

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2013**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Alan Baker

Al Floyd

Barbara Sherman

Tom Talamini

John Burnham

Albert Grant

Dick Sherman

John Drake

Jim Halloran

Dick Sullivan

Joanne Drapeau

Lois Noble

Deb Talamini

ABSENT:

Ken Francis

Ray Jones

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:03 PM
2. **MINUTES** of Regular December 20, 2012 Meeting: Having been read and with no corrections: Approved, with 3 abstention.
3. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** **New Business 5f.** Duck Race/Cardboard Boat Race
4. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – River high but clear. It was noted it had been brown once this past month and it was questioned as to whether Enfield had even gotten back to us with the possible source of this brown water. At its meeting, a member of SRWA reported that water bubbles up where the old dump was behind JFK High School and perhaps with GPS we could get an exact location.
 - b. Water testing – Testing continues, but Deb Nordell reported she could not get to the pond. An Enfield elementary school teacher would like to get her students involved and has contacted Rex Joffray to get his help starting up.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Trail was hiked by at least 160 and maybe 200 on New Year's Day and we received good feedback from those hikers and those who subsequently walked it. On 1/1 we used a rope tied between trees as a handrail to help reduce the possibility of slipping on the steep slope. There are a few wet spots that need to be addressed when the weather gets warmer. BBFD has reported it can access the old horse trail which is used by hunters. We plan to put up a kiosk which would hold information as to the trail and the rules of the state park regarding hunting, etc. This is a multi-purpose area and we must all work together to use and enjoy it..
 - d. Work Party - On December 29th, a final review of the trail was made to ensure that the hikers would have the best conditions possible, and again work was done just before the hike to install the rope handrail; the bridges had been previously secured against high water carrying them down river.
 - e. Window decals – There are still 63 available, after sales at the hike.
 - f. Patch Blog – Information as the contact person and an email address was decided upon.
 - g. Map – A map with colored designations was passed around – it will be fleshed out with GPS co-ordinates before printed for distribution.
5. **New Business**
 - a. No additional January work days planned but weather-permitting February 23rd Work Party – to meet

at 8:30Am at John's barn and workers will have the following projects; reroute the end of the trail; straighten the log bridge which is twisted; ramp with slab wood put onto bridges; build at least 1 kiosk (about 4 needed).

- b. SRWA – Their hike is on Super Bowl Sunday, starting at 10AM, starting at Bailey Road.
- c. Better Ending – A new “end” to the trail will be planned out per Member Alan Baker.
- d. New Grant - Chairman Dick Sherman received information of a new grant from the State for 2012 and will enlist Melissa Maltese and Robin Newton to help work it up.
- e. CT Trails Day – Discussion as to our planning another hike this year and it was affirmative; member Alan Baker will be submitting info.
- f. **Duck Race/Cardboard Boat Race** – Vice Chair John Burnham will run with idea for a sponsor for the race and will coordinate with Dog Park Commission Members as their plans for a date.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 1/21/20132