

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2015
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Al Floyd	Albert Grant	
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Dick Sullivan
Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini	Scott Tripp

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Joanne Drapeau	Ken Francis
Sue Gaffney	Ray Jones	Jim Halloran
Lois Noble		

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:05 PM
2. **MINUTES** of December 18, 2014: Motioned and Approved, with 1 abstention.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini said no new sales; she reported on our accounts and verified the balances in our accounts after the switch to the new Town accounting system.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** Vice Chair proposed 6. 3) CT Trails day plans
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – River is mostly icy.
 - b. Water testing – Continues and now Dr. Kristen Martin has ability to test for E Coli bacteria. Chair brought that information to Town officials and told them the costs for reagents was \$135 for 20 tests and \$188 per 100 for the tray for the testing.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Members reported that there was enough snow to snowshoe but that it was starting to get icy. It was recommended that one precarious tree should come down.
 - d. December Work Party – The Commission volunteers worked on the trails prior to the hike and repositioned the bridges and put cables on them and the bench.
 - e. Patch Blog / Facebook / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini said very little was done on Patch but there were lots of thanks posted on FaceBook for all our efforts at the annual hike. Pictures were published and the group picture will be added. Deb told that we were recognized on the DEEP and CT tourism websites. Our numbers participating seemed to be the highest of the other hike reports.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. January work party – There was a day scheduled for January 18; but with the severe weather prediction and the fact that the trail had been spruced up before the hike, the members decided that there was no need to schedule one for this month.
 - b. SRWA –Its Super Bowl Sunday hike is set for February 1 at 10AM at Bailey Road. Association is seeking new members. With regret it was noted that past President Pat Sharron died after a short illness.
 - c. Hike – There were 139 names on the board at the hike. A total of \$206 in cash was collected along with a truck load of food items for pets and people.

- d. Projects for New Year – Chair still hopes the Sabonis property transfer which will be completed in time for the Cardboard Boat race to be held there as it would afford more viewing area and a longer run for the boats. Chair also hoped the Town would be able to put some material onto the unimproved road at Wicketts Bridge so that could be another take out spot for boaters.
 - e. CT Trails Day – Vice Chair Tom Talamini suggested we decide on whether we would be participating in the statewide event since the registration time was close. He said it was a great draw but if we were to lose the bridges again to high water, it would mean a lot involved in securing them. The Commission members agreed it was always a well-attended hike and decided to put it on our schedule. Hopefully Member Alan Baker would be able to get the registration in on time.
7. **PUBLIC INPUT** – Chair received an email from the Ethos Energy Group (Wood Group) asking if they could participate in maintaining the trails. The Commission felt their help would be served before the CT Trails Day hike in early June and they would be contacted with that information

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 1/19/2015