

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2015  
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Alan Baker	Al Floyd	Albert Grant
Jim Halloran	Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman
Dick Sullivan	Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini
Scott Tripp		

**ABSENT:**

Joanne Drapeau	Ken Francis	Sue Gaffney
Ray Jones	Lois Noble	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:10 PM
2. **MINUTES** of March 19, 2015: Motioned and Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini reported there are 9 decals left after 10 were sent to the South Windsor Planning and Zoning members with a letter of thanks for their hospitality and 5 were donated at the welcome meeting for the new River Steward. She received information from Treasurer that the AHRC has \$698.96 in its 2 accounts. Discussion followed as to whether to purchase additional decals for sale and that will be investigated.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** Chair proposed **5. d)** Memorial Day Parade **e)** Can & Bottle receptacle **f)** River Steward and Member Deb Talamini proposed **5. g)** Cardboard Boat Race details
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. River Review – River has a lot of water but is draining. There are at least 2 large trees down and blocking passage at this time.
  - b. Water testing – We are back to the full testing with the added 3 sites. Dr. Kirsten Martin is giving our program a lot of credence as she is well known for her work and a true asset to our organization.
  - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Members reported walking the trail and how conditions change week to week and sometimes day to day. With the use of the area for hiking and fishing there is added trash that appears and the members have been trying to keep up with the removal. Several made comparisons of their hikes and noted the sounds of the birds and peepers were amazing. Member Alan Baker reported on the archeological survey results. With the consent of the 2 Indian tribes that have ties to the area of the new trail, the new trail will be moved. With the little modifications, the tribes should approve. This will mean we are in line for a \$5000 grant to help establish the trail, which will add 1.2 miles for hiking. It will require at least 2 new 24 foot bridges.
  - d. CT Trail Day Hike – Members discussed using the volunteers from Ethos Energy to help with the preparation of the trails and possible new bridges to aid in the walk. The group will be contacted to set a date for this trail work. Many members will be able to direct the activity and hopefully much can be accomplished. Information on the hike is already on FaceBook.
  - e. Patch Blog / Facebook / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini has posted sights and sounds from the trail. Also publicity of the Trails Day hike is already on the site.
5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. April work party – With the river full, trail work will be done – date scheduled for this Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at 9AM at It's a Grind. Movement of a bottle and can receptacle will be first order of business and then the workers will proceed to the trail to clear some fallen and dangerous trees.
- b. SRWA – Member Albie Grant reminded us the Spring Splash was moved to Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. He will need help cooking hot dogs that day from 8:30 – 3 with the largest crowd usually between 11 and 2PM. More sad news for that group, as the brother of Mike Emmons has died unexpectedly. Our sympathies go out to him.
- c. Family Safety Day – Members' calendars were just too full to allow for a full day to be devoted to this enterprise even though it might have been a good opportunity to publicize our efforts and upcoming events.
- d. **Memorial Day Parade** – The Veterans Committee sent a letter asking if the AHRC wanted to participate in the parade. Members were not available to attend and will decline the invitation.
- e. **Can & Bottle Receptacle** – Chair Dick Sherman has obtained a metal receptacle and hopes to establish it on Rte. 140 for cans and bottles the proceeds of which would be used to purchase water and other supplies for the various events. Retrieving it will be part of the work party activities.
- f. **New River Steward** - Several members attended a welcoming meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup> for the new River Steward, Alicea Charamut. Getting to the gathering early gave them an opportunity to have some one on one time. She knows Dr. Martin and so there was an immediate connection with the AHRC. Ms. Charamut received our minutes and agenda and responded with an email noting our organization and encouraged us to continue the work.
- g. **Cardboard Boat Race** – Treasurer/Publicity DebTalamini wanted to confirm the information about the event which has publicity linking our race with the duck race held by the Skate Park Committee. She will now post on social media that information as well. After last year's participation by several youngsters it was decided that there would be 2 race categories: youth 14 and under and adults.
- 7. **PUBLIC INPUT** – Notice was received from Town Hall that members Deb and Tom Talamini and Joanne Drapeau were reappointed to the Commission and would need to be sworn in again for the new term.

It was noted that East Windsor's Planning and Committee was meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and members were encouraged to attend.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman  
4/17/2015