

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**  
**November 13, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jan Antonucci, Michael Barnhart, Bob MacGregor, and Rosey VanWart.

Gail Simpson was absent.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. MacGregor and seconded by Mr. Barnhart to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2025 meeting.

**APPLICATIONS**

**Trailside Estates**

A submission for Trailside Estates was reviewed and discussed. The Committee had the following concerns.

The new submission was looked over and compared to the comments made on the previous memo sent to the Town Board. Additional information and plans were given, but there are some crucial details that are missing:

- [1] There is still no detailed tree removal plan showing locations, sizes, and species.
- [2] The stormwater plans still do not detail the inlet sizes of the gratings over catch basins and drain inlets, so the risk to amphibians moving over the site can't be determined.
- [3] There are still no curbing details, so it can't be determined if safe Cape Cod style design curbing will be used.

Additionally, the map attached showing the surrounding locations makes it clear it will cause further fragmentation of the broad strip of forest that borders the North County Trailway and the Muscoot River riparian corridor. Expanding the

footprint of the Baldwin Place district clearly has 30X30 implications. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

### **Old Business**

The was no Old Business.

### **New Business**

#### **Tree Board Reconsideration**

On March 13, 2025, the Open Space Committee sent a memo to the Town Board indicating that they no longer wished to serve as the Tree Board, but would fulfill their responsibility to plant a tree at Bailey Park on Arbor Day.

The Committee received a memo from the Town Board on October 28, 2025 requesting that they continue to fulfill their duties as the Tree Board until the end of 2025 and if a new Tree Board is not in place by Arbor Day, the Committee plan an event for the day.

After further review and discussion, the following thoughts were shared:

Since the Town has not engaged with the Tree Board on any matters in the past that were established for the Tree Board to be involved with, it is expect that there would not be any need for the Town to engage with the Tree Board between now and year end or that the Tree Board would be engaged in the future. Since there will be no action required of the Tree Board, there is no need for involvement going forward.

As far as Arbor Day event in 2026, should the Town want to continue as a Tree City this responsibility can be assigned to the Parks Department. If the Town does not want to continue as a Tree City there is no need for an Arbor Day event.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Somers Open Space Committee

cc: Open Space Committee  
Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Town Assessor