

**Camp Aya - Po Strategic Planning Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 15, 2016**  
**Somers Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room**  
**7:00 pm**

**Call to Order: Chairman Brad Pellissier called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present: Timothy Welch, Michelle Young, Patricia Loftus, Tim Kradas, Paul Rasic, Dave Arnold, Bruce Upton, Chris Boucher, Brad Pellissier, Rob Hartman and Tom Van Tassel.**

Brad Pellissier opened the meeting with an overview of the work Somers Public Works Department has done on the Camp AyaPo grounds. All the buildings have been removed as they were deemed unsafe and beyond a restoration point. He asked the committee to share their thoughts on the balance of our mandate: Do we build new? How do we fund it? What uses would it have? Do we simply let everything be for a while, letting the trails, etc mature from the work done by the Open Space Committee?

Discussion and suggestions included:

- Sitting vacant the space is less attractive to vandals.
- Long term caretaker would be critical to deter vandalism
- The bell should come down and be placed in town as a memorial
- How should we address the fact that we did a survey and yet may do nothing with the space
- Do we need additional signage to inform people of who they can call if there are questions or problems regarding the space?
- Can we address the desire for a swimming area? Is the lake clean?
- Can we improve the boat launches?

Information shared by various committee members:

- The survey was shared via the last meeting minutes so results are available
- Signs did exist at Field Road with a phone number for the Rec Dept
- Swimming and lake are not the purview of this committee nor the boat launch areas
- The town is working with our insurance broker to determine how signs should read in regard to swimming in light of the grant language.
- The space will be cared for if left empty as any other open space.

**Motion made to suspend meeting again until October 19, 2016 to review summer activity at Camp AyaPo and determine if the committee continues or disbands.**

**Motion:** P. Loftus **Second:** T. Kradas Passed unanimously.

**Motion made to ask the town to remove, clean and place the bell in town and create signs with an information number.**

**Motion:** M. Young **Second:** R. Hartman Passed unanimously.

**Motion to accept minutes of May 18, 2016 meeting.**

**Motion:** T. VanTassel **Second:** P. Rasic Passed unanimously

**Adjournment: 8:17 P.M. Motion:** T. Kradas. **Second:** C. Boucher. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Young  
Camp Aya Po Strategic Planning Committee  
Secretary