

**SOMERS HISTORIC PROPERTIES BOARD  
335 Route 202, Somers, NY 10589**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**August 12, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: Historical Society President Emil Antonaccio, Architectural Review Board Chairman Ken Bond and Parks and Recreation Board Chairman Jim Papa.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Papa made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2010 meeting as submitted. Mr. Bond seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**PROPERTIES REPORTS**

**Wright-Reis Homestead**

**Room Signs** - The Historical Society is working on having plaques made for all the rooms in the Homestead, as well as the Elephant Hotel referencing what the rooms were once used for.

**Porch Fascia** - There is a fascia under the front porch that has to be repaired. Mr. Antonaccio will do the work. He has already purchased the wood using Somers Historical Society funds.

**Spreading of Wood Chips** - There are wood chips at the Homestead that have to be spread. Mrs. Schirmer will speak to the Boy Scouts to see if that is a project they can take on.

**Rain Barrel** - A rain barrel was donated as part of the Municipal Separate Stormwater Permit. Mr. Antonaccio installed it by the kitchen for use in the summer garden.

**Mt. Zion**

There were no updates regarding Mt. Zion.

**Tomahawk Chapel and Cemetery**

**Windows** - Repairs have been done to the windows. Next year they will be painted.

**Grounds** - Neighbor Gary Mitchell has been mowing the lawn. Mrs. Schirmer will speak to the Boy Scouts about trimming and clearing the areas around the tombstones.

**Tulip Tree** - The tulip tree was removed, but the large wood is left. A proposal has been secured from Lincolndale Landscaping to remove the wood. A decision will be made at a later time as to when this work should be done.

### **Elephant Hotel**

**Windows** - The window restoration project is almost completed. They are in the process of painting the front door and four storm windows have to be installed. The contractors did a great job.

**Air Conditioning** - The grant modification was received, but we now have to wait for an extension approval. In the meantime, three portable air conditioners were purchased by the Historical Society for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

**Courtroom Emergency Exit** - The door has been completed and the railing is a work in progress. A wrought iron railing has been secured, it is in the process of being grinded and painted, and then it will be installed.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Reynolds House** - Somers Land Trust representatives Michael Barnhart and Bob Mac Gregor met with the Town Board and Parks and Recreation Board to discuss a proposal to refurbish the Reynolds House. The idea was well received, but money is needed. It was suggested that Recreation Fees be used. The Parks and Recreation Board is only willing to consider this option if the total cost of the project is around \$100,000.

Mr. Antonaccio and Mr. Papa feel as though a good security camera system would resolve the concerns about vandalism in Angle Fly Preserve. The issue is funds. Due to budget cuts, only necessary maintenance is being done to the Historic Properties buildings. Other options of funding should be considered. Mr. Antonaccio suggested that a notice be included with the tax bills, offering the residents an opportunity to donate an extra \$1.00 for this cause. Mrs. Schirmer will follow up with the Town Attorney about this option.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Butler Building** - The Parks and Recreation Department is in need of additional storage for their equipment. As a temporary solution, the Historical Society agreed that they could use the storage shed in the back of the barn at the Wright-Reis Homestead. It needs to be cleaned out, leveled off and a gravel base put down. The Society also approved placement of a butler building in the future, with the understanding that it be: unobtrusive in color and blend with the existing topography; placed at the base of the dirt road adjacent to the Pony League field in Reis Park; and the side facing the dirt road be screened.

**2011 Budget** - The 2011 Budget was created and will be submitted to the Supervisor's office. The total is \$37,000 and is broken down as follows:

Salaries	\$17,000
Contractual	
Wright-Reis Homestead	10,000
Silo - Van Tassel Park	8,000
Mt. Zion Church	1,000
Tomahawk Chapel	<u>1,000</u>
Total	\$37,000

A motion was made by Mr. Papa to submit the 2011 Budget as prepared. Mr. Bond seconded the motion. All were in favor. Budget hearings will take place on November 8, 9 and 10. All will be advised by Mrs. Schirmer as to when the Historic Properties Board budget will be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18 at 4:30 p.m. in the Map Room at the Town House.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Historic Properties Board

cc: Historic Properties Board  
Historical Society  
Town Clerk  
Parks & Recreation Department