

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 15, 2012

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Alan Baker**

**Al Floyd**

**Lois Noble** (after another meeting)

**Dick Sullivan**

**John Burnham**

**Ken Francis**

**Deb Talamini**

**John Drake**

**Jim Halloran**

**Barbara Sherman**

**Tom Talamini**

**Joanne Drapeau**

**Ray Jones**

**Dick Sherman**

**ABSENT:**

**Albert Grant**

**GUESTS:** Kirk Monstream, Sue Gaffney, Rebecca Talamini (with cupcakes!)

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:05 PM

**ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**MINUTES** of February 16, 2012 MEETING: Approved with 3 Abstentions.

**NB 5a.** Chair went out of order on the agenda to introduce our newest member, Ray Jones. It was mentioned that we have him and his family to thank for keeping the filter bed area clean of trash. All members introduced themselves and welcomed Ray.

**ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Status quo on our trails at that site.
- b. River Review / Water testing – River still doesn't look bad but noted 1 tree down in filter bed area and trestle area is clogged. Testing was done at 5 new test spots, with Rebecca Talamini assisting with the sampling. New Member Ray asked if the water was sampled near the Mill site which has been condemned. It was verified that there is sampling in that area. Associate Member Dr. Kirsten Martin suggested in an email that we purchase some hand-held water testers because her teaching commitment means that sometimes there is a backlog of samples to be tested and the delay causes some of the readings to be less than precise. A discussion followed as to sources of funds for such purchases since the hand held for simple testing of temperature and ph were \$20 but the others for the additional testing for dissolved oxygen were more costly.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Melrose Bridge – The 2/25 work party was cancelled but the March 10 work day had 14 participate in working on the trails. On March 11 another 5 added about 150 yards to trail. 5 adults and 10 Girl Scouts were observed picking up trash as well. Member Ray cautioned anyone picking up trash to be aware of the hazardous items left behind by others. There are 6 tamarack trees over 100 long which could be used for the needed bridge. We need to make sure we do not cut the lengths too short because that is the reason the bridge washed away.
- d. Window decals – One potential new sale. Treasurer Deb Talamini presented the receipt for the \$200 from prior sales which was deposited in Town account.

- e. AHRC Educational Extension – Nothing new but Member Alan hoped with warmer weather there would be some participation, helping with April project.
- f. Display at Town Hall – Was widely viewed and has had some positive interest.
- g. Boy Scout Eagle Award -- Ceremony honoring Billy Thim will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 3PM. 3 members bought car wash certificates to help Scout Michael Welti's fundraising.
- h. Aquarion Water Company Award -- Chair said he has started looking into it.
- i. Budget Hearing – Chair spoke in hope of getting the original \$250 reinstated to help pay for supplies and cost of being a member of the CT Rivers Alliance, but money will not be approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- b. March Party – Scheduled for 3/24, 3/31; 4/14 & 4/28 -- meeting either at 9:00AM at Burnham barn or going directly to Melrose Road for 9:30. Project goal to continue on trails in State Park. Unofficial work day 3/18 meeting at Melrose Road **9AM-ish**.
- c. SRWA – Just a reminder: March 31<sup>st</sup> is Spring Splash which will conflict with one of our work days. SWRA's meeting of 3/12 was postponed until 3/19.
- d. Damage to Omelia Road Parking Area – Town's Robin Newton said we can use tailings to cover the driveway area (not the entire parking lot), First Select was notified of this change, as was Highway Department's Len Norton.
- e. East Windsor Sewer Phase3 – Town meeting on this matter is April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30PM. Members were encouraged to attend so enough votes will allow the matter to go to referendum.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 3/16/2012