



TOWN OF PUTNAM
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
TOWN HALL
200 SCHOOL STREET • PUTNAM, CT 06260

**TOWN OF PUTNAM
TRAILS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING – April 10, 2025**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Scott Morehead Angela Kneeland
 Stephen Faucher Michael Rochetti
 Bruce Fitzback, Chair

ALSO PRESENT: Jackie Lefevre, Recording Secretary
 Elaine Sistare, Town Administrator

ABSENT: Mary Ann Chinatti, Director, Economic & Community Development

1. Roll Call: The Roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present. Chairman Morehead called the meeting to order at 5:02PM.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 09, 2025*:
Motion by Moorehead, seconded by Kneeland to approve January 09, 2025, minutes as presented. Carried unanimously.
3. New Business: None
4. Old Business
 - i) Airline Trail Update: TA Sistare reported on the Pomfret to Putnam trail connection. Pomfret is the lead town utilizing grant funding through the Transportation Alternative Program (T.A.P). A field walk from Rte 169, Pomfret to Putnam River Trail near the Quinebaug River was recently completed. Thus far 60% Design is completed. Army Corp. of Engineers to get involved due to wetlands. Construction could start as soon as Spring 2026, with about a 12-month construction period. Dept. of Transportation (D.O.T) identified most ditches along the trail as being defined as wetlands. A standard fix is usually to raise the trail bed. The goal would be in support of creating a low maintenance trail however, Towns would be responsible for downed tree removal, etc. TA Sistare left the meeting at 5:13pm.

Subject

Date

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Chair Fitzback added information on the field walk, mentioned by TA Sistare, took place from Needles Eye Road, Pomfret to the Putnam River Trail, near the bridge that crosses over the Quinebaug River, across from Arch Street. The walk took place on April 1st. Representatives from Federal EPA, State DOT, Town of Putnam Representatives: TA Sistare, Recreation Director Jimmy Callaghan, Trails Chair Bruce Fitzback; and Pomfret First Selectmen Maureen Nicholson walked the full length.

Chair Fitzback provided an update on Putnam to Thompson connection: On January 21, 2025, a letter was received from Provost Landscaping, 35 Providence Street, Putnam, stating they no longer are interested in providing, section of the trail connection through their property. Alternative routes are being researched.

Greenway Trail: Comes through Pomfret to Rte 44 intersection of 44 & Kennedy Drive, goes right down the Putnam River Trail, over to Park Rd, Tracey Rd, and Attawaugan Crossing Road in Killingly. The Chair walked the area, and discovered a steep area, close to the highway would require a suspension bridge. Making the project too costly. The west side of the river, through the Technology Park, would be more of a possibility. Town could consider placement of a bridge across a Town owned pond, in the Tech Park and over the Quinebaug River.

The Chair explained that he and TA Sistare are members of the Airline State Park Trail Alliance. He provided copies of the February and March 2025 meeting minutes, By laws, and Certification of Incorporation. Updates will be shared from meetings as they become available.

5. Public Participation - NONE

6. Adjournment

Motion by Moorehead, second by Faucher **to** adjourn at 5:33PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Lefevre, Recording Secretary