

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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**Town of Somers**  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
335 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589

HERB ORINGEL  
CHAIRMAN



**MEETING MINUTES**

**November 14, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Herb Oringel, Councilman Rich Clinchy, Mike Blum, Flo Brodley, Shannon Nash, and Rick Warren.

Mrs. Brady has resigned from the Committee.

**Minutes** – Mr. Warren made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 9, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mr. Oringel seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Westchester County** – An announcement has been made by Westchester County that they have purchased solar and thermal energy for their buildings in White Plains.

**Mid-Hudson Region Sustainability Plan** – At 6:30 p.m. on November 29, the Mid-Hudson Region Sustainability Plan will be presented to the public for comment at the County Center in White Plains. The Plan should be completed before Christmas and will be submitted to NYSERDA. Mr. Oringel will share the draft with the Committee.

**Hurricane Sandy** – Mr. Blum spoke with one of the line workers restoring power after Hurricane Sandy. He indicated that at least 50% of the wires that came down were knocked down from trees on private property. Perhaps a Town ordinance requiring removal of trees within a certain amount of feet from electric poles and wires should be considered.

**Emergency Dedicated Website** – Computer software is now available for towns and cities to better inform their communities with details during an emergency. The Town of Somers was commended for a job well done during the two recent storms in Somers. Their Code Red system was most helpful.

**Monthly Informative Articles** – Mr. Maricic’s article will be submitted for November. Ms. Nash will write one for December and Mr. Blum, for January.

**SHS Job Fair Outcome** – Mr. Maricic has met with nine Somers High School students regarding projects they are interested in getting involved with as a result of the Committee’s presence at the recent Job Fair held at the High School.

**EnergizeNY Ambassador** – All were pleased to learn that Ms. Brodley is now an Ambassador for EnergizeNY and will be speaking to others regarding her recent home energy audit and retrofit.

**Somers Sustainability Action Plan** – A presentation of the Somers Sustainability Action Plan was made to the Town Board. The next step is to reach out to community groups with it. Mrs. Schirmer will work on a schedule as to which groups it should be presented to, when and where.

**Reynolds House Renovation** – All agreed to invite Somers Land Trust President Michael Barnhart and Board member/Angle Fly Preserve Project Manager Bob MacGregor to the next meeting to talk about their plans to renovate the Reynolds House in Angle Fly Preserve. They want it to be as energy efficient as possible. Mrs. Schirmer will follow up.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Somers Energy Environment Committee

cc: Energy Environment Committee  
Town Board  
Town Clerk