

**SOMERS OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
335 Route 202, Somers, NY 10589**

MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2010

Chair Michael Barnhart called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Jan Antonucci, Michael Barnhart, Laretta Jones, Bob Mac Gregor and Gail Simpson.

NEW MEMBER INTERVIEW

A new resident Scott Roveto met with the Committee, as he is interested in becoming a member. He is the Executive Director of Technical Services, Roadway Repair & Maintenance for the New York City Department of Transportation. Mr. Roveto's resume was shared and all engaged in a lengthy discussion with him. After exploring the various roles of the Open Space Committee and its relation with the Somers Land Trust, Mr. Roveto was offered an invitation to join the Somers Land Trust as a Board member. In addition, a recommendation will be made to the Town Board to appoint him as a member of the Open Space Committee.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Jones to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2010 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

LTA MEETING

Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Mac Gregor met with Land Trust Alliance representatives to discuss upcoming grant opportunities. The Somers Land Trust will apply for a grant that will allow for payment of a consultant to do an assessment of the Land Trust, with an emphasis on fundraising. Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Mac Gregor will work together on completing the grant. The deadline is December 10.

ELLA Conference - Teatown Reservation is sponsoring an ELLA Conference to be held at the Hotel Thayer in West Point on November 19, 20 and 21. As it turns out, Mr. Barnhart will be speaking about Angle Fly and mapping, as well as leading a hike up Storm King. Mr. Barnhart and Ms. Jones will work on a Power Point presentation for this event.

Angle Fly Preserve Workday Updates and Planning - The upcoming workday schedule is as follows: Saturday, October 23 (to coordinate with the nationwide

“Make a Difference Day”), Sunday, November 7 and Saturday, November 20.

Plans are almost complete for the event at Angle Fly on Saturday, October 23 in coordination with a work day and the nationwide “Make a Difference Day“. A workday will be held in the morning, after which all will meet at Reis Park to walk the blue trail to Angle Fly at 1:00 p.m. The walk will be followed by a ceremony to celebrate the 2nd anniversary of the opening of Angle Fly. All donors and volunteers will be acknowledged. Refreshments will be served and a pumpkin raffle will be held. Thanks were extended to Mrs. Antonucci who donated cider and pumpkins and to Mrs. Simpson for donating cider and water. At the conclusion of the festivities, attendees will have an opportunity to speak to the Committee Heads regarding their area of expertise. Thanks were extended to all for their time and effort regarding this event.

All agreed to create an inventory of supplies and equipment that the Land Trust has and items that can be borrowed for future events at the next meeting.

Work will continue on the blue trail bridge and some debris has to be removed from the trail. A new connector trail connecting the blue and green trails will be started, and the orange trail, which is closest to the entrance to Angle Fly.

Councilman Clinchy was able to make arrangements to have the Town Engineering Consultant Joe Barbagallo visit Angle Fly to determine whether or not a septic system could be installed. It can in fact be installed which enables us to move forward to the next step of securing an architect to prepare plans for the rebuild of the Reynolds House. Mr. Mac Gregor will prepare a memo that can be forwarded to the Architectural Review Board and also an update memo for the Town Supervisor.

The DEP application to access their property to continue on with the trail system was approved by the Town Board and has been sent with the \$25 application fee.

The foot bridge has been ordered and delivery is expected in November.

Tomorrow morning Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Mac Gregor will meet with NY/NJ Trail Conference East Hudson Regional Representative Leigh Draper at Angle Fly to discuss the trail plan and foot bridge.

Mr. Mac Gregor will prepare an updated accomplishments report for distribution to the Town and Parks and Recreation Boards. Moving forward, this will be done quarterly and dollar figures will be assigned where applicable to highlight the market value of what the Somers Land Trust and Friends of Angle Fly Preserve have done at Angle Fly.

Angle Fly Preserve Hunting Update - Bow hunting began on October 1 for

turkey and deer. All is going well and the hunters are pleased. There is not an over abundance of hunters and they seem to hunt early in the morning, mid-day and early evening. The maximum numbers of cars in the parking lot at any given time is 3 or 4. Some DMAP permits have been issued. To date only one deer has been taken.

Biodiversity Mapping Update - The Committee is just about ready to begin confirmation on the ground. This will take place in the spring. All materials are in order. The next meeting will take place on December 1.

Planning and Conservation Board Updates

Stream Project - Mike Rubbo of Teatown has asked that the Somers Land Trust apply for a grant that they are sponsoring to do a stream project in Somers, which includes a public presentation. All agreed that between the work to be done at Angle Fly and the LTA grant, the Board simply does not have the time. A suggestion was made to see if the Conservation Board would be interested in taking on this project. Mrs. Schirmer will send an email to their Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Electric Poles - A correspondence was received regarding NYSE&G placing electric poles along Route 139 outside of Angle Fly. Mr. Mac Gregor reported that the Town Board voted against the proposal and asked that NYSE&G consider another location.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Map Room at the Town House.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Open Space Committee

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