

TOWN OF SOMERS
Open Space and Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday Nov. 15th, 2021, 7:00 PM
Town Hall Auditorium

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ann Moses at 7:01 PM

II. Members Present:

Ann Moses, Richard Bailey, Dick Hutton, Joan Sears, Mike Blouin, Eileen Blouin, Michael Maynard, Brad Dolben, Debra Romano, and Todd Roland

III. Audience: Jack and Brian Logan

IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Brad Dolben to approve the 10/18/2021 minutes as written. Seconded by Joan Sears. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence: Email from Jack Logan to Todd Roland describing proposed Eagle Scout project at Camp Aya Po.

Email from Dom Wilson suggesting Feb. 12th as date for Striders moonlight run and walk at Camp Aya Po. Dom will also contact Maureen about possibly increasing the scope of the event.

VI. Old Business

Butterfly Meadow

The permanent information signs designed by the Somers Girl Scouts for the meadow have been received but have not yet been installed.

Trail Maintenance

A work party to remove encroaching vegetation from the Somersville Mill Trail has been scheduled for Saturday No. 20th. The locations for future foot bridges along the trail will also be examined. A grant proposal for bridge materials will be prepared for submission next year. Richard suggested that heavy duty landscape fabric be evaluated to prevent Japanese Knotweed from sprouting in the trail.

VII. New Business

Jack Logan presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to the committee including a hand-out with details of the project. He has proposed building and installing two 7 to 8 foot benches along the Lakeside Trail. One will be near the footbridge across the inlet stream and the other at a point looking out across the lake. The benches will be made using pressure treated lumber and stainless-steel bolts. He will be using fund-raising events to raise the estimated \$450 total cost. The committee recommended that the benches be anchored to the ground. His target for completion is spring 2022.

A motion was made by Joan Sears and seconded by Eileen Blouin to send the proposal on to the BOS with a recommendation that it be approved. Motion passed.

Debra Romaro was welcomed as the newest committee member.

The proposed meeting schedule for 2022 was handed out to all members. Joan Sears made a motion to accept the schedule as presented. Seconded by Debra Romano. Todd Roland confirmed that special meetings can be called for a specific topic during months which do not include a regular meeting. Motion passed.

Dick Hutton reported that the Somers Rotary Club has applied for a grant for funds to create a butterfly meadow. The Rotary Club is looking for a SOSTC member to head the project. The committee felt that more information is needed before anyone can make a decision. Kathy Devlin who wrote the grant request will be contacted to provide details on the amount of funding requested as well as the scope of the project. Ann Moses suggested that the old field south of Camp Road be utilized for the meadow.

Dick reported that the Rotary Club received a donation of four butterfly bushes to be delivered in April 2022.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday April 18th 2022 at 7:00 PM.

IX. Adjournment

8:13 pm. Motion to adjourn by Dick Hutton, seconded by Joan Sears. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bailey - Secretary