

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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Town of Somers
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

MICHAEL BARNHART
CHAIRMAN



MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2012

Chairman Michael Barnhart called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Jan Antonucci, Michael Barnhart, Jeanette Gerfin, Laretta Jones, Bob MacGregor, Gail Simpson and Rosey VanWart.

MEETING WITH NEW TOWN ASSESSOR

The new Town Assessor Teresa Stegner met with the Committee this evening. Mr. Barnhart explained the role of the Open Space Committee. The biodiversity mapping project was reviewed with her as well. Copies of the properties' lists were given to Mrs. Stegner and Mrs. Schirmer will forward her the memo sent to the Town Board regarding the properties of concern.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Antonucci to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

ANGLE FLY PRESERVE UPDATES:

The DEP bridge project will have to be postponed until the spring.

Four of the current scout projects are complete. All should be commended for the wonderful work they did, especially the most recent (memorial tree area). The bog bridging and seating project will begin on Sunday. On November 3, Mr. MacGregor will speak at a Boy Scout Council meeting about scout project opportunities at Angle Fly

Preserve.

On October 4, a presentation about the Reynolds House rebuild was presented to the Town Board. A follow up meeting, being led by the Supervisor, will be held on October 30 with representatives from the Town Board, Somers Land Trust and Parks and Recreation Board. Engineer Nathaniel Holt, who has done a lot of work with Architect Michael Piccirillo, offered his services to do the septic. A copy of the survey for the property is needed. Mrs. Schirmer will follow up on this. Moving forward, Mr. MacGregor sees the following coordinators needed for this project: Communications, Contractor, Fundraising, Purchasing and Invoice Control, and Volunteer. Hopefully as this project becomes a reality, interested parties will be willing to step up and help with these tasks.

A visit to the John Jay Homestead will take place on October 29 at 1 p.m. to learn about how they went about the rebuild of the Homestead, which is similar in style to the Reynolds House.

Some recently went to the Armstrong House in Pound Ridge to see that renovation project. This house was donated to the Pound Ridge Land Conservancy.

The pond is being dredged on November 4 by Chris Cacace, and the only cost to the Land Trust is to have the excavator trailered from NYC.

Information about Winter Hill on Route 9D in Garrison was shared. This could serve as a good example of what can be done with the condos at Angle Fly.

All is going well with the hunting program.

OLD BUSINESS

Stuart's Farm – Mr. Barnhart has been in touch with the Wetland Preservation Program. They have agreed to do a site visit and make an assessment in the spring.

Railroad Avenue – A copy of a memo sent to the Town Board from Principal Engineering Technician Steve Woelfle regarding the sale of a portion of Railroad Avenue was received. He has no objections to the request, but has indicated that if it is in fact sold, a 20' wide Town drainage easement should be provided.

Meeting with New Town Planner – Mr. Barnhart and Mr. MacGregor met with the new Town Planner, Syrette Dym on October 3. They brought her up to date on the biodiversity mapping project, Angle Fly Preserve, Stuart's Farm, the properties' lists, as well as those of particular concern.

NEW BUSINESS

ELLA Workshop – Ms. Jones attended an ELLA workshop on Geographic Information

Systems (GIS) Mapping. The County has a subscription to ArcGIS. Ms. Jones will make arrangements that will allow Committee members to access and use this website.

23 Cypress Lane – Committee members reviewed and discussed plans regarding the request for a wetland determination to be waived for 23 Cypress Lane in Shenorock as submitted by PC Studio Architect, PLLC. A memo will be sent to the Engineering Department, with copies to the Town and Planning Boards, with a recommendation on behalf of the Open Space Committee that consideration be given to alternative means of storm water mitigation, such as a rain garden.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kitchen at the Town House. This will be a November/December combination meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Open Space Committee

cc: Open Space Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk
Town Planner
Parks and Recreation Board
Planning Board