

TOWN OF SOMERS

Open Space and Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday September 16th, 6:30 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ann Moses at 6:32 PM

II. Members Present:

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

III. Audience: None

IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Patrice Carson to approve the 6/17/2024 minutes. Seconded by Debra Romano. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence: Todd Rolland reported that the DEEP Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) event held on June 26th at Camp Aya Po was a success with 17 people participating. The event included lost and injured hiker training. The "injured" hiker was located part way up Perkins Mountain and a Stokes Litter Basket was used to carry them down to the parking area by six participants including committee member Dom Wilson. Dom said transporting someone down a trail is much harder than you would think.

I. Old Business

Joan Sears showed before and after photos of the amphitheater at Camp Aya Po after the girl scout event organized by Audra Dreyer in July to remove the weeds. Joan asked about Somers DPW putting down wood chips to help control weeds but Todd said this would only be a short-term fix and not likely worth the effort.

The Somersville Mill Trail needs work and Dom Wilson agreed to lead a work party there sometime next month. He will coordinate with Maureen to advertise the work party on the recreation website.

VII. New Business

The meeting schedule for 2025 was distributed. A motion was made by Joan Sears to accept the schedule with a correction to change the meeting time to 6:30 PM. Seconded by Barbara Anderson. Motion carried.

A suggestion was made to decrease the number of committee members from the current 10 down to 9. Todd will submit this request to the BOS. The committee lost members this year and the current members were asked to look for additional potential members. Maureen said she could create a banner for the recreation website letting the public know about the vacancies on the committee.

Todd reported on the work being done on the Hurds Lake dam. It is the town's responsibility to maintain the

dam in a safe condition. A new guardrail is being installed and vegetation has been removed from the downstream face. Additional work to decrease the slope on the downstream face is needed. Since this is not classified as a high hazard dam, federal or state funding is not available.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday Oct. 21st 2024 at 6:30 PM.

IX. Adjournment

7:15 pm. Motion to adjourn by Patrice Carson, seconded by Richard Bailey. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bailey – Secretary