

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

MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. The following Committee members were in attendance: Jan Antonucci, Bob Mac Gregor and Gail Simpson.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Antonucci to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2010 meeting as submitted. Mrs. Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

Somers Land Trust

Turkey Hunting Review - Mr. Mendoza met with Mr. Mac Gregor to review the spring season of turkey hunting. Between 25 and 30 hunted, but no turkey were shot. It averaged to be about two hunters per day. The spring turkey season gave the hunters an opportunity to scope out the area for fall turkey hunting as well. Suggestions for improvements were discussed and will be put into place in the fall. Overall, things went very well. The log boxes have been taken off the kiosks and the maps removed. In addition, almost all of the signage has been removed.

Trails Planning - Mr. Fulton resigned as Trail Committee Head due to his hectic schedule. One replacement was suggested, but he too, could not commit for the same reason. A grant writer is also needed. It was suggested that these two positions be advertised via the website, Facebook page and e-newsletter. Mr. Mac Gregor will write something up for the trails position, and Mrs. Simpson for that of grant writing.

The turnout at the last workday was low, but most of the planking has been placed near the trail site. Work has begun on marking the 2nd trail. Mr. Mac Gregor has also started marking the 3rd (AFP to Plumbrook) and 4th (Plumbrook to Reis Park) trails. He indicated that it would be helpful if a few people would walk those trails and give him feedback on what he has done so far.

Workdays - The workdays schedule is as follows: Sunday, July 11; Saturday, July 31; Saturday, August 14 and Sunday, August 29.

Tool Donation - Barry Mark graciously donated a 30" bow saw, 7" folding pruning saw, spade, post hole digger, 18" pruning saw and cross cut hand saw. Mrs. Schirmer will thank him for his donation.

Reynolds House - Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Mac Gregor met with the Parks and Recreation Board on April 27. The dialogue was good and they felt that the majority of the Board was in favor of rebuilding the Reynolds House, but unless the project came in at a cost of around \$100,000, they were not in favor of using Recreation Fees. Resident Doug Frey, who is a contractor is in the process of creating a budget for this project. He should have the figures to Mr. Mac Gregor over the next few days.

Native Plant Center Tour - On Saturday, May 22, the Native Plant Center came to Angle Fly for a tour. About 30 people attended and they were led by Ms. Jones and Mrs. Mac Gregor. All were very pleased and impressed with what has been done to date. A few are interested in volunteering. Phyllis Warden, who did not attend the tour, but who owns a home that is part of the Open Days Garden Conservancy Tours, has asked for a private tour of Angle Fly.

Pond Restoration - Earlier today, Mr. Mac Gregor and Mrs. Simpson met with Guy Baker, resident excavator and contractor with regard to removing silt, sediment and debris from the pond. It has been estimated that 300 cubic yards have to be removed. The silt, sediment and debris that is to be removed will be layered on the meadow next to the chicken coop and topped with wildflower seed mix. If this project is done properly, it should last another 35 years or so. Mr. Mac Gregor prepared a draft of the project to include a background, recommendations and plans (pond restoration, storm water management, native landscape shoreline buffer and algae control), and action items. Hopefully the trail grant money can be used for this project as it is enhancing the handicap trail area. It is estimated that the total cost of the project will be \$3,600 and will take two days to complete. All thanked Mr. Mac Gregor for a job well done.

Somers landscapers Eberlin and Eberlin completed mapping the area of the pond, barn and meadow and provided a landscape sketch. A list of plants and shrubs desired will be listed for donation purposes, and will be available at the Independence Day Celebration. This information will also be advertised on the website, Facebook page and in the e-newsletter.

Planning and Conservation Board Updates

A memo was received from the Conservation Board with regard to the Condos in Angle Fly. They are of the opinion that the amount of mold present is unable to be remediated and the materials in the structures cannot be reused.

OLD BUSINESS

Mapping Meeting - Two sub groups have been created and are working on

infrared stereoscopic photos for the northeastern and western sections of Somers. The Committee will meet again on June 22 at 6:30 p.m. at Mrs. Antonucci's house. Simon Skolnik and a couple of the Bedford CAC members would like to join the group that evening, and all agreed as long as Mr. Barnhart and Ms. Jones would be present.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 15 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