

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2012

In Attendance:

John Burnham
Lois Noble
Deb Talamini

Joanne Drapeau
Barbara Sherman
Tom Talamini

Al Floyd
Dick Sherman

Albert Grant
Dick Sullivan

Absent:

Alan Baker
Gil Hayes

John Drake

Ken Francis

Jim Halloran

Attending: Kirk Monstream

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 PM

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: Under New Business 5. g) East Windsor Sewer Phase 3

MINUTES of January 19, 2012 MEETING: Approved.

ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Letter was sent to Sumner Chapman indicating our current focus on Scantic River State Park but still plan for trails at Canyon Ridge area in the future.
- b. River Review / Water testing – Per request, 5 new test spots were added to the sampling sites. 1st above the reservoir; 2nd the reservoir itself; 3rd Broad Brook on East Road; 4th Brook behind Elaine's Pizza; 5th Ketch Brook on Rye Street. Additional testing sample bottles delivered to SRWA for Enfield use. Views of Scantic River from SRSP showed about 5 or 6 trees down and very clear water was observed.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Melrose Bridge – Markers placed about $\frac{3}{4}$ of distance of trails.
- d. Window decals – No additional sales.
- e. February 4th work party – Work party of 4 members and 5 others cleared trails. Member John Drake brought poles which 2 members worked on to make them suitable for use as bridges.
- f. AHRC Educational Extension – No report.
- g. Norton Property Update – Two members of the Family met with First Selectman and reported that they had walked the trail and found it outstanding.
- h. Boy Scout Eagle Project – Award ceremony honoring Billy Thimm will be held on March 25th. Several member aided Scout Michael Welti's fundraising by purchasing car wash certificates.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. February Work Party – Scheduled for 2/25 to meet at 9:00AM at Burnham barn. Project to continue on trails in State Park. March work party dates set for 3/10 and 3/24.

- b. Aquarion Water Company Champion Award - Information received from Rep. Chris Davis and members will look into criteria relating to our qualifying by our activities involving the water testing.
 - c. SRWA – March 31st is Spring Splash and there are opportunities to help, such as cooking. Any other jobs such as safety aide would require notifying SRWA in advance. SRWA has purchased a box trailer to contain all its equipment. It is available to us for our use on the trails. Also there is leftover grant money which could possibly be used by our group for supplies for our bridges. Note was made that the Super Bowl Sunday hike on Bailey Road had good turnout and was great fun.
 - d. Member replacement – Process is for an alternate who wanted to become a permanent member of the Commission to send in an application for that status and then when approved to resign as alternate.
 - e.. Omelia Road Parking Area – Damage due to excess water in the lot causing deep ruts. Chair asked the highway department to close off the area for the present until the damage can be repaired. In the past it had be said that tailings could not be used but in recent talks with Robin Newton she agreed that they could be used for the driveway area. Plans were drawn up for that purpose. We await approval.
 - f. Display at Town Hall Lobby - Members Deb Talamini and Joanne Drapeau will work on the town hall display case with AHRC items, anticipating March timeframe.
 - g. East Windsor Sewer Phase3 – A letter was received requesting the support of the Commission on the approval of expansion of the sewer project. Discussion followed and member John Burnham made the motion, seconded by member Deb Talamini to approve the following motion:

*“**MOTION** to endorse the North Road Sewer Phase 3 project. The reasons for endorsing this project include supporting the preservation of our groundwater which ultimately drains into the Scantic River, and which currently compromises the integrity of the wells, groundwater and the Scantic River.”*
7. Public input: Kirk Monstream noted he had seen our meeting posted, was curious and came to see what we were about.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:58PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 2/17/2012