

Arden Civic Committee Agenda Wednesday, October 26, 2022

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

Call to Order Steve Benigni, Civic Chairman, convened the meeting at 7:32 p. m.

Approval of September 28, 2022 Minutes Approved as presented.

Categories

- Administrative
 - Budget
 - Reviewed the budget-to-date.
 - Contracts
 - American Grass contract Terms:
 - Two-year contract.
 - Detail specific tasks. Civic members will walk around town with Shawn van Neerden to identify tasks/jobs.
 - Pay per cut.
 - Need to add to the contract remove leaves from the Memorial Gardens, the Sweep, and Stile. They will wait till after the last cutting when all leaves are down, then mulch as much as they reasonably can. (Keep leaf removal)
 - Stick removal upon request.
 - Field Theater clean-up upon request
 - Patros Path clean-up twice a year. Must be done before Shakespeare June show.

- Street Sign Sale

Whenever the opportunity presents, Steve is still hawking street signs and to-date approx. \$1,120 funds raised.

- Projects / Grants

- DNREC Storm Water Management Planning Grant (SWMPG)

Per the contract, the Grantee shall appoint a project manager or a contact person. Carol Larson has been designated the official project manager.

DNREC is willing to give half of the amount of money for the SWMPG for the Watershed E project and the Village has voted ARPA funds sufficient for the exact same matching amount. This does not affect the Civic budget.

- ORPT grant

When Civic submitted their grant, they were under the impression that they were locked in to a certain max amount of money based on the originally estimated expenditures. They mentioned that their costs were more than originally estimated. The Grantor has notified Civic that they are considering covering the new final costs. If those new costs adjustment are accepted along with the two residents whose leaseholds are adjacent to the club path who agreed to pay \$1,600 and \$1,000 respectively, that would result in Civics' liability reduced to \$7,000 approximately. They will know the number of expenditures to be covered by grant in December. Carol will follow up on Danny about starting to remove the bamboo now before it gets too cold.

- Roads / Paths
 - Conditions & Needs

Rick will provide update. Carol thinks that there is some gatoring on Orleans Rd near Liz's house. She will check it out and get back to the committee.
 - Fluid Spill

The spill believed to be oil based was in front of Rick's house on Green Lane and a similar spill was at the intersection of Inn Lane and Cherry Lane. Many assumed that it was Trash Tech. However, several observed Ron Tree Service set up their equipment at both locations at the time of the spills.

- Trash Tech Services
 - Updated Flyer

Cecilia Vore updated Trash Tech flyer that is available on Village website along with Solid Waste Management's flyer.
 - Craft Shop Museum

On two occasions a resident renter who shares her parking area with the Craft Shop Museum had her driveway blocked by the museum's many trash bins that Trash Tech placed across her driveway after they emptied them. Trash Tech needs to fix this.
 - Still some complaints about Trash Tech comingling. They admit that sometimes they have to comingling but they say it is rare. Unless there is specific evidence, Civic cannot do anything.

- Permits / Reservations
 - ACRA Pancake Breakfast

That is the Forest Committees reservation process.

- Maintenance Projects

- Bulletin Board Cover

- Warren politely declined to repair it and Dave Clane said he was interested but have not heard from him. If Dave doesn't fix it, Ed Rohrbach will do it when it fits into his busy retirement schedule.

- Orleans Rd & Harvey Rd Collapse (catch basin collapse)

- No updates that Civic needs to be aware of. Safety Committee is overseeing the repairs DelDot.

- Tree Work

- Field Theater

- The red maple was trimmed rather than cut down per Shakespeare's request in order for them to keep their stage lights mounted to the tree. The resulting trim is not what was expected and now Civic thinks that they should have gone with their initial recommendation of mounting the lights on a poll even though the lights are owned by the Shakespeare Guild because the theater is not exclusively used by Shakespeare but is used by the community for many events. Ultimately it is Civic's responsibility to decide.

- 2209 The Sweep

- Lynda Kolski's leasehold at 2209 The Sweep had a branch from an oak tree fall on her car. She says there is a lot of overhangs on her property and overhang over the Milky Way path which she believes is on the rights-of-way. Civic needs to determine where is the actual tree trunk. Civic cannot cut branches hanging over a leasehold because of trespass issues but the leaseholder can cut whatever limbs are hanging over their

property. Ed will check this out and Civic will come up with a recommendation.

(Note: Steve added for clarification: “they cannot cut branches without leaseholders’ permission”).

- Greens

- The traffic island at Orleans Rd and Millers Rd was overgrown with an azalea that blocked visibility which has been trimmed back by volunteers.

- Miscellaneous

To best utilized the Civics’ budget, Steve asks all to think of a needed project that can be queued up so that once they know the actual snow expenses and before the budget is closed out for the year, they can use the available funds for the needed project instead of losing that money.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Resko,

Village Secretary