

Civic Committee Monthly Minutes
Wednesday, August 24, 2022
Buzz Ware Village Center (Zoom Access Available: See Box Below)

Attendance: Steve Benigni, Ed Rohrbach, Rick Farrell

Absent: Carol Larson, Mark Wood

Call to Order Steve Benigni, Civic Chairman, convened the meeting at 7: 35 p. m.

Approval of July 27, 2022 Minutes Approved as presented.

Categories

- Administrative
 - IT: Civic gov emails/webmail are all set up and in sync with Steve's various devices. One exception is Trash Tech cannot receive gov emails. Steve uses his personal email account in this case.
 - Sign Sale & Eagle Project
Eagle Scout declined to participating in Arden Fair to fund raise from Carol Larsons driveway.

Steve will contact all committee members for their input on suggest selling price for selling signs. Those present at this meeting voted for \$15 irrespective of size. An alternative is \$15 for regular and \$20 for the larger size. Jeff may send out a blast before the fair informing residents that they can reserve a sign by emailing Civic. This could address Skip's concern that Arden residents should have a priority over nonresidents. Or first come first served. TBD.

- WILMAPCO Projects transportation
Arden held a walkable community workshop which was well attended by all 3 Ardens plus many regional and community wide attendance. Focus was on the difficulty pedestrians experience when walking in the area of Harvey Rd and Veal Rd. They collected suggestions from all and forwarded them to WILMAPCO who will provide a report based on these suggestions.
Connecting Ardens transportation plan. The steering committee is comprised of representatives: 5 Arden, 3 Ardentown, and 2 Ardencroft.

- Projects / Grants
 - DNREC SWMPG (Storm Water Management Planning)
They applied and received funding from ARPPA for watershed E. The next step was to submit to DNREC planning grant proposals. Bev Clendening submitted it on behalf of the Forest Committee.
 - DNREC Outdoor Recreation Parks and Trails Program (ORPT) is a matching grant program assisting with public park land acquisition and outdoor recreation facility development in Delaware. Civic had sent in a pre-application to fund the Club House path and the encroaching bamboo. In response to their pre-application, they received an invitation to submit an application by October 2nd. A maximum of \$6, 567 can be requested which is half of the total cost of the project.
 - WiLMAPCO New Castle County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
Technically Arden is eligible to apply for this small grant but the criteria look daunting. Will evaluate if they will apply.
- Roads / Paths
 - Paving missed a few pot holes on Lower Lane.
 - 2314 Walnut
Suggest to pay ForeSite to provide a professional engineer solution and then they could select a contractor to execute it whether it is Smith company or another company. Steve will obtain a quote from ForeSite. Civics' suggested solution is to run a gutter spanning both properties to the corner and build a berm that is adjacent to gutter on one of the properties to act as an additional barrier because the property is pitched to the building. They believe this will mitigate water infiltration to the building.
- Trash Tech Services
Starting September 13 at 7 a.m. the trash will be picked up for all three Ardens every Tuesday unless there is a holiday. This Labor Day trash will be picked up on Wednesday Sept 7 instead of on Tuesday. Flyers, social media, Arden Page, email blast have been used to get the message out to the community.
- Permits / Reservations
 - Jester Artspace wants to continue sketching at the Field Theater. They are reserved for September 14 and October 12. It is open to the public;

they have placed an ad in the Arden Page welcoming all. Meets the criteria of public event so fee has been waived.

- Maintenance Projects
 - Field Theater

Dave Dougherty submitted a bid for \$1,600 to stain the benches with water-based acrylics. The issue for Ed is acrylic vs oil stain. The bid does not include other work Ed would like done because no one asked for a quote for the “other work”. Steve is happy with the quality of David’s work but needs to work out the material to use. Steve will set up a meeting with Dave, Ed and himself to review.
 - Drain Cleaning still needs to be evaluated.
- Tree Work
 - Field Theater

Some dead Locus trees were removed as part of the cleanup for the Arden Fair. The large tree in the Field Theater has Shakespeare’s stage lighting mounted on it. One suggestion is taken down the tree except for the part the has the lights. However, Ed points out that this does not reduce the danger of the dead tree or its branches falling which would likely fall on the seating area. Rick suggests that it would be more economically to remove the entire tree and install a treated post to hang the lights on. To be discussed further.
 - Greens
 - Sticks/Limbs

At the current time there are various piles of sticks ready to be removed by American Grass who agreed to take away on an as needed basis.

Adjourn 8: 29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Elizabeth Resko
Village secretary