Wilmington have approx. 25% tree cover. They do not want to give it to communities that have an abundance of riches. Based on these new evaluations, Carol took a year or two off before applying for the grant again.

Replace the elm in the fall. Right now, they are trying to settle on a species rather than an elm which has been problematic. Ed would love to see an October Glory Maple.

Over the winter Carol would like Ron to take down some branches and try to raise the canopy on the street level. Ed did not think that worked out that well, because he said it was a slow process and did not meet his expectation as to volume of work he anticipated at the end of a day.

- Greens
  - Arden Club Conduit Request  
Arden Club has asked Civic Committee if they can bury a conduit from the electric box across the gravel parking area to where they plug in an ice machine, atm machine, and a food truck so they don't have to string electric lines up on poles. They would pay for it. The specs are 4" PVC pipe buried 18", code compliant, 10" trench back fill to the original condition. It would be capped at or below grade when not in use. (Diagram and specs follow the minutes).  
Discussion/Comments  
Clarity: it is not a permanent electric line with a plug/outlet in middle of green. Rather, it's an empty pipe that an electric line is fished through. The conduit is bigger than needed because that is good planning for future add on. Civic can always limit what happens to the conduit in the future. Minimum intrusion for the need. As long as they safe off the port on the Green that they are going to open when they need to fish, so that it is not a tripping hazard. No one will know it is there. It will support the sustainability of the activities in the future. It makes sense to approve this as long as they button it down so when they are gone, it

doesn't even exist. Any changes to this agreement need to be vetted by Civic. It's designed to meet an operational need for somebody who has learned what their operational needs are, which is expected. Civic wants to support them as they grow in their understanding of how to use the space. Installation of conduit has been approved.

- Branch Removal  
Steve spoke to Dave Clancy about picking up branches periodically and especially after storms. Steve will discuss drain clean out with David to see if he is interested.
- Fair clean up  
Prior to Fair Day, Carol plans to cut back brush along Sherwood Green and behind backstop. The club will pay for this. In addition, Carol thinks club will help pay for the aeration of the big green because of Fair parking. They helped pay for the Sherwood Green aeration. Suggest to have a regular schedule aeration. Carol will talk to Pat about splitting costs.
- Stile Path Clearing
- Clubhouse Path Carol spoke to Rich Cropper about installing a barrier along the club house path.
- Completed / Planned / Prospective
- Seasonal Contracts
- Miscellaneous
  - Bamboo Encroachment

Rich Cropper would install a barrier (142') along the Clubhouse Path on Danny Schweers/Henrys side of path. This will limit the bamboo going into the path and into the Lauer's leasehold at a cost of \$3,100. The barrier is the responsibility of Schweder's.

The resurfacing of the path is Civics' responsibility. Rich Cropper would remove the current paving, clear bamboo and root mat 24" width from the west side of the path for 142'. Excavate and install 148 lf of 35' 30 mil barriers. Backfill with onsite soil and imported topsoil. Regrade path and compact. Install 4" of crusher run and compact. Install 2" compacted layer of type C wearing course Topsoil along edges of new path, compact, fine grade, rake, seed, and straw mulch. The cost to



resurface path is \$8,300. Rich is sending more details about the bamboo barrier.

type C wearing course Topsoil- For the use of the Clubhouse pathway it would be adequate. It's a wearing course that is not as geared for commercial activity.

Is the quote of \$3,100 (barrier) plus \$8,300(resurface) a better quote contingent on doing work together? Carol will discuss with Cropper. If it is an unattached price, then Civic can look at more sustainable solutions to whether it should be macadam or some other fix. Once bamboo has been eradicated whatever materials they use is not going to be undone by the bamboo situation. It will be other aspects of nature that they will have to contend with. Once it's a clean slate to work with, then it is a different decision. Right now, would not resurface path knowing bamboo can compromise the situation. Also, with the Arden Fair coming up, it cannot be partially done. If they start before the Fair, it is important that they understand the deadline.

Michelle Lauer (1808 Harvey) have bamboo. Civic also need to consider the bamboo in the Lauders leasehold. They want to get rid of bamboo. If it comes back it will come from both sides (Danny's and Michelle's).

Ed had a lot of bamboo and installed a barrier. He had to dig up the shoots for about a year and half after the barrier was installed.

## **Other Old Business**

## **New Business**

**Adjourn meeting** at 9:12 p.m.

# Arden Pavement Markings



