

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2013**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Alan Baker  
Albert Grant  
Dick Sherman**

**John Drake  
Jim Halloran  
Dick Sullivan**

**Joanne Drapeau  
Lois Noble  
Deb Talamini**

**Al Floyd  
Barbara Sherman  
Tom Talamini**

**ABSENT:**

**Ken Francis**

**Sue Gaffney**

**Ray Jones**

**Guest: Rebecca Talamini**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:10 PM
2. **MINUTES** of Regular July 18, 2013 Meeting: **Approved, with 3 abstentions.**
3. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None
4. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. River Review – It was reported by member John Drake that there was a 6” tree down near Melrose Bridge. And further back another was resting on other trees with lots of vines. During a canoe trip it was observed that two of the benches had moved to the other side of the river and were put back on the bank.
  - b. Water testing – Continues in South Windsor and East Windsor. After the rains Members Tom and Deb Talamini checked at Rte 140, and Town Farm Road noting that the water was very chocolaty and at Powder Hollow found that the water not as dark but still chocolate-colored.
  - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Member Joanne Drapeau walked the trail 10 days ago and found a tree down past the 2<sup>nd</sup> mudwalk. But Member John Drake said he had moved it after that date. She also saw at the 3<sup>rd</sup> mudwalk a tree hanging over and the bridge was up the tributary. It will require a group of workers to bring it back to its spot and to remedy the other problems caused by the rains. Chair Dick Sherman tried to access the Scantic from Plantation Road Extension but there was too much standing water. He questioned Robin Newton as to whether this land was being leased from the town or if the Commission members had full access to it. She will get back to him after doing some research. Discussion followed as to other possible points of entry on the lower Scantic.
  - d. Window decals – Still no additional sales (61 left).
  - e. Cardboard Boat Race – It followed the Rubber Duck Race at which members assisted the BMX Skate park volunteers launching and gathering up the ducks. There were 6 entries in the boat race with several people saying that they will enter next year with boats that were built for this race by the date stopped participation. Deb Talamini came in first place and Albie Grant’s boat needed some assistance to cross the finish line. He will make it better for next year. \$196 was raised for the 5 Corner Cupboard. Thanks to Deb for the great publicity and for her follow-up stories and pictures in the Journal of the boat, Sister Act. There should be another article in the next North Central newsletter.
  - f. Patch Blog – Nothing new posted this month.

**5. New Business**

- a. Work Party for August – Plans were made to meet Saturday August 17 with hopes of entering the river at Cemetery Road and going south. Also planned is a work party for August 24, for further work going south and if enough volunteers, perhaps work on the park as well.
- b. SRWA – No meeting was held in August and the moonlight paddle had to be cancelled but perhaps there will be one in September. Member Albie Grant told of river clearing from the pond to Rte. 190.
- c. Source to Sea Clean-Up – Scheduled for October 4 / 5<sup>th</sup> this year and publicity will go out. It was asked if anyone travels the river to please identify areas that need particular attention and if possible pull debris onto the bank for easier removal. All agreed that there was something under the Stiles Bridge that needs to be pulled out

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 8/16/2013