

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

November 21, 2013

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

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Simpson to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2013 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Antonucci seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

Angle Fly Preserve Updates:

Work days will begin again after the holidays.

DOT installed a cage over the culvert by the beaver pond.

Care of Trees will be taking some trees down by the Tatham Mansion over the next couple of weeks.

Alan Meeker finished his Eagle Scout project and Kevin Turchick's is almost complete.

Half of the meadow has been mowed.

Several of the upper lot deer enclosure posts were knocked down. They have all been replaced.

The hunting program is going well.

Mr. and Mrs. MacGregor participated in a vine cutting swarm off the Saw Mill River Parkway last weekend. Plans to do the same at Angle Fly will be scheduled for the fall.

Propagation of native seeds continues.

Resident historian Susan Slyman, who identified a smoke chamber in the Reynolds House, is interested in doing more research on the House.

The Reynolds Pond is down about 4' because of the draught. The aerator has been turned off for the time being.

Volunteers continue to mow and maintain the Memory Forest. Arrangements will also be made to install a railing on the steps.

All were reminded to open the gate to Angle Fly if they happen to see it closed on a weekend.

On January 4 and 11, the Venturing Crew in cooperation with Lincolndale Landscaping will be sponsoring a fundraiser by picking up Christmas Trees in the community, bringing them to Angle Fly and using the chips around the pond. The Somers Volunteer Fire Department will hand out information regarding this fundraiser at their Christmas tree sales.

OLD BUSINESS

Biodiversity Mapping – Mr. Barnhart will follow up with Gretchen Stevens of Hudsonia with regard to assistance with this project.

NEW BUSINESS

7 Juniper Drive – The owner of the adjacent property is interested in purchasing this unoccupied lot at 7 Juniper Drive from the Town. The Open Space Committee is not in favor of this proposal, as it is unclear as to what the potential buyer's plans would be for the lot. A memo will be sent to the Town Board.

1 Birch Road – There is interest on behalf of the owner of the neighboring property to 1 Birch Road, to purchase this vacant lot to erect a residence. The Open Space Committee does not believe that it is a good precedent for the Town to sell land to erect residences; therefore they are not in favor of this proposal. A memo will be sent to the Town Board.

Hidden Meadow – The Committee reviewed and discussed a proposal to build 53 townhouse-type dwellings on 16.7 acres of land at 16 Route 6. There were several

concerns. A memo will be sent to the Town Planner.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16 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
Town Planner
Parks and Recreation Board
Planning Board