

**Camp Aya - Po Strategic Planning Committee  
Minutes  
Wednesday, April 20, 2016  
Somers Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room  
7:00 pm**

**Call to Order: Chairman Brad Pellissier called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.**

**Members Present: Timothy Welch, Michelle Young, Patricia Loftus, Chris Boucher, Tim Kradas, Bruce Upton, Dave Arnold, Barbara Anderson (guest from Open Space Trails), and Rob Hartman.**

Brad Pellissier opened the discussion regarding the survey noting the majority of the respondents were adults from Somers with 2/3 having children under 18. Also noted we can dig further into responses to questions 5/6 regarding previous use and membership in a local civic organization.

Bruce Upton shared that there's much more vandalism at the camp ó citing knocked down railings, further damage to the buildings themselves ó items that could lead to potentially dangerous accidents. Brad reminded the committee that although the trespassing is a problem it really is not our charge to solve, it's a Selectman's issue and we need to focus on the future.

After a lively discussion it was suggested that the data might be easier to digest in a comparable format ó allowing members to see responses in comparison to other responses. Chris Boucher will forward the data in excel format to Michelle Young who will draft into graph format. In addition, we need to insure all narrative responses are considered. As a group, each member will read through the narratives and begin to place them into the following categories based on the strongest sentiment within each response:

- Pro buildings remaining
- Con buildings remaining
- Open space only
- Seasonal recreational youth camp
- Concern for expenditures
- Sanitation/DPW/maintenance

Members are also welcome to add a FEW categories of their own. The results will be discussed at the next meeting. Members who would like a hard copy of the 26 pages of narratives are welcome to stop by DPW and Bruce or Chris will provide one.

Brad asked whether we want to post the results of the survey on the town website and everyone was opposed at this time. Pat Loftus suggested a thank you would be the best

way to go. Brad will write the note and post. We'll add more info to the website as we have a more gelled response.

New Business: Chris Boucher shared that the Open Space Trails committee has developed and approved a forestry plan to be presented to the Selectman. He suggested it would be relevant to the committee and available on the town website shortly. Everyone was interested to read/learn more. Brad suggested in a few months some joint meetings of both committees would be beneficial. Again, everyone agreed.

**Minutes of February 17, 2016 Meeting:**

**Motion:** D. Arnold **Second:** T. Kradas to approve minutes. Passed unanimously.

**Adjournment: 7:42 P.M. Motion:** T. Kradas. **Second:** C. Boucher. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Young  
Camp Aya Po Strategic Planning Committee  
Secretary