

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
335 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589

MICHAEL BLUM  
CHAIRMAN



**MEETING MINUTES**

**June 4, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, Herb Oringel, Stacie Vourakis, Rick Warren, Mike Yee and Chris Zaberto.

Town Councilman Richard Clinchy, residents Ina Becker and Don Bleasdale were also present.

**Minutes** – Mr. Oringel made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 7, 2014 meeting as submitted. Mr. Warren seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Complete Streets** – A sub-committee meeting was held and a discussion took place regarding complete streets and trails. Support and funding is needed. This is the time to prepare for next year's grant cycle. A conceptual plan that will morph into something that is feasible is the next step. Mr. Oringel reminded all that Somers is one of four communities that will contribute to PACE's commitment of \$127,000 with donations of in kind services that can be used for complete streets and some portion of the Somers Sustainability Action Plan as long as there is a commitment on behalf of the Committee members to dedicate their time to this type of project. Mr. Yee will circulate what he has already drafted concerning complete streets and solicit Committee help to come up with something that can be submitted to the Town Board.

**School District** – Councilman Clinchy spoke with Julie Gherardi regarding getting the students involved with the Somers Sustainability Action Plan projects. She suggested a meeting before July 1 to share ideas and needs with the Somers High School Principal. Mrs. Schirmer will make those arrangements.

**Recycling Bins** – Councilman Clinchy met with City Carting to see if larger recycling bins can be secured. They were amicable to providing 72 or 90 gallon containers.

They will get back to Councilman Clinchy with an answer by September. City Carting has also agreed to commit to keeping Route 100 from King Kone to the Elephant Hotel free of garbage.

**Plastic Bag Initiative** – Two Somers High School students have reached out to Mr. Oringel about executing a plastic bag initiative via the Committee.

**Public Relations** – Ms. Vourakis is interested in writing articles, etc. for The Somers Record and Heritage Hills Reporter to update the residents on what the Somers Energy Environment Committee is doing. Mr. Zaberto will increase awareness on Facebook and create a Twitter account.

**Independence Day Celebration** – The Committee will have an informational table at the Independence Day Celebration on June 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 2 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