

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Telephone
(914) 277-5582
Fax
(914) 277-3790

Town of Somers
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

MICHAEL BLUM
CHAIRMAN



MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 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, and Mike Yee. Stacey Vourakis, Rick Warren, and Chris Zaberto were absent.

Minutes – Mr. Blum made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting as submitted. Ms. Brodley seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Learnings From Earth Week – Ms. Brodley thanked all those who participated. Although the response to the events offered by the Somers Energy Environment Committee during Earth Week was not great, all agreed to do this again next year. Aunt B's Yogurt and Taste Deli were happy to be involved. Suggestions on improving included getting a banner, advertising on the Town's television channel, and partnering with other groups, i.e. scouts.

Microgrid – NYSERDA has put together monies to hold a statewide contest of \$1 million, broken up into small grants. A small grid is placed in the central part of a community with smart switches, which can detect if a line goes down. Then it will automatically switch the line to another source, in turn making the town more resilient. The initial focus will be on critical services, with multiple layers that will build up from there, eventually being placed in neighborhoods. A feasibility study is currently being prepared by Booz Allen Hamilton. The next step will be to prepare a proposal for installation. Currently there are only four or five communities bidding for this money and Somers is one of them. Mr. Blum has already given their representative some initial needed information.

Complete Streets – The Greenway Grant in the amount of \$10,000 is due tomorrow. Somers High School Senior Conor Talleur is doing a Complete Streets presentation for his WISE program.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory – The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory will be updated over the summer with the help of Somers High School students. Mr. Maricic will work with the PTSA on this.

Solarize Round 2 – The kickoff for Solarize Round 2 will be in June. Ideal is to partner with another community, so Mr. Blum has been in contact with the Town of Yorktown's Energy Advisory Committee and Supervisor Morrissey will follow up with their Supervisor. Ms. Brodley has some contacts with another group based out of Yorktown as well.

NEW BUSINESS

New Development – Mr. Bleasdale will reach out to the developers of Avalon Bay, Somers Crossing, and Hidden Meadow about energy efficiency elements to their construction.

Additional Committee Members – Mrs. Schirmer will speak to the Supervisor's office regarding securing additional members for the Committee.

Meeting Start Time – Ms. Brodley proposed changing the meeting start time from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. All were in agreement. This will begin with the June meeting.

Refuse Requirements – As per Chapter 109 – Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse, the garbage collectors are required to report its total recyclable and non-recyclable tonnage collected by category of product, as well as the number of residential and commercial accounts served. It has been confirmed that this information is submitted yearly to the Supervisor's office and in turn filed with the County of Westchester.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4 at 5:30 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