

Arden Civic Committee Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, December 22, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Attendance: Steve Benigni, Carol Larson, Ed Rohrbach, Mark Wood.

Call to Order

Approval of November 24, 2021 Minutes

Categories

- Administrative
 - Election Candidates

Carol Larson and Steve Benigni terms are up. Will need to submit two candidates
 - Roads / Paths

2309 Walnut Lane: water leak was taken care of by Suez. They also cleaned up some of the mud.
 - Paving/Patching Priorities
 - Paths: Ardentown Womanco Plan

Steve is planning on contacting Drew Hanson, who was responsible for working with Wilmapco, a transportation authority, who sponsored a grant project for the Ardentown pathways a few years ago. Steve would like to find out from Drew what their perspective was and see how those parallels with what Arden wants to do. He wants to find out what they learned from it. What do they think about our paths and what would they recommend? Civic Committee will take their comments into consideration for the future of Arden pathways. Steve will send a copy of the permeable paths.

- Trash Tech
 - Steve is not sure how successful Leaf Collection Day was because not many people put them out.
 - Service Issues yard waste and trash in same truck.

Last week Trash Tec's main double two compartment truck broke down. They sent out a replacement driver with a one compartment truck who accidentally combined yard waste with trash. Steve contacted them and they immediately corrected by picking up only trash for the remainder of the run and sent another truck following day to pick up yard waste. Steve was told it was only one or two homes that combined trash and yard waste.
- Projects / Grants
 - Storm Water Management Plan

Because ARPA provides funds for the municipality, they are looking at projects that are more visible (i.e., the Green or streets, Mill Lane, pervious path for the bamboo, rain garden north side of Inn Lane). Carol would like an engineering plan as well. Drew could write the grant to get the match for Civic. Steve encourages all to review projects listed in the Storm Water Management Plan that are useful for the Village so they can submit and apply for the ARPA funds by the deadline of January 12th. Carol will make a recommendation to Steve, who will in turn let the members of the committee know of the project chosen.
 - RASCL Summit

Carol and Steve attended by zoom the two-day Delaware 2021 Resilient and Sustainable Communities League Annual Summit. Basically, it is planning and funding for sustainable projects. He learned that there is TAP funding that may be available for pervious paths, storm water bio-filtration swales, and projects like that. One of the problems is that the experts said that

storm water projects are less cost effective than forest projects. Also, he learned that the city of Wilmington has a user fee for impervious flow surfaces. In other words, if you have a lot of parking lots or a lot of drain-off places on your property, they tax you in Wilmington (city). They also have incentives to make improvements.

- Permits / Reservations

- Reservations & Permits Calendar is the official name of the calendar that is now on line. Rob Whitehead, Arden's IT person, is working with members of Civic to put together a different calendar than the temporary private calendar Steve set up, which was color coded. Each color represents a reservation event (Field Theater, Indian Circle, parking, Sherwood Green, labyrinth, etc.). The current on-line version has a very small color dot that is hard to see. The upgraded color version (\$50 fee) applies color to the entire reservation space. They have almost completed the on-line calendar, but Steve will pursue color version.

- Maintenance Projects

- Trash Can Enclosures - No update.

- Memorial Garden Fence

A very large branch from an Ash tree came down on the old split rail fence between Dave Gerbec's leasehold and the Memorial Gardens. Memorial Garden did not want to fix or replace the old fence. Shawn removed the branch and cleared the area and Memorial Garden paid for it.

There is another branch down near the stage area that is on Pam Cohen's leasehold. Carol will investigate and see who is liable.

- Tree Work

1707 Millers Rd (Hugh Robert's leasehold) is up for sale. Ken Morrison has been contracted to do some repairs/clearing from the property. They request permission to park (short-term: minimum amount of time) a small dumpster on the common area island across from front entrance, because there is no drive way or land to accommodate a dumpster on leasehold. Civic is requesting that they orient dumpster so that it does the least amount of blockage of visibility. Need to notify neighbors (Curley, Hutchison, Stevenson).

There is also a very small tree that is on the right- of- way that Sue Rothrock always wanted removed, but Hugh has always resisted. Their house is so close to the road that it's basically in the road. Carol recommends that when the Trustees send transfer paperwork, address it then.

- Greens

- Deer Removal

- BWVC

Carol will approach BWVC about written specification requirements for wiring main path with lights and to inform them of their responsibility to take their trash to the curb as detailed in the November Civic Meeting minutes.

- Field Theater Cleanup - Will look at this in the spring.

- Missing Rebar at Sherwood Green extension of conduit. They wanted to know if we knew about the missing rebar. No one on the committee removed it. They can check with Concert Guild or George.

- Seasonal Contracts

- Snow Removal and Salting

Steve sent check for snow removal yesterday.

- American Grass

The following is the proposal that Steve and Seth van Neerden of American Grass worked out to present to the member of Civic for their approval:

Every other cut during mowing season (once a month) for \$50. The sticks that they gather anyway, now they will haul them away.

Twice during the winter months. For the two winter times it will cost \$100/ea. or total of \$200 because they have to bring their equipment up since there is no mowing in winter. Civic Approved.

Note: Skip Bailey, Village Treasurer, has requested all amendments to contracts be put in writing. Steve will ask Seth to write up the amendment.

- Miscellaneous
Bamboo Encroachment

Other Old Business

Old Street Signs

Mark will prepare a proposal for the next meeting on what we can do with the left-over signs. The committee wants to offer them to the community if there is interest.

New Business

Adjourn 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Resko

Village Secretary