

GTF: Ordinance and Policy Sub-Task Force Meeting Minutes **Thursday, July 21, 2022**

Attendees: John Scheflen (via Zoom), Kate Threefoot, Bev Clendening
Meeting was called to order at 7:40

Update on Ordinance #3: Excavation. Kate needs to call Civic Committee and Skip Bailey (Treasurer) for information about past excavations.

Task Force Status Report. John shared a status report on the work accomplished to date, work in progress and work not yet begun. The committee member assigned to each ordinance was added to the list. New assignments: Off-street parking – Bev, Vacant dwelling - John, ADU – Kate.

There was a question about the recommendation for Ordinance #4. The recommendation was to ask Civic and Forest Committees to post their rules for the use of Commons and Forest. This was discussed at the previous sub-task force meeting and at the June meeting of the full Task Force. Bev wants to know if this should be posted to the GTF Web Page. It was recommended that she consult Ray about this.

Ordinance #10 - Public Utilities was not fully approved at the full GTF meeting. It will be brought up again at the September meeting.

Memo on Ordinances, Resolutions and Policies. A corrected version of this memo was sent to committee members before the meeting. Bev looked at the corrections and confirmed that the memo now incorporates all changes suggested at the full GTF meeting in June. This document will go to the full Task Force in September for final approval.

Ordinance # 5 – Noise. John suggested that the sub-TF recommend general rules regarding noise and then ask the Village to form a task force to gather opinions from the general public and to make more specific recommendations about noise restrictions. Kate raised the question about how to handle noise at the Gild Hall. The Arden Club is the “resident” in the case of Gild Hall, Shady Grove, Swim Club and the Field Theatre. Arden Club has a noise policy. There needs to be an agreement between Arden and the Arden Club about noise policy. Because Arden Club is considered a resident Ordinance #5 ordinance would apply. Other examples of noise ordinance generally prohibit loud noise during a certain time (for example 9PM to 8AM) but then also regulate the level of noise at other times. Sometimes this is done by measuring decibels, but this requires expensive equipment and a trained operator. One can also use the “plainly audible” criterion. NCC code prohibits “projection of loud noise between 9PM and 8AM. Arden concerts are rarely over by 9 so they would need an exception for every concert or a blanket exception.

Update on Ordinance #11 – Rights of ways. Bev will meet with the Trustees before the next Sub-TF. She is also looking at NCC code specifically for policies dealing with right-of-way and landowner survey overlaps (for example, when roads are widened). NCC minimum for right-of-way on residential streets is 30 feet. Bev’s overall plan is to revise Ordinance #11 by adding a section to deal with rights-of way that are not a safety issue.

Policies. The committee had a general discussion about the work on policies. This work was scheduled to start in August. The Memo on Ordinances, Resolutions and Policies recommends that the Village 1) encourage the formal writing and communication of policies, 2) devise a method for compiling Village policies and 3) post policies on the Arden web page. There is a handful of essential policies that we should review. The following are policies that the committee is aware of: contract administration policy, employment policy and the reimbursement policy. We need to have a conversation with the Officers to determine if there are other policies we need to address. Bev will bring copies of the policies for contracts and employees to the August sub-TF meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21