

HISTORIC PROPERTIES BOARD

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Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

EMIL ANTONACCIO  
CHAIRMAN



MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2020

Chairman Emil Antonaccio opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

The following members were present: Somers Historical Society President Emil Antonaccio, Resident Architect Ken Bond, Architectural Review Board member Mark Brown, Town Supervisor Rick Morrissey, Town Historian Doris Jane Smith and Parks and Recreation Board Chairman Kevin Westerman.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mrs. Smith to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2019 meeting. Mr. Westerman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Old Bet Statue** – Mr. Antonaccio and Mrs. Smith attended the December 4<sup>th</sup> Parks and Recreation Board meeting in hopes of them giving \$20,000.00 from Recreation Fees for the artist work so that a fundraising campaign could be started to replace the Old Bet statue in front of the Town House with one made of bronze, as the current elephant is made of cement and starting to deteriorate. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, a memo was received from the Parks and Recreation Board indicating that although they agree that the statue is important and symbolizes Somers, the ultimate decision was that they would like three quotes secured in writing for both the art and foundry work. The Parks and Recreation Board would also like to see a fundraising collaboration between them and the Historic Properties Board. After the \$20,000.00 is raised, the Parks and Recreation Board will match it with Recreation Fees. Mr. Westerman reiterated the Parks and Recreation Board's request for three quotes for the artist work and Supervisor Morrissey strongly agreed. If the Somers Historical Society takes the lead in the fundraising campaign and contributions are given to them, technically three quotes are not necessary, but both Supervisor Morrissey and Mr. Westerman support this concept as it is good business practice. If this is in fact done, Mr. Westerman will broach the subject again with the Parks and Recreation Board. Supervisor Morrissey will secure at least one other quote. He has also offered the website as a means to advertise for residents

to join the Fundraising Committee. The Parks and Recreation Board will also have representation.

**Town House Meeting Room Roof** – Supervisor Morrissey reported that work will be done on the Town House Meeting Room roof in conjunction with some other roof work. Mr. Bond and Building Inspector Tom Tooma met to look at the roof. Mr. Bond is suggesting that tapered insulation be used to resolve the standing water issue and the window sills that are level with that roof be raised at least 5” and the windows be replaced. Those windows cannot be seen from the road or parking lot.

**Wright-Reis Homestead Panel Upgrade and Additional Smoke Detection** – This past week, Doyle/CIA Security upgraded the panel and added smoke detection in the Wright-Reis Homestead.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the Map Room at the Town House.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Somers Historic Properties Board

cc: Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Planning Board  
Somers Historical Society