

Attendance: Danny Schweers, Jeff Politis, Cookie Ohlson, Carol Larson, Elizabeth Varley, Lisa Mullinax, Larry Walker, Steve Benigni, Skip Bailey, Jennifer Borders, Deborah Ricard, Beverly Clendening, Brooke Bovard, Barbara Macklem

Guests: Marianne Cinaglia.

Call to Order – Danny Schweers, Advisory Chair, called meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

AGENDA:

1) Acceptance of Previous Minutes (January 2022) approved as presented.

2) Set Agenda of Next Town Meeting for March 28, 2022.

The following will be added to the standard agenda:

- Zoom March Meeting
- Elections of Officers & Committee Members (present following call to order)
- Assessors – Public meetings: May 4 & June 1 @ 7 p.m. BWVC
- Community Planning – ARPA proposals due April 1
- Old Business
 - Motion: Recommend that, after the new reassessment, NCC lower tax rates on buildings only. (Note: Mike Curtis Motion was tabled in January. If he is interested in pursuing it will be presented under Old Business).
 - Update: “Schroeder Trust” transformation. (Note: Cookie/Skip will report on trust.)
 - Governance Task Force
(Since GTF is not a committee, their report will be presented after Committee Reports).

Agenda approved.

TYPICAL TOWN MEETING AGENDA:

2) Discussion of Items to be Listed on Town Meeting Agenda:

2a) Call to Order

2b) Elections of Officers & Committees (present at beginning of meeting)

Ballot - List of nominees for Election of Committees & Officers was reviewed for accuracy. Copy follows minutes. The final list of nominees for Election of Committees & Officers will be posted to Village website.

Ballot Policy:

- At close of Advisory Meeting will be the finalization of the ballots. Cannot accept any more nominations at close of this meeting.
 - Registration will post a ballot to Village website to print, sign, place in your own envelope. On top left corner of envelope print and sign your name, and drop off at Town mailbox (the deadline to drop off ballot is 3 pm, March 30th). If unable to print, contact Cecilia Vore or Barbara Macklem, who will deliver a paper ballot.
 - Absentee Ballots - Also, can request an absentee ballot by March 21; it must be returned by the start of the Town Assembly meeting on March 28. Many reasons are listed to request an absentee ballot, including cannot print ballot.
- Jeff made two points: 1) Announce when the ballots must be in and 2) make it clear that people need to sign in because the sign-in sheet is going to be used to confirm eligibility to vote.
- Counting of Ballots will be Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at Buzz Ware Village Center at 3 p.m.

2c) Approval of minutes

2d) Recognize New and Departed Residents

Ruth Ann Crovetto, Hugh Roberts and John Grimaldi

2e) Visitors

2f) Officers/Trustees

- Town Chairman's Communications Report – Jeff Politis
- Trustees – Carl Falco
- Treasurer – Skip Bailey

There was a fraudulent check discovered. It is in the investigative process with the bank and they expect the town to be reimbursed.

Recommend that you do not put outgoing checks in your mailbox.es

- Advisory – Danny Schweers

2g) Assessors – Deborah Ricard

It has been brought to Assessor's attention that public meetings need to mail out notices and must list date, time and place on postcard. Next

public meetings: May 4 and June 1@ 7 p.m., BWVC. They will notify residents of these two upcoming public meetings on the Town Assembly March Agenda postcard mailings.

2h) Committees' Reports (Ascending Order)

(Descending: Jan & June. Ascending: March & Sept)

- Archives - Lisa Mullinax
- Audit - Cookie Ohlson

Will reference the fraudulent check in their report.

- Budget – Deborah Ricard

Three-year financial forecast

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- BWVC - Betty O'Regan (absent)

Danny will reach out to her.

- Civic – Steve Benigni Storm Water plan was finalized and submitted.
- Community Planning – Jen Borders

ARPA plan is to create a special town meeting in April for discussion and voting. They will collect twenty-five (25) signatures and will select a date. Application forms are on line and can be submit electronically.

Larry Walker requests holding the meeting in May as opposed to April, due to his being out of town and the meeting will be in- person rather than zoom or hybrid. They will send out a special postcard notification to announce the special meeting, listing the time, date, place, and clearly state the purpose of meeting. All proposals will be posted to the Village website.

They are considering using Rank Choice Voting Method for selecting the ARPA funded projects. Jeff expressed concern using this method because he feels that some project will rank top voting when the majority of the people don't want that project. Elizabeth Varley disagrees and believes that this is a good method to select the top three. She does not believe something that is unpopular will get elected.

Beverly Clendening suggested another method in which everyone starts off with the same number of votes and the voter can use them as they choose. They can apply all their votes on one project or vote on their various favorite projects. She believes this method gets to where people stand with what they want funded.

Throughout the process they will have to decide on spending money time line. Because of the ambiguity, maybe hold off on not spending all

of it until the end, or spend half now and remainder at end. To be worked out.

Add to Agenda Postcard - Final ARPA proposal due April 1.

- Forest- Carol Larson
- Playground – Larry Walker
- Registration – Cecilia Vore
- Safety - Brooke Bovard

2i) Old Business

- Mike Curtis presented a motion at last Town Assembly which was tabled. *Motion:* recommend that, after the new reassessment, NCC lower tax rates on buildings only. Add to Agenda Postcard
- Cookie/Skip will report on Schroeder Trust formation and include on mailing agenda postcard: Update “Schroeder Trust” formation.
- The newly formed Governance Task Force will present their reports following all the committee reports because it is not a committee.

2j) New Business

- Hybrid, in-person, Zoom town meetings.

The groups support in-person town meetings for now because holding zoom /hybrid meetings is technically challenging. However, Brooke Bovard says the essential question is What are we trying to accomplish with the meeting? She says there is an element of being there in-person that is community building. Whereas Zoom meetings/hybrids have the potential to accommodate people who normally cannot make it. (Elderly, working families, traveling, etc.). She believes it should not be based on

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technical issues, but rather based on the merits of the system. Jeff Politis points out that right now they have to come to terms with how to handle a hybrid meeting. He questions how do we vote? What does attendance at town meeting mean? Because we have both zoom and in-person meetings, that means there are two definitions of town attendance; hybrid allows for both. It adds a level of complication when we have to vote. At any point in time, anyone can request a paper vote. How do we have a paper vote? Before we have a hybrid meeting, we need to figure out the logistics of the hybrid meeting specifically in terms of voting, etc.

Motion: Meet by zoom for the Town Assembly March meeting and future Town Assembly in-person. **Motion Approved.**

March will be a zoom meeting. At the March Town Assembly announce that the intent is to hold a June in-person Town Assembly and future meetings, unless there is a health setback. To be presented by Advisory.

- k) Good and Welfare
- l) Adjourn

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- 3) Old Advisory Committee Business
 - 4) New Advisory Committee Business
 - 5) Guests Comments and Questions
 - 6) Motion to Adjourn 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Resko,

Village of Arden Town Secretary

Next Advisory Quarterly Meeting is June 6, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

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BALLOT

Village of Arden Committees & Officers March 28, 2022

Ballots may be completed throughout the meeting. You must be 18 years or older and a resident of Arden for 6 months or more to vote in this election.

Committees: 2-yr terms

Officers: 1- or 2-yr terms as noted

Nominees are in reverse-alphabetical order.

Blank lines are for write-ins.

Vote by marking an X in front of the name.

COMMITTEES

ELECTING 1

AUDIT *vote for 1*

- Cookie Ohlson
- Deborah Bricker
- This line for write-ins _____

ELECTING 2

ARCHIVES *vote for 2*

- Beth Stevenson
- Vicki Scott
- Andrew Larason
- David Gerbec
- Elaine Hickey
- Barbara Henry
- _____

BUDGET *vote for 2*

- Vicki Scott
- David Gerbec
- Leslie Carey
- Alan Burslem
- _____

BWVC *vote for 2*

- Mary Young
- Susan Stiith
- Debbi Sheiker
- Michelle Lauer
- Patrick Barry
- Kathy Barry
- _____

CIVIC *vote for 2*

- Carol Larson
- Simon Hamermesh
- Bob Erenburg
- Steve Benigni
- _____

COMM. PLANNING *vote for 2*

- John Scheflen
- Grace Ressler
- David Gerbec
- Stevie French
- _____

FOREST *vote for 2*

- Lisa Wolfe
- Eric Reed
- David Jones
- Beverly Clendening
- _____

PLAYGROUND *vote for 2*

- Mark Wood
- Larry Walker
- Perry Plymyer
- Mike Moran
- Zack Houck
- _____

SAFETY *vote for 2*

- Sarra Klimberg
- Stephen Harcourt
- John DiGiacoma
- Marianne Cinaglia
- _____

ELECTING 3

REGISTRATION *vote for 3*

- Cecilia Vore
- Steve Tanzer
- Katey Scobell
- David Nordheimer
- Rebecca Meick
- Jess Colgan-Snyder
- _____

OFFICERS

TOWN ASSEMBLY CHAIR

1-yr term • vote for 1

- Jeffrey Politis
- _____

TOWN SECRETARY

1-yr term • vote for 1

- Liz Resko
- _____

ADVISORY CHAIR

1-yr term • vote for 1

- Sachin Puranik
- Brooke Bovard
- _____

TOWN TREASURER

2-yr term • vote for 1

- Skip Bailey
- _____