

**TOWN OF SOMERS**  
**Open Space and Trails Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, June 20th, 2022, 7:00 PM**  
**Town Hall Auditorium**

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Eileen Blouin at 7:00 PM

**II. Members Present:**

Richard Bailey, Patrice Carson, Chuck Carson, Michael Maynard, Mike Blouin, Eileen Blouin, Dominic Wilson, and Todd Rolland

**III. Audience:** John Kelleher

**IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Patrice Carson to approve the 5/16/2022 minutes as written. Seconded by Mike Blouin. Motion carried.

**V. Correspondence:** Boy Scout Jack Logan has notified Todd Rolland that he is planning to pour the cement for the benches at Camp Aya Po this coming weekend.

DEEP has notified us that fish stocking for Hurds Lake is not recommended at this time. However, they will be meeting with Todd and Ann about stocking in the future.

**VI. Old Business**

Butterfly Meadow

The Somers Girl Scouts will be conducting a clean-up at the butterfly meadow at Camp Aya Po this coming Sunday

Camp Aya Po

Todd Rolland reported that a new Ad Hoc committee is being formed to address the future uses of Camp Aya Po. Patrice Carson and Ann Moses are among those invited to join.

Vandalism and misuse of the property is increasing as more people start using the property. In addition to police patrols, the Somers dog warden has been periodically checking to ensure dogs are leashed.

Todd reported that the dam has been inspected by DEEP and has minor deficiencies that need to be corrected including additional rip rap and removal of vegetation.

Trail Maintenance

Richard reported that he recently cut back the Japanese knotweed on the Somersville Mill Trail and that section of the trail is in good shape. Encroaching vegetation will need to be removed along the remainder of the trail. Dom Wilson suggested that the construction of a wooden walkway be considered through the knotweed patch to reduce the need for cutting.

Mike Maynard asked if materials would be available to construct a simple walkway across a wet area on the Lakeside Trail at Camp Aya Po. Todd said materials could be made available once the length of the walkway and a design are determined.

Richard reported that Mike Blouin, Dom, and himself have completed the Old Spring Trail at Bald Mountain including signage. An updated trails map showing the new trail as well as the proposed Bald Mountain Ridge Trail has been sent to Maureen for inclusion in the online Somers Trails brochure.

**VII. New Business – None**

**VIII. Next Meeting**

The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

**IX. Adjournment**

7:23 pm. Motion to adjourn by Patrice Carson, seconded by Mike Blouin. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Bailey - Secretary