

Community Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes for August 16, 2023

Present: Skip Bailey, Jennifer Borders, David Gerbec, and John Scheflen.

The meeting convened at 7:35 pm.

Previous Meeting Minutes: A draft of the minutes was approved.

Governance Task Force (GTF): The GTF is preparing to present its findings and recommendations at the next town meeting [October 2, 2023]. The Community Planning Committee (CPC) reviewed a draft of the Vacant Housing Ordinance (Ordinance 15) and discussed suggested edits. The members in attendance approved the recommended draft. Pam Politis will have an opportunity to review/comment before submitting the proposed changes to the GTF for consideration.

The Ardens Transportation Working Group: The working group's final plan was presented to residents of the three Ardens during a joint session on Monday, June 26, 2023. Arden and Ardencroft approved the proposal that evening. The residents of Ardentown will be voting on the proposal at a later date.

Advisory Retreat: The CPC will develop a plan to foster community building and encourage volunteerism. A subcommittee will be formed to produce an action plan/path forward to present for approval at a future town meeting.

New Business:

- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds:** The remaining ARPA funds must be committed by the end of 2024. One project, the sewer repair at the Buzz Ware Village Center, has been completed and the costs were lower than expected. The CPC discussed the process for distributing the remaining funds. No decision was made, but the CPC will aim to share a plan to allocate the remaining funds at the next Arden town meeting.
- **Emergency Preparedness Planning:** The CPC discussed the planning effort and discussed which committee(s) will be responsible for the plan once it's complete. No decision was made.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

Next Meeting: The next CPC meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.