

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2010 MEETING

**In Attendance:**

Michele Belisle     John Drake             Al Floyd  
Albert Grant        Barbara Sherman     Dick Sherman  
Tom Talamini

**Absent:**

John Burnham     Joanne Drapeau  
Kristen Martin     Margaret Steinbugler  
Deb Talamini       Peter Weilhouwer

CALL TO ORDER: 7:08 PM

MINUTES of Jan. 21, 2010 MEETING: Approved, after date correction.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and WELCOME: Guest: John Kehoe

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" (formerly Mansions on Scantic) – It was noted that the buildings extends much further back than originally thought. Mr. Chapman is on vacation currently.
- b. East Windsor River Guide /SRWA Guides – Chair again discussed proposed revisions to current SRWA guide, with expanded coverage of river within East Windsor, and prototype of EW River Guide and how it would be marked. Complete river guide insert and card part of year's plan.
- c. Canoe Trips on Scantic / Flood (River) Review – This August, a river review will be conducted which would report on the surface of the banks (sandy, clay, slippery, etc) and the width of the river at various points. As many as can, would be asked to participate.
- d. Trail Markers – Plan to spray round blue markers with yellow diamond shape and install.
- e. Membership – Chair requested of the Board of Selectmen that, instead of trying to fill the 3 alternate vacancies, to instead change the status of 3 of our members to "alternate" status. We could keep our members who are so dedicated but make the ability of reaching a quorum more attainable. The BofS has similar issue with Veterans' group and will get back to us.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Report on the Wickett's Bridge walk was done with pictures supplied by member Al Floyd. Guest John Kehoe took part in that walk.
- b. Chair reviewed some goals for this year; among them:
  1. Obtain Greenway status, the town's part of the Scantic as a Greenway has been supported with letters from State Rep. Ted Graziani, State Senator Gary Lebeau, Town Assistant Planner Robin Newton, John Monroe and Gordon Gibson of US Dept of Interior.
  2. Open up trail from O'Melia Road to Old Ellington Road.
  3. Open Scantic from Rte. 140 to filter beds and Scantic from Enfield line to Rte 140.
  4. Construction of parking lots at O'Melia Road, Rte. 140, filter beds and Old Ellington Road.
  5. Maintenance of river to keep open once it is opened.
  6. Establish volunteer list of all who want to help (name, phone, email, boat or not).
  7. Bridge identification (set of 2 for each of the 4 bridges), made, perhaps, in town sign shop.
- c. Chair challenged SRWA to clear the Enfield area of the Scantic to ensure the ability to traverse from Powder Mill Barn downstream to O'Melia Road with a stop perhaps at Melrose Bridge for some refreshment, before continuing to end. He has challenged the SRWA to enable us to do that by them clearing from PMB to the town line and having us clear from there to the filter beds.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. March's activity was confirmed as a walk from Hensel property to filter beds slated for March 14 at 10 AM and a walk on the "trail", from O'Melia Road as far as can be done, is scheduled for April ?.
- b. Chair thanked member Michele for her offer of assistance with typing for the greenway, which was explained was done by SRWA since it had all the information from its own application.
- c. Picture of wooden bench as is being used in Enfield section of Scantic River Park was shown. The cost would be \$60 and perhaps some local merchants/townspersons would be willing to donate one.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:11 P.M.