

**Arden Civic Committee Agenda**  
**Wednesday, July 27, 2022**  
**Buzz Ware Village Center (Zoom Access Available: See Box Below)**

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

**Call to Order** 7:34 p.m.

**Approval of June 22, 2022 Minutes** was approved as presented.

**Categories**

▪ **Administrative**

▪ **IT: Civic Email Account**

Rob Whitehead is still working on Steve's webmail problems.

▪ **Sign Sale & Eagle Project**

Sign Selling Table

Civic will not have a table at the Arden Fair to sell the old Arden streets signs because the club is not sure how outsider fundraisers would set precedence. Carol Larson offered her driveway to set up a table. Suggested selling price: \$15 for regular size signs and \$20 for larger signs or \$15 for residents and \$20 non-residents. To be determined. Craft Museum will have first dibs. Probably the money raised will go back to the Civics' budget. The committee did not specify how those funds will be spent.

Eagle Project

Mark will check with the Playground Committee to see if they would sponsor the Eagle Project (set up table in Carol's driveway) since this is already under the auspices of the Playground Committee.

▪ **WILMAPCO**

The Transportation Plan Task Force is currently trying to narrow down the steering committee to ten representatives or less. They recommend the number of representatives for the following: Arden (5), Ardentown (3) and Ardencroft (2). Arden's representatives will be: Carol Larson or Bev Clendening representing the Forest Committee, Steve Benigni representing Civic Committee.

▪ **Projects / Grants**

▪ **DNREC SWMPG**

Carol Larson is not present to provide DNREC update, the Storm Water Planning grant. Forest Committee and Civic Committee are planning on meeting the August grant deadline.

- **Roads / Paths**

- **Paving/Gutters**

They will continue paving in the ordinary course of addressing conditions of alligating at a cost of \$10,500. Suggests work on Walnut Ln and see what is needed. Pot holes will be done when Smith is doing another job. Rick believes it can be done withing 30 days and will do a fresh assessment of pot holes as they exist now. Also, speed hump outside of 2116 The Highway (Rodney & Sadie's leasehold) has a growing gap. Motion approved to go forward with paving as detailed above.

- **Gutters**

Pond Ln and Meadow Ln (160' x 2') mountable curb @ \$15,000.

Walnut Ln no need to address this year. Keep in que.

- **2314 Walnut Lane - Barb Shippy's leasehold**

The contractor is confident that a gutter would redirect a significant amount of surface water that is coming off of Walnut Lane particularly driven rains. He is not sure that it would solve the entire problem because Barbara's property has a steep elevation change; it is pitched downward to the foundation. In a flash or heavy rain event that water flows to her property because it is grated that way. If the gutter were installed, that would be the most assistance that the village could provide to alleviate the problem for her. If the problem persists after gutters are installed, then she would have to change her elevation with a 3- or 4-foot buffer/berm beyond the gutter to build it up by packing it with stones that would allow cars to park in that area. By building it up, it would give it more elevation that would be more challenging for water infiltration to the rest of the leasehold. Ed suggests to extend the gutter beyond the recommended 34' length by extending it to the corner. He thinks the 34' length will direct the water in a hard rain to next door neighbor's leasehold and possibly backtrack into Barb's leasehold. Since ForeSite did the original analysis, Civic will reach out to them for their profession engineering opinion about the appropriate gutter length. In addition, Ed warns to make sure the concrete gutters are supported with lots of dirt behind it because Barb will not be able to park due to the gutter creating a cliff-like edge in which her wheels will get stuck. (Ed's Fun Fact: Civics term for gutter is referred to as "mountable curb" by the engineers and they use the term gutter for something else.)

Estimated cost: \$1,000 (berm) and \$7,200 (gutter (34' L x 2' W)), a total \$8,200; double estimated cost if gutter is extended to corner. The gutters are going to improve it significantly but it is all dependent on the intensity of any given rain. This could set a precedent which lends itself to the question - is the berm the leaseholder's responsibility since the easement is the leaseholder's responsibility? If the Civics' position is that the berm is on the leaseholder's property, then install just the gutter to see how it works. Others suggests install gutters and berm together. Steve confirms that he

has kept Barbara informed that there have been continuous conversations with the committee and with the contractors about possible solutions.

- **Trash Tech Services**

Problems continue:

Not being consistent with their collections.

Missing pick up at various residences

Frequent driver turn-over

The representatives of the three Ardens will get together to discuss the next step to resolve unsatisfactory service.

Steve read the “out clause” in our contract with Trash Tech. The out clause basically says must be a written complaint and they have to respond to take care of the issues within 5 days. They have been adhering to the out clause because we send email (meets the writing term) detailing the residents’ complaints and they respond within 5 days. Rick suggests a remedy is to add a clause of “multiple events of default” in the same operating year are a basis for termination because its evidence of systemic administrative issue.

Steve believes they are working hard to fix it and that they have been unlucky especially with new drivers learning to navigate the Ardens, a very difficult route to master.

- **Permits / Reservations**

- Steve is maintaining a master reservation calendar that he created but as of now there is not a communal calendar.

- **Jester Artspace** They were interested in having a model to sketch. There was no \$100 fee charged because it was open to the community and it was publicized.

- **Theis Parking Request**

Bill Theis’s son had a campout with his friends. Instead of having all his guest parking along the road, he asked use the BWVC overflow parking area. Steve approved it because he saw it as the greater good for the community and does not hurt anyone.

- **Parking: Swim Meet, etc.** Steve and Carol helped parked the cars in the overflow parking area of Sherwood Green. To assist in organizing this big event, Carol wrote guidelines which they adhered to. Steve agreed to allow them to parking on the Green provided that they have a crew to help with parking and to park the cars in the same lay out as Shakespeare and Arden Fair park. It worked out. Steve expressed concern that by approving parking on the Green, they inadvertently set a precedence that will encourage others to want to park on the Village Green? Not a problem since it’s Civics decision. Because they had ideal weather conditions, the Green was returned in the condition

prior to parking, it looked like there was no parking was on the green. Rick points out the way to think about this is under worst conditions what would have happened if it was slug fest and lot of ruts left after?

- **Maintenance Projects**

- **Field Theater**

- Benches are ready for a coat of stain. Steve requested 4 quotes but only heard back from one of them. Steve used them for his house. The quote was for \$1,600 which would provide: power wash the seats, replace one board, and recalk post repair, apply 2 coats of deck stain. Ed says the stain (Bear deck plus) they propose to use is considered a cheap stain. He proposes to use Cabot or Olympic oil stain which will cost quite a bit more but guarantees a lot longer. He will obtain a revised quote with Cabot stain or Olympic oil stain costs.

- **Fence** - Done.

- **Drain** Cleaning next time.

- **Tree Work** - Waite for Carol to give an update on tree work.

- **Field Theater** - The tree behind big boulder is dying. The problem with that tree is it has some electrical lighting attached to it.

- **Greens**

- **BWVC Pavement Dropoff** concern about the ACRA program and their kids might get hurt where it drops off basketball court. Civic is looking for a short-term fix in the meantime. Steve asks members to check it out and then they will have a discussion. Smith Paving is coming back for berm work on Walnut, Rick suggests to dovetail with Smith Paving of work to be done by adding soil or crusher run to build it up. Mark and Ed will take a look at it.

- **Miscellaneous**

**Adjourn** 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Resko  
Village Secretary