

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 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

The following members were present: Mike Blum, Don Bleasdale, Flo Brodley, Jason Crawford, Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, and Chris Zaberto. Stacie Vourakis, Rick Warren and Marialisa Zywochenko were absent.

Guest resident Brandon Brown was also present.

Minutes – A motion was made by Ms. Brodley and seconded by Mr. Bleasdale to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2016 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

Verizon – Verizon is requesting permission to add antennas to and extend the existing cell tower behind condo 12 in Heritage Hills. The hope to avoid the site plan process. Ms. Brodley is concerned as it is environmentally a poor decision. She will be in touch with additional information.

OLD BUSINESS

Complete Streets Project Update – Reported under Climate Smart Communities RFP under New Business.

Solar Garden Project Updates – This evening Mr. Blum will be asking permission from the Town Board to formalize the Solar Garden Project. The next step will be to identify available land. Open Space Committee Chairman Michael Barnhart will be asked to assist in this effort.

Independence Day Celebration – The Committee will have an informational table at the Independence Day Celebration at Reis Park on June 25.

NEW BUSINESS

Solarize 2 Project – Direct Energy’s Dana Bye will assist with this endeavor and they will provide \$10,000 in marketing services and supplies for Solarize 2 that will take place in the last quarter of the year.

Library Solar Panel Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – The free 5kw solar system that is being given to the Town will be installed on the Library roof over the next month or so. A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place sometime in September.

Climate Smart Communities RFP – Mr. Blum, Mrs. Harsha, and Mr. Stern were on a call with Town Planner Syrette Dym, as well as the grant consultant folks to discuss a Climate Smart Communities matching grant. The deadline for submission is July 29 and the matching piece can be in services or land. All agreed for various reasons that this grant will not be applied for, but in the meantime, a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Crawford, Mrs. Harsha, Mr. Stern and Mr. Zaberto, will meet to brainstorm ideas to move forward on this project. Initial thoughts to begin educating the community included doing a survey, creating a marketing plan and sending news media articles.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, July 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Somers Town House Kitchen.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Energy Environment Committee

cc: Energy Environment Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk