

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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Town of Somers
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

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HERB ORINGEL
CHAIRMAN



MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Flo Brodley, Frank Maricic, Herb Oringel, Stacie Vourakis, Rick Warren, Mike Yee and Chris Zaberto.

Town Councilman Richard Clinchy was also present.

Minutes – Mr. Oringel made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2014 meeting as submitted. Ms. Brodley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Legislation Announcement – Yesterday, some of the Committee members attended Representative Sean Patrick Maloney's announcement that he is co-sponsoring legislation in Washington that would allow homeowners to make energy-efficient retrofits to their houses and then pay for them via their property taxes. Maloney announced the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Assessment Protection Act of 2014 at Healthy Home Energy and Consulting. Many Supervisors from neighboring communities were in attendance.

Somers Sustainability Action Plan:

Projects – All agreed that it makes sense for each Sub-Committee to take an inventory of the projects they would like the Somers School District High School students to flesh out and execute, including a detailed plan. Dialoguing will take place via email and the Committee Chairs will report back at the May meeting. The Sub-Committees are as follows:

Complete Streets – Chair: Mr. Warren - Mr. Yee and Mr. Zaberto
Energize Somers – Chair: Mr. Maricic - Ms. Brodley and Mrs. Vourakis
Sustainability – Chair: Mr. Blum - Mrs. Harsha and Mr. Oringel.

Mr. Warren has a copy of Lewisboro's Bike and Pedestrian Plan and will share with all members.

Mr. Oringel will speak to the Pound Ridge folks with regard to information on the project they did in Scott's Corners.

Funding – Mr. Yee is willing to meet with the Town Board to trigger awareness as to the suggested process to follow with funding needed to see some of the larger projects to fruition. A few opportunities have already been missed. It was suggested that Mr. Yee and any other members of the Committee that are able to, attend the Town Board Work Session tomorrow evening to discuss this during Public Comment.

In addition, Mr. Zaberto is willing to initiate a community grass roots effort via the school students as a way to get the support needed for these projects. Unfortunately, Mr. Blum was not available to assess the synergy of this with his discussions underway with Somers Central School District.

Annual SEEC Essay Contest – Mr. Warren will contact Ms. Reynolds at the Middle School to get the plans for the essay contest underway. The winners will be acknowledged at the June Town Board meeting.

Hidden Meadows – Ms. Brodley asked about the Hidden Meadows development under Planning Board review. She will try and attend the April 9 Planning Board meeting. The Committee will continue to be updated on this project and will weigh in at the appropriate time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7 at 6:00 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