

TOWN OF SOMERS
Open Space and Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday November 17th, 2025, 6:30 PM
Town Hall Meeting Room

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ann Moses at 6:31 PM

II. Members Present:

Ann Moses, Richard Bailey, Joan Sears (on phone), Dominic Wilson, Patrice Carson, Chuck Carson, Barbara Anderson and Todd Rolland

III. Audience: Audra Dwyer

IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Richard Bailey suggested the 10/20/2025 minutes be amended to add the name of the person submitting the minutes. Motion by Dom Wilson to approve the 10/20/2025 minutes as amended. Seconded by Joan Sears. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence:

Andrew Petruff; who lives on Still Meadow Lane; contacted the trails committee about helping with maintaining the North Forest View Trail which is adjacent to his property. He reported that there are several downed trees across the trail which will need to be cut with a chain saw to remove. Ann will respond and inform him that he will need to sign a waiver and wear appropriate PPE before using a chain saw on town land.

VI. Old Business:

Audra reported that the girl scout can and bottle bin at Aya Po has been moved to a better location. Quite a few cans and bottles have been collected but not as many as she had hoped. There is a wasp nest inside the bin. Ann said that if the new bin isn't working out, the scouts do have the option to remove it.

Joan Sears reported that the girl scout pollinator garden at Aya Po is no longer functional and the information signs have been removed. She requested that the town DPW clean up the area. She said the girl scouts might create a smaller pollinator garden next spring. Ann suggested a better plan might be for them to continue their work maintaining the amphitheater rather than planting more flowers. Audra expressed an interest in helping with the amphitheater effort. Ann said she was in favor of creating an event area focused on the old fireplace rather than the amphitheater since it was better suited for disability access and was flatter.

Dom reported that the trails at Bald Mountain are in good shape. He also said someone has been blowing leaves along trails at Camp Aya Po. This might lead to increased trail erosion and is not recommended. This same issue has occurred before. The individual needs to be identified and told that helping to maintain the trails is appreciated but the leaf blowing is not. The Somersville Mill Trail was cleared in April but has since closed in and needs work. This trail appears to see little use.

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Next Meeting: The next SOSTC meeting is scheduled for Monday April 20th 2026 at 6:30 PM.

IX. Adjournment: 7:03 PM. Motion to adjourn by Patrice Carson, seconded by Chuck Carson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bailey - Secretary