

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 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

The following members were present: Mike Blum, Don Bleasdale, Flo Brodley, Jason Crawford, Frank Maricic, and Stacie Vourakis.

Jane Harsha, Rick Warren, Chris Zaberto and Marialisa Zywochenko were absent.

Chairman Blum welcomed newly appointed Committee member Jason Crawford.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Blum and seconded by Mr. Bleasdale to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Solarize Somers Update – This morning's conference call went well. There is an article in today's edition of The Somers Record regarding the last call for Solarize. Originally scheduled to end on March 7, the campaign has been extended until March 30. Between both communities, 62 applications have been processed with a target of 75, which will qualify both Somers and New Castle to a free solar system. There are 109 folks between the two Towns that need to be followed up with. They expressed interest, but didn't complete the next step. There are 20 that have indicated that they definitely are interested in installing solar, but didn't submit an application. A list of those in Somers has been shared and assignments made to Committee members to follow up with.

The Town is the recipient of a \$100,000 grant through Senator Murphy's office. Mr. Blum will follow up with both the Town Supervisor and Planner about how that money can be spent. Although intended for solar, he would like to know whether or not it can

be used for Complete Streets.

Complete Streets Update – Mr. Crawford will be assisting Mr. Zaberto with this initiative. The Town grant consultant is in the process of researching grants that can be used in this effort and the Department of Transportation website is being researched as well.

Micro-Grid Update – The Booz Allen representatives finally heard back from NYSEG about adding additional customers to the non-disclosure agreement. Mr. Blum will meet with them on March 10 to wrap things up. Then Booz Allen will research funding to complete this project.

Pace Law School Land Use Law Center – John Nolon, Professor of Law at Pace University School of Law presented his recommendations to the Town Board regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update and zoning recommendations at their February 4 meeting. They are waiting on the minutes of that meeting so they can move forward.

Energize NY – Ms. Brodley met with Supervisor Morrissey and some of the Energize NY folks to discuss ways in which to give the program more visibility, as well as accessing those who had an evaluation done, but never completed the work. Ms. Brodley informed them that the Energy Environment Committee was in the process of planning an event to be held around Earth Day. All agreed that it would be a good idea to have a presence at that event. They will also be placing a banner at Bailey Park advertising the program.

Somers Springs Into Sustainability – Ms. Brodley and Mrs. Schirmer met to start planning for an event to be held on April 30, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Somers Town House entitled *Somers Springs Into Sustainability*. The intent is to share with the residents what has been done in terms of sustainability, as well as what is being planned for. Invited guests include City Carting, Energize NY, Field Goods, Hilltop Hanover Farms, Solarize Somers-New Castle, Somers Central School District, Somers Land Trust, Somers Litter Task Force, Somers Seed Lending Library, Sustainable Westchester and Westchester County Environmental Facilities, as well as all the food establishments in Somers.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 7 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