

TOWN OF SOMERS
Open Space and Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday November 21st, 2022, 7:00 PM
Town Hall Auditorium

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ann Moses at 7:04 PM

II. Members Present:

Ann Moses, Richard Bailey, Eileen Blouin, Mike Blouin (via phone), Debra Romano, Joan Sears, Maureen Parsell and Todd Rolland

III. Audience: John Kelleher

IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Debra Romano to approve the 9/19/2022 minutes as written. Seconded by Joan Sears. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence: See Old Business

VI. Old Business

A DEEP representative contacted Todd Rolland to inform him that the previously scheduled Hurds Lake fish sampling needs to be postponed until spring due to an equipment failure.

VII. New Business

Joan Sears reported that the Somers boy scouts are interested in helping at Camp Aya Po. A possible project is maintaining the existing amphitheater including removing vegetation and sealing the benches. They wanted to know if any permits were required to do this work. Todd said no permits were required and suggested that if the benches are refurbished, linseed oil be used instead of paint due to peeling paint possibly contaminating the lake. It was also suggested that mulch might be spread in the rows to cut down on weeds.

The boy scouts are also interested in helping to maintain the butterfly meadow started by the girl scouts. One of the signs placed at the garden by the girl scouts has been stolen.

The troop will also have a couple of scouts looking for eagle projects next year.

Due to the results from the Camp Aya Po survey and recommendations from the Camp Aya Po Ad Hoc Committee the Somers BOS has approved a plan for changes to Camp Aya Po including a porta-potty pad and dump station so that next summer a Host Camper can be utilized to monitor and maintain the area. A gate will also be installed so that the parking area can be secured at night. Todd also reported that the current swimming area does not meet state guidelines and will need to be upgraded including floating barriers to define the swimming area and raking of the beach each morning during the swimming season.

Todd Rolland presented a proposed revised meeting schedule for 2023. Motion by Richard Bailey to accept the schedule as presented. Seconded by Eileen Blouin.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday April 17th 2023 at 7:00 PM.

IX. Adjournment

7:50 pm. Motion to adjourn by Joan Sears, seconded by Debra Romano. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bailey - Secretary