

TOWN OF SOMERS
Open Space and Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday June 17th, 7:00 PM
Town Hall Auditorium

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ann Moses at 7:02 PM

II. Members Present:

Ann Moses, Richard Bailey, Debra Romano, Joan Sears, Dominic Wilson, Chuck Carson, Patrice Carson and Maureen Parcell

III. Audience: John Kelleher, Emily Dreyer, Audra Dreyer, Matt Bernier and Jim Bernier

IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

It was noted that the May 20th minutes did not include attendee Patrice Carson. The minutes will be amended to make this correction. Motion by Joan Sears to approve the 5/20/2024 minutes as amended. Seconded by Patrice Carson. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence: Ann Moses received a reminder of the DEEP CAER program event to be held on June 26th from 4:30 PM to 7 PM at Camp Aya Po. The parking lot at Camp Aya Po will be closed to the public except for event participants on that day. Emily Dreyer said that she had issues trying to register more than one family member for the event. Ann will talk to her contact at DEEP to resolve this issue.

I. Old Business

Audra handed out copies of a notice she will distribute for the Girl Scout Aya Po cleanup she has organized for July 13th. The committee determined that she should delete the reference to swimming in Hurds Lake after the cleanup even though it would not be an official cleanup activity.

Matt presented information on his Eagle Project to build a footbridge on the Somersville Mill Trail. The new bridge will replace a temporary bridge put in place several years ago. It will be approximately 16 feet long made of pressure treated wood and will include a handrail on one side. Todd Rolland has given Matt a possible design and materials cost estimate from a previous bridge built by the trails committee. Matt plans to organize a car wash to raise funds and also contact local restaurants about promoting his project and donating a portion of their proceeds to help with funding.

VII. New Business

A man has been seen performing maintenance at Camp Aya Po including using a weed whacker and removing fallen trees on the trails using a chain saw. None of the committee members know the identity of this mystery man. He needs to be identified so that the town can obtain a signed waiver from him.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday Sept. 16th 2024 at 6:30 PM.

IX. Adjournment

7:26 pm. Motion to adjourn by Joan Sears, seconded by Patrice arson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bailey – Secretary