

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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Town of Somers
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
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SOMERS, NY 10589

HERB ORINGEL
CHAIRMAN



MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2013

Chairman Oringel called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Mike Blum, Flo Brodley, Frank Maricic, Herb Oringel, and Mike Yee.

Town Councilman Richard Clinchy was also present.

Minutes – Mr. Oringel made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting as submitted. Mr. Blum seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Congratulations – Mr. Blum congratulated Ms. Brodley on the recent special recognition award she received from the Somers Democratic Club.

Thanks – Somers Middle School essay winner Allison Colavito sent a thank you note to the Committee.

Announcement – Assemblywoman Sandy Galef is introducing a bill in the NYS Assembly that will enable a Condo Unit owner to choose energy providers as long as it is compliant with Condo and Town regulations. (e.g. solar, etc.)

Mid-Hudson Region Sustainability Plan Update – The EnergizeNY has been chosen as a priority project and will be funded to expand to the seven counties in the Mid-Hudson Region and our Cleaner Greener Innovation District initiative will start in the City of Peekskill and the Route 117 Corridor in Bedford/Mt. Kisco. This will include solar, renewable energy, micro-grids, etc. and will demonstrate the value of integrating these new technologies. The intent is to replicate the effort throughout the Region in future years.

PACE Law Use Land Center – A letter was received from Supervisor Murphy on August 1, 2013 that the Somers Energy Environment Committee is hereby authorized to

work with the PACE Law School Initiative on a grant application on behalf of the Town of Somers. The Committee will leverage their insight and guidance about incorporating Sustainability tenets in the Town of Somers Master Plan Update.

Moving forward, the Committee will once again present the Somers Sustainability Action Plan to the Town Board, hopefully at their September meeting, in an effort to get their final approval and to develop an Action Plan.

Each Committee member has been asked to review the Somers Sustainability Action Plan to select two or three of the high priority projects outlined in the Plan (like Complete Streets and the enabling language for renewable energy uptake) and to give Mrs. Schirmer that information by August 16.

The Committee will develop and recommend language with the PACE Law Use Land Center's guidance and analysis.

It is intended to recommend approved paragraphs to be inserted in the Town Master Plan Update, but more importantly, Town teams will be formed to execute selected projects in part with volunteers that have been identified as a result of the Library Series. Ms. Brodley will reach out to those folks now to bring them up to date so as to not lose their interest.

2014 Budget – The 2014 budget requests are due to the Supervisor by August 23, in addition to the \$1,000 already in the budget for the Secretary's salary, the Committee would also like to request \$500 for supplies and professional training.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2013 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