

## Archives Minutes July 14, 2021

Via **Zoom conference** and attendance at the Museum due to Covid-19 Stay at home and social distancing

### **Attendance:**

Arden: Lisa Mullinax; chair, Sadie Somerville; secretary, Barbara Macklem, Maria Burslem

Ardentown: Allan Kleban, **Melissa Parsonson**, Beverly Hawkins

Ardencroft: **Mary Brent Whipple, Robin MacDonald**; volunteer, **Liz Jones-Minsinger**; volunteer

Guest: Civic Committee Chair- Steve Benigni

**Note: bold** names met on Zoom, all others met at the Museum

### **Schedule for August**

Sunday 1- Lisa

Wednesday 4- Beverly

Sunday 8- Mary Brent (**NEEDS SOMEONE TO OPEN FOR HER**)

Wednesday 11 – Meeting

Sunday 15- Vicki

Wednesday 19- Beverly

Sunday 22- Sadie

Wednesday 25- Allan

Sunday 29- open

Welcome to Arden Civic Committee Chair, Steve Benigni

Civic Committee has discussed creating plaques that will identify memorials on the Village green that are not as well known. The soldier's Memorial and the Walt Whitman Memorial (lilacs)

He thought that he would bring Archives into the project to get the history and locations as well as the wording and material that the plaques are made of. Arden Civic will fund these.

He asks for Archives to get a proposal together and present to Civic with our recommendations.

Ken Morrison has done some research.

<http://duracorp.com/work/>

<https://metaldesignsllc.com/>

<http://directembedcoating.com/>

Steve brought along a couple ideas for installation, places to get plaques and a newspaper story about the Whitman memorial from May 29, 1915.

Rick Rothrock says he will help out with designs.

Barbara stated that we do not want to have signs and plaques scattered all over Arden.

She suggested that The Fels Oak would be another memorial to mark. Make them all the same style and size for consistency.

Also possibly recreate the Patros path signs and install. Frank Stephens Memorial Theater (Field theater)

Civic is also replacing the Arden Street Signs and will give ACSM 1<sup>st</sup> choice then offer to sell to help cover the costs of replacement.

### **Sadie report on Oral history project 2021**

**Hans Francke** has worked out how to use the digital recorder the archives has and has successfully completed an oral history interview with Helga and Burley Melton. He transferred the digital recording to the Archives computer and Otter.ai to transcribe. He has edited and corrected the transcription. He has contacted Pat Philips to do this month and hopes to arrange other Ardentown interviews after her. Maybe Suzanne Maguire?

This summer **Jena Gilbert- Merrill** is continuing to conduct oral histories as an intern.

She has completed two Annde Solway and Mike Curtis and has three more to schedule. Linda Toman, Maria and Allan Burslem. She has also given helpful tips on transferring data, editing and transcribing.

**Intern Description:** Work on the Ardens Oral History Project 2021

Performing interviews and transcribing and editing them on Otter.ai

She can help other volunteers with use of otter.ai in a teaching session

Sadie provides a list of people to interview and makes contact with them to facilitate the introduction to Jena as the interviewer. Interviews are done by zoom unless it is better for someone to do in person.

**WHYY TV** contacted us about doing a show about the Ardens history, architecture, art, landscape government and gardens. WHYY did an interview with Sadie at the ACSM and with Jael Aumack in the Stephen's Original Homestead.

Lisa and Barbara faced the extreme heat and did filming and interviews outside as they showed historic spots all around Arden. They shot at Rest Harrow and some gardens. Another producer is working on the theater, music and Gilds. They will be back July 28 to shoot more people and places.

**The ACSM welcomed 20 ACRA** kids at the museum this Monday and Tuesday with Beverly's help walking with them from the BWVC with ACRA Counselor Jackson Politis and Mary Brent Whipple who assisted in the museum. They came in two groups, upon entering they all sat on the floor while Barbara gave a brief lesson on the Ardens history and the museum. They did a treasure hunt with the 15 Years, 15 Treasures exhibition. They talked about each item and its significance. Each took home an Arden Child poem.

#### **Curator report**

Abby not in attendance but Barbara brought the subject of mask wearing up at the museum. It was agreed by all that we should keep the mask signs up until the pandemic is no longer a threat.

Bob Wynn stopped in the museum and talked about the **industrial models shop** that was located in Ardentown on Sconset rd. a story about H.J. Bowen was published in Fortune Magazine, March 1950 issue about the industrial model that Mr Bowen made there. Allan Kleban kindly donated a copy of the 1950 Magazine.

#### **New acquisitions**

K Furman landscape painting -accepted

Betty K Styles watercolor of The Vista on Cherry Lane (Linda Eaton's house)- accepted

Betty K Styles (Carr) oil still life, 1958, unframed- accepted

#### **Working on plans for fall exhibition Art of the Ardens 1900-1960**

Need easels to borrow for a year.

Visit Naomi Clark about loaning a painting by her mother Judith Blam.

Maria suggested including work by Marge Roberts who painted then.

**Artisans trail** raised funding to award four youth applicants for The Ardens young Artisans Scholarship 2021, the winners are Melissa Hayfinger- textiles, Ellie Rogers mixed media, Leeanan Brook Harcourt - Digital collage, and Chris Buslem- music.

Beverly brought the certificate that was presented earlier this evening A General Assembly tribute recognizing the **Ardens National Wildlife Federation certification**. The certificate is signed by the general assembly. Larry Lambert gave a talk at the presentation held at the BWVC Sherwood Green.

Maris shared some old photos she found with our meeting.

Allan Kleban had a copy of the book Out of the frying Pan and into the Fire -The restless touring of Marianne "Jolly" Robinson (She was Amy Potter's daughter.)