ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Telephone
(914) 277-5582
Fax
(914) 277-3790

DON BLEASDALE
CHAIRMAN

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. and was held via Zoom.

The following members were present: Don Bleasdale, Susanne Cox, and Rick Warren.

Gina Arena and Flo Brodley were absent.

Minutes – A motion was made by Ms. Cox and seconded by Mr. Warren to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2021 as submitted. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

There were no submissions.

OLD BUSINESS

Energy Environment Committee Program Offerings 2021/2022:
Moving forward, the goal is to offer a series of programs yearly. The following are being planned for 2021/2022.

NYStretch Energy Code – Mr. Bleasdale met with the Town Board at their September 2nd meeting to give them an update on what the Committee is working on and to discuss implementing the NYStretch Energy Code. A brochure about the program was shared and the Town Board seemed opened to the idea and thought it was worthwhile. Mr. Bleasdale will reach out to Michael DeWein, NYSERDA consultant of the Energy Conservation Construction Code to see if he can join him at the October 7th Town Board Work Session to discuss the next steps with the Town Board.

Sustainable Garden Programs – Mrs. Arena continues to research sustainable garden programs to offer in the near future.

Energy Ideas to Button Up Your Home Webinar – Sustainable Westchester's Lauren Brois has set up the Energy Ideas to Button Up Your Home Webinar for September 29th from 7 to 9 p.m. Healthy Homes is co-sponsoring this event. An evite has been created and shared with the Committee. Arrangements will be made to have the Town send it out in an email blast. Ms. Cox will post it on the Committee's Facebook page and Mrs. Arena will be asked to post it on the Somers Parents Facebook page. A request will be made to have it posted on the Committee's page of the Town website.

Repair Café – The Repair Café scheduled to be held on Sunday, October 24th has been postponed. All would like to see it happen at some point, but feel it is necessary to consult the calendar of already scheduled Repair Cafés at repaircafehv.org, as these events are becoming quite popular. In addition, since there has been difficulty in getting the experts needed to run this event this resource could be used to find these folks.

Somers Trail Event – The hope was for Ms. Cox and Mr. Warren to have an informational table at the Somers High School Big Red Cross Country Meet on September 11th, but after doing further research, it was really not the right type of event to have a presence at. A decision was made though to have a presence at the Lions Club Track Meet in the spring of 2022.

Energy and Environment Educational Series – An Energy and Environment Educational Series will be sponsored in 2022 in conjunction with the Somers Library and will be held in the Somers Library Program Room. Ms. Cox will reach out to Kevin Brenner from Healthy Home Energy about doing a program in January. The plan for April is amphibian crossings; July – invasive species; and October – pollinator pathways. Ms. Cox and Mr. Warren would like to have a meet and greet with the Somers Land Trust Board of Directors to discuss this series further with them. Mrs. Schirmer will make those arrangements.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, October 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Energy Environment Committee

cc: Energy Environment Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk