

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
June 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Jan Antonucci, Michael Barnhart, Bob MacGregor, Gail Simpson, and Rosey Van Wart.

Lauretta Jones was absent.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. MacGregor and seconded by Mrs. VanWart to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2019 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

APPLICATIONS

Crown Castle AT&T – The Committee reviewed and discussed a submission dated May 22, 2019 for Crown Castle AT&T. There were no comments. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

UBP Towne Centre at Somers Extension of Heritage Hills Sewer District – An updated submission dated May 28, 2019 for UBP Towne Centre at Somers Extension of Heritage Hills Sewer District was reviewed and discussed by the Committee. There were no comments. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

63 Route 6 – Coral Seafood Restaurant – The Committee reviewed and discussed an updated submission dated May 29, 2019 for 63 Route 6 – Coral Seafood Restaurant. Two requests will be made, for the curbing to be Cape Cod style to accommodate the amphibians, and to pave the parking lot with a pervious blacktop surface. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

Heritage Hills West Hill Drive Wetland Application – A wetland application dated May 30, 2019 for Heritage Hills West Hill Drive was reviewed and discussed by the Committee. There were no comments. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

Hidden Meadow at Somers – The Committee reviewed and discussed an updated submission dated May 30, 2019 for Hidden Meadow at Somers. The

Committee has two requests. First, we suggest replacing the 14 Cornus Kousa with native dogwood. Kousa dogwood is not native and can be invasive. Second, we request substitution of eastern red cedar for the evergreen trees proposed for the site landscaping. The proposed trees are not consistent with the overall deciduous forest on the site and tend to adapt poorly. Eastern red cedar is more common though any coniferous tree will need regular maintenance to survive under the relatively closed canopy that characterizes the site. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

Wilkinson/Jones Wetland and Flood Damage Protection Application – An application for Wilkinson/Jones Wetland and Flood Damage Protection was reviewed and discussed by the Committee. The Committee is concerned that the significant increase in the size of existing roof will result in additional storm water on the site. We saw no SWPPP on the site plan and so question whether the existing storm water mitigation is sufficient. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION

Chair's Report

Angle Fly Preserve Updates:

The Building Inspector continues to work on securing a contractor to install HVAC in the Reynolds House.

Clearing around the “no dog” signs took place to make them more visible. The “no dog” signs on the kiosks were torn down.

There must have been an event recently as there were flour marks on the trails.

The scout project at the entrance has been completed.

A&V Home Improvement will move a couple of large rocks by the drain area into the pond to prevent cars from getting too close.

The native habitat garden has been weeded.

The shrub and tree planting on the left side of the driveway as you enter the Preserve has been weeded, and all but one shrub survived the winter.

Carpenter bees have been boring holes in the siding.

The patio by the poultry barn has been cleaned and the plantings weeded.

The front lawn of the Reynolds House has been graded and seeded.

The “Walkable Westchester” folks walked the trails last week and reported that overall everything looked great, but some of the trails have muddy spots.

Arrangements were made to have some additional insulation sprayed in areas that were missed in the Reynolds House.

A new battery for the tractor was purchased, but unfortunately it still can't be started.

The Memory Forest is still very wet and will be mowed when it dries out.

The tubes around the trees need some attention, but unfortunately the Watershed Agricultural Council doesn't have anyone that can come and take care of it.

Angle Fly Preserve Conservation Easement Modification Update –

Supervisor Morrissey reported today that DEC's Bill Rudge told him that the land swap was to be published in the DEC Environmental News Bulletin in early June for public comment for 30 days. After that point, the modification can take effect. He will follow up with him for an update.

OLD BUSINESS

Hudsonia Ltd. Update – Hudsonia's Gretchen Stevens continues to work on updating the biodiversity maps and Mr. Barnhart has begun answering the list of questions she has.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 18th at 4:30 p.m. in the Town House Map Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Open Space Committee

cc: Open Space Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk
Town Assessor
Planning Board
Parks and Recreation Board
Energy Environment Committee