

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2015
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Albert Grant	Jim Halloran	
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Dick Sullivan
Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini	Scott Tripp

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Joanne Drapeau	Al Floyd
Ken Francis	Sue Gaffney	Ray Jones
Lois Noble		

GUEST: Deb Nordell

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:05 PM
2. **MINUTES** of January 15, 2015: Motioned and Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini said no report.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** Treasurer proposed 6. d) Cardboard boat race plans
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – River is frozen. Members wondered if you could walk across it, no one volunteered.
 - b. Water testing – has halted due to frozen and dangerous conditions. Dr. Kristen Martin had said it was not worth getting hurt to do them under these situations. A colleague of Dr. Martin's has requested that we add to the testing for his project to help identify any viruses in local waters, finding the source of these viruses and seeking possible remediation. It would mean double water sampling for 2 different projects.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Members reported conditions were 'awesome' for snowshoeing and many were using the trails. However, the entrance to the trail needed to be opened because the plowing of the road pushes the snow making a high bank. Highway Department will be requested to help with keeping it accessible. Vice Chair thought since the bridge #2 frequently is moved by high water and probably will again, it could be circumvented easily by moving the trail around the area and avoiding the bridge entirely. It will be a spring project to rework that section of the trail.
 - d. CT Trail Day Hike – Member Alan Baker registered our hike with the State. Hike will take place on Saturday June 6th starting at 9:30 AM.
 - e. Patch Blog / Facebook / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini has been posting photos of members hiking and snowshoeing on trails and getting lots of comments. Trail Day information will be posted shortly. All of her efforts are greatly appreciated.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. February work party – Inclement weather is predicted for this weekend and the members decided that there was no need to schedule one for this month.
 - b. SRWA – Member Albie Grant said that the Spring Splash is scheduled for Saturday March 28 if the river is thawed by then. Albie will need help cooking hot dogs that day. If the event has to be postponed it will be rescheduled for early June to fit in the circuit.

- c. Volunteers – Employees of Ethos Energy have again offered to help prior to the CT Trail Day Hike after they enjoyed themselves last year.
 - d. Cardboard Boat Race – Member Deb Talamini confirmed the date as Sunday June 28.
7. **PUBLIC INPUT** – Deb Nordell asked if there could be some clearing done near the sites of the water sampling to facilitate her “job”. Members definitely will make that happen since the water sampling is vital to reporting on the safe condition of the water we use for recreation.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman
2/20/2015