OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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MICHAEL BARNHART
CHAIRMAN

Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
335 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2026

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

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

Jan Antonucci was absent.

Minutes
A motion was made by Mr. MacGregor and seconded by Mrs. Simpson to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2026 meeting.

APPLICATIONS

3 Arthur Court
The Committee reviewed and discussed a second submission received from the Planning Board for a proposed subdivision at 3 Arthur Court and had no further comments. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

9 Sun Hill Road
A submission received from the Planning Board to build a new dwelling at 9 Sun Hill Road was reviewed and discussed. Generally, the Committee was satisfied with the submission and appreciates the addition of rain gardens over cultec infiltrators. However,

1. The Committee needs to know if any curbing is proposed for the driveway or elsewhere and that it have a 'Cape Cod' profile.

2. There is also concern about the response to Steve Robbin's request for wetland delineation. The applicant claims that surveyor identified wetland limits, but licensed surveyors are not necessarily soil scientists or qualified to delineate wetlands. Also, the reference to 'stream limit' as demarcating wetlands is ambiguous. What is a stream limit? Stream bank? Identified by the surveyor? Given the presence of wetland areas on or adjacent to

the property, the Committee wonders if it would be prudent to have a qualified expert verify wetland limits.

A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

Old Business

Proposed Partial Ban on Gas Powered Leaf Blowers
In May, a memo was sent to the Town Board proposing a partial ban on gas powered leaf blowers. The Committee was asked to attend the June 4th Town Board Work Session for a review and discussion. Mr. Barnhart attended and represented the Committee. The Town Board appreciated the information presented. After a discussion at the June Open Space Committee, all thought perhaps creating a Resolution to propose a County-Wide partial ban should be considered. Since the June meeting, the Town Supervisor received a letter from the County stating that it cannot propose such a ban and the individual municipalities would have to do that and should consider working together to do so. Bedford has adopted such a ban which Mrs. Schirmer shared with the members. A discussion will take place at the October meeting.

New Business

Lincoln Hall
The Committee has learned that a portion of Lincoln Hall's 466 acres, is going to be on sale soon. There are concerns, including what will happen with the portion of the old railroad bed that is on the property. Discussions should also take place with the Somers Energy and Environment Committee as well as the Westchester Land Trust. The IBM property is also a concern. Both properties will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 8th at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Open Space Committee

cc: Open Space Committee
Town Board
Town Clerk
Town Assessor