

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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**Town of Somers**  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
335 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589

DON BLEASDALE  
CHAIRMAN



**MEETING MINUTES**

**October 1, 2018**

Chairman Don Bleasdale called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present: Don Bleasdale, Jason Crawford, Jane Harsha, Frank Maricic, Rick Warren and Chris Zaberto.

Stacie Vourakis was absent.

Jerry Stern and Marialisa Zywochenko have resigned from the Committee.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mrs. Harsha and seconded by Mr. Zaberto to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2018 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Sustainable Yard Care Program Update** – All agreed that the Committee will sponsor a program at the Somers Library on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. about lawn and tree care; yard planting and composting. Work will begin on securing speakers and details must be finalized by the end of the year so advertising can begin in January. Mrs. Schirmer will make the arrangements to use the Library Program Room.

**NYSEG Task Force Update** – The next NYSEG Task Force meeting will take place on October 9<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Zaberto will be in attendance. He has already started having some conversations with Councilman Clinchy as well as the NYSEG arborist. Mr. Bleasdale wondered if any of the other local towns are involved in something like this. Folks have only heard about North Salem having issues.

**NYSERDA Clean Energies Communities 2018 GRANT Program Update** – The Town of Somers has been chosen as a recipient of NYSERDA's Clean Energies Communities

2018 GRANT Program in the amount of \$50,000 to purchase two electric vehicles. Two Chevy Volts will be purchase, one for Nutrition and the other for the Police.

**HeatSmart Westchester Program** – A memo was sent to the Town Board requesting that the Town submit an RFI for Sustainable Westchester’s HeatSmart Westchester Program. Mr. Maricic and Mrs. Schirmer completed the required paperwork and it has been signed by the Supervisor.

**Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program** – The NYS DEC is offering a Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program grant and it was the hope of the Committee to apply for the educational component for a composting site, however there is a requirement to apply for an equipment grant, which has a 3 year wait. As a result, the grant will not be sought after.

**Solar Panels on Highway Garage** – A formal announcement was recently made that Senator Murphy has secured a \$100,000 grant to put solar panels on the Town of Somers Highway garage.

**Somers High School Sustainable Energy Project Update** – Mr. Maricic has finally contacted Somers High School physics teacher Chris Pietris regarding mentoring needs for their sustainable energy projects. He will continue to keep the Committee up to date.

**Energy Audit of Town Buildings and Facilities RFP Update** – RFP’s for an Energy Audit of Town buildings and facilities were received by Honeywell and Johnson Controls. A recommendation was made to the Town Board and Mr. Bleasdale has been invited to meet with them on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Maricic will try and attend as well.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**NYS DEC Municipal Food Scraps Reduction and Food Scraps Recycling Programs** – All agreed that although applying for the NYS DEC Municipal Food Scraps Reduction and Food Scraps Recycling Programs would be a great idea, no one has the time to write the grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Somers Energy Environment Committee

cc: Energy Environment Committee  
Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Open Space Committee