

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**

**April 4, 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, Mike Blum, Flo Brodley, Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, and Shannon Nash.

**Minutes** – Mr. Oringel made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mr. Maricic seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Energize Somers** – Mr. Maricic was congratulated for securing \$200 from NYSERDA to offset costs associated with the Energize Somers launch. A question and answer session with energy experts Dick Kornbluth and Jerry Robock will be held on April 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Town House, followed by the launch of Energize Somers on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, also from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Town House. Sponsors for these events include the Somers Central School District, Somers Lions Club, Somers Chamber of Commerce and Hilltop Hanover Farms. A flyer and press release for 4/14 has been completed and will be done for 4/21 as well. Supervisor Murphy has agreed to send a letter for the Energize Somers launch, which will be sent to all those that were invited to the Sustainability Summit on December 7. Light refreshments will be served. All members of the EEC are encouraged to attend. It is the hope that the Town officials will be present as well. The EEC has been invited to attend the Lions Club Breakfast on April 15, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Somers High School. This will be a good opportunity to get the word out about these two events. The attendance at the breakfast averages 1,000 people.

**Sustainable Somers** – Unfortunately the response to the recent follow-up email/snail mail sent to those invited to the December 7 Summit regarding the three project areas determined was unsuccessful. Mr. Blum has suggested that the liaisons for each of the

three project areas: Mrs. Harsha and Mr. Warren – Education and Outreach; Mr. Maricic, Ms. Nash and Mr. Robock – Alternative Energy Options; and Mr. Blum and Ms. Brodley – Quality of Life, make arrangements to speak to the larger community groups in Town in an effort to better explain how they can contribute. Mr. Blum and Mrs. Brodley will speak to the Somers Lions Club in May. Plans should definitely be made to arrange a meeting with the School District, both Ken Crowley and Robert Klick attended the Summit. The Somers YMCA and the Deans Bridge Road Homeowners have expressed an interest in getting involved as well. Follow-up must be done.

All of those invited to the Summit have received a flyer about 4/14 and will be sent one about the 21<sup>st</sup> of April as well.

**Solar in Somers** – Leasing solar is becoming quite popular. Mr. Robock suggested that in a continued effort to encourage the residents of the Town of Somers to reduce their energy costs by installing solar and making renewable energy improvements to their homes, the EEC formally request that the Town Board consider a reduction on building permit fees to these residents for doing so. A memo will be sent to the Town Board with a copy to the Building Department.

Mr. Maricic and Mr. Robock are in the process of making a contact at the High School to make arrangements to install a solar kiosk at the school.

The NWEAC is also exploring solar options for residents, businesses and municipalities.

**NWEAC Sustainability Summit** – The Summit hosted by the NWEAC that was held on March 29 at the Ossining Library was attended by 230 people and was quite successful. Those EEC members that attended shared their feedback.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 2 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