

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**

**May 17, 2012**

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

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Antonucci to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

**Chair's Report**

**ANGLE FLY PRESERVE AND SOMERS LAND TRUST UPDATES:**

With the exception of the bridge across the stream by Route 35, the trail network is now complete. If approval is secured from DEP, the bridge will be put in June 16.

The kiosk at the entrance off Hilltop Road has been installed and the map is posted.

The two kiosks for the east and west Route 35 entrances will be installed by June 16.

A special hunter kiosk will be installed near the front entrance area later in June. Mr. Mendoza and Mr. MacGregor are working on a decision as to the best location. It will include all the hunter information and maps.

Mr. Mendoza is investigating the hosting of disabled veterans on a day during hunting season. He and his Committee would accompany these veterans (he expects the number would be 1 to 3). The veteran hunters will need to be proficient with a bow, but

Mr. Mendoza may need to modify the use of a tree stand. If it looks like this might work, he will report back with details.

The June 3 workday will start at the Hilltop Road entrance and the red trail will be widened. The two trees that are down across the trail will be cut as well.

**Angle Fly Preserve Next Steps** - A trail connection to Lasdon Park has to be established.

The owners of the two properties on Route 35 by Van Rensselaer Road have to be contacted.

A decision has to be made as to what to do with the Reynolds House. Mr. Barnhart has some architect contacts he will get in touch with. In addition, Congresswoman Nan Hayworth had indicated at the Lions Breakfast that she might be able to locate an architect who would come and look at the House. Mr. Barnhart will follow up with her staff on this. The pond restoration project has to continue as well.

**Dedication Ceremony** – All agreed to hold the Dedication Ceremony to place the plaques in honor of John Behler, Peter Burckmyer and Mickey Oliver on September 15 at 10 a.m.

**Earth Day Open House at Angle Fly** – All Town employees, Boards and Committees were invited to an Earth Day Open House at Angle Fly on April 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Unfortunately only Supervisor Murphy, her husband and Councilman Clinchy attended.

**I Love My Park Day** – A handful of people volunteered at the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and Parks and Trails NY I Love My Park Day on May 5. New signs and snow fencing were installed around the condos and the Tatham Mansion.

**Events/Programs** – It was suggested that a trail walk-a-thon be held on October 21. Mrs. Simpson will research other organizations that have done something similar for procedures, registration, etc. Perhaps the event can include a list of items to be photographed while walking the trails. Prizes (t-shirts and totes) can be distributed. An entry fee would be charged. Another event should be planned for in the spring that would generate funds, with program workshops in the winter (animal tracking) and summer (birding). Mrs. Schirmer will research offerings for consideration.

**Independence Day Celebration** – The Land Trust will have representation at the Independence Day Celebration on June 30 in Reis Park, and the table will be manned from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. in shifts. Mr. Barnhart and Mrs. Schirmer are not able to attend as they have other commitments. It has been suggested that with more and more people using Angle Fly Preserve, a membership drive should be a focus at Independence Day Celebration on June 30. Mr. MacGregor hopes that 100 new paid members can be secured that day. There are enough membership brochures for use

that day.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Biodiversity Mapping** – Mr. Barnhart has been working on the biodiversity mapping worksheets. Three are still incomplete: the one by the bike trail in Baldwin Place; Stonewall Farms on Mahopac Avenue; and IBM. Mrs. Schirmer will obtain information so that the Stonewall Farm and IBM properties can be accessed to find the information that is needed to complete these worksheets. Arrangements will be made with Hudsonia to have them do a training workshop on how to transfer the information on the worksheets to a map.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Future Meeting Guests** – Arrangements will be made to invite the new Town Assessor to the July, and the new Town Planner to the September Open Space Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 21 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