

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

March 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Herb Oringel, Town Councilman Richard Clinchy, Helen Brady, Flo Brodley, Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, and Rick Warren.

Soon to be appointed member Shannon Nash and interested resident Dan Gadigian were also present.

Minutes – Mr. Warren made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Brodley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Introductions – Mr. Oringel welcomed both Ms. Nash and Mr. Gadigian. Each gave a summary of their background and interest in wanting to serve on the Committee. An overview of what the Committee has done, the rollout of Energize Somers, and the function of the Northern Westchester Energy Action Consortium was explained.

Energize Somers – Energize Somers will roll out on April 21 at the Somers Town Hall. Co-sponsorship includes the Somers Central School District, Somers Lions Club, Somers Chamber of Commerce and Hilltop Hanover Farms. On April 14, Energy Coach Dick Kornbluth will be available to explain the details of Energize Somers, also at the Town House. A flyer will be created for this event and distributed. The School District is allowing use of their TV station for advertising purposes. All supervisors and mayors of the NWEAC are on board to sign an agreement to help spread the word of the importance of energy efficiency to their perspective communities.

Sustainability Summit – Three project areas have been determined: Education and Outreach, Alternative Energy Options, and Quality of Life. A third communication has

been distributed along with a PDF of Mr. Blum's Power Point presentation. Another letter will be crafted by Mrs. Brodley and hard copies mailed by Mrs. Schirmer as a fourth communication. It will further encourage sign up commitments to one of the three project areas by the various community organizations. The fifth communication will be the Energize Somers flyer that will be sent as an email attachment.

Essay Contest – At the suggestion of Mr. Warren, Mr. Oringel made arrangements for an Essay Contest to be conducted at the High School. The winner will get \$200. It was suggested that the same be done at the Middle School as well. Mr. Warren will make that contact. The Essay Contest winners will be announced on April 21.

NWEAC Sustainability Summit – The NWEAC will be hosting a Sustainability Summit on March 29, from 4:00 to 9:30 p.m. at the Ossining Library. It will be attended by political leaders, as well as chairs and members of the various community energy groups. Mr. Oringel will send the information via email to the Committee members. Their attendance is encouraged.

Mid-Hudson Region Plan – In mid-March, the process will begin for sustainability planning on a regional level. Westchester and six other counties are part of the Mid-Hudson Region. \$1 million has been given by the State with an 8 month time frame in which to complete the plan. The support base once done is \$40 million. Mr. Oringel will be involved in this process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 4 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