

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

December 6, 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.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Antonucci to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

ANGLE FLY PRESERVE UPDATES:

Many white pines and some locust were lost during Hurricane Sandy. Cleaning and clearing is a work in progress. Thankfully there was no damage to any of the buildings.

Upcoming workdays will be contingent upon the weather. Further plans will be made after the holidays.

A meeting was held on November 28 with representatives of the Parks and Recreation Board to discuss the Reynolds House renovation. Supervisor Murphy and Councilman Clinchy were also present. Mr. MacGregor provided a general outline of the entire project. After the reports are received from the Architect and Engineer, another meeting will be scheduled. Mr. MacGregor also met with the Energy Environment Committee to discuss the project. They are on board to help in any way they can.

The pond was dredged on November 4. The contractor will return in the spring to

spread what was removed.

Some additional monies were spent out of the Recreational Trails Grant funds for gravel, wood, two chain saws and a grip hoist. There is a little less than \$1,000 left that will be spent before the end of the year.

At some point a topographic map of the area planned for the Reynolds House septic system will have to be secured.

Plans are underway for putting a sign and bronze casting of the Town seal by the front gate entrance and pillars.

Some of the trees by the front entrance and Reynolds House have to be removed. It is the hope that the money for this will come from FEMA.

Biodiversity Mapping – The next step is to work with Hudsonia to create a larger map. Arrangements to do this will be done after the new year.

OLD BUSINESS

Stuart's Farm – Mr. Barnhart is in the process of working with NYS DEC on two programs they administer to help Mr. Stuart with preserving the forestry portion of his property. The Forest Legacy Program involves purchase of a conservation easement for the forested portion of the property. The 480A Program provides for property tax relief.

23 Cypress Lane – Committee members reviewed and discussed a second site plan submitted for 23 Cypress Lane and had no further comments. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

NEW BUSINESS

2652 Route 35 – The 38.4 acre property located at 2652 Route 35 has recently been put on the market for sale. It is on the Open Space Inventory map. A memo was sent to the Town Board recommending they make some effort to encourage the conservation of this property. A first step would be to authorize the Open Space Committee, in conjunction with the Town Supervisor, to approach the property owner to discuss various options including a conservation easement, a bargain sale, purchase of development rights to a portion of the property, or other possibilities as may seem appropriate

The Mews at Baldwin Place: Phase II – A site plan for Phase II of The Mews at Baldwin Place was reviewed and discussed. The Committee had no objections. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting 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