

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

March 10, 2015

Chairman Blum called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

The following members were present: Don Bleasdale, Mike Blum, Flo Brodley, Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, Rick Warren and Chris Zaberto.

The following members were not present: Stacie Vourakis and Mike Yee.

Councilman Richard Clinchy was also present.

Minutes – Ms. Brodley made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting as submitted. Mr. Zaberto seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Complete Streets – The sub-committee and Councilman Clinchy have received the first draft of the Complete Streets diagram prepared by Barton & Loguidice, DPC. A sub-committee meeting will be scheduled for its review.

Earth Week 2015 Calendar – Ms. Brodley shared a list of events scheduled to date to be included on the Earth Week 2015 Calendar. The events will run from April 18 to 26. It will kick-off with the Citizens for the Beautification of Somers handing out gloves and garbage bags at the Somers Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast for those that want to clean-up during that week. Activities committed thus far include:

Various events planned for the Somers Intermediate and Middle Schools
April 19 – Complete Streets Walk – 10:00 a.m. – Reis Park – Mr. Yee
April 22 – Solarize Somers – 7:00 p.m. – Somers Library – Mr. Blum

April 23 – Energize Somers – 7:00 p.m. – Somers Library – Mr. Maricic
April 24 – Complete Streets Power Point Presentation – 7:00 p.m. – Somers
Library – Mr. Yee and Mr. Zaberto
April 25 – Solarize Somers – 2:00 p.m. – Reis Park Pavilion – Mr. Blum
April 26 – Complete Streets Walk – 10:00 a.m. – Reis Park – Mr. Yee (Rain date)

Somers Land Trust may buy books to give out at the end of the Complete Streets Walk. The Somers Historical Society may have volunteers to take the walk and offer knowledge of historic Somers on route.

The Land Trust will also host an event, as well as the Somers Historical Society.

The culminating event will be a recognition ceremony to be held in May for those residents who completed the Energize program.

All are encouraged to think of businesses in Town they can hand deliver a flyer to for posting in their store windows.

Solar Community Gardens – Resident Aidrian O'Connor offered to create a map of Somers that highlighted the areas available for Solar Gardens. All received a copy of the map, and as indicated, IBM offered the largest amount of space. Mr. Blum has been in contact with IBM and hopefully they will allow this to happen on the property. Placement at Heritage Hills is still a work in progress. Ms. Brodley asked Mr. Blum to give her some dates to offer Pat Ploss for a meeting on Solar Gardens in May. SHS student Emilio Zullo still has to provide some much needed data in terms of determining how many subscriptions will be needed in order for it to be a viable option. Pace Law School representative Jeffrey LeJava will join us at our next meeting to discuss zoning changes that will be needed for solar gardens.

Sustainable Westchester – Mr. Blum met with Sustainable Westchester Co-Chairs Chris Burdock and Mike Gordon to discuss the possibility of them assisting with having NYSERDA sponsor a Solar Garden in Somers. They also discussed the Municipal Buyers Group in providing canopy based solar.

Website – The GreenSomers website has been canceled and redirected to the Somers Energy Environment Committee's page on the Town website. All members are asked to review and contact Mr. Zaberto with suggestions for additions, deletions, format, etc.

Announcements – Mr. Maricic reported that NYSERDA just announced that solar hot water thermal for non-electric user's is now available.

He also announced that Community Choice Aggregation is piloting a program in New York to allow municipalities to pool for gas and electric resources.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2 at 5:00 p.m. in the kitchen at the Somers Town House.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Energy Environment Committee

cc: Energy Environment Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk