

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2015 - SPECIAL MEETING
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Alan Baker	Al Floyd	Ray Jones
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Dick Sullivan
Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini	Scott Tripp

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Ken Francis	Sue Gaffney
Albert Grant	Jim Halloran	Lois Noble

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:03 PM
2. **MINUTES** of May 21, 2015: Motioned, Seconded and Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini reported there are 9 decals from original batch and 250 from the new order the AHRC has \$698.96 in its 2 accounts. Also memberships were paid out to CT River Watershed Council and Rivers Alliance of Connecticut and 300 additional canoe maps were ordered for the kiosks, all with budgeted funds.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – Members told of 2 kayakers who traveled from Melrose Bridge to the filter beds today without any interference. At the end of May, 6 commission members and volunteers cleared some of the portage areas from Melrose Bridge to the filter beds. On their work party, they saw a bald eagle which made the entire day fantastic.
 - b. Water testing – Dr. Kirsten Martin began the e coli testing in the Scantic River as part of a statewide effort to ascertain the presence of the bacteria. At the meeting it was told that the results would probably take a while to be delivered; however, upon reviewing the emails at the end of the evening, there was a report that the first results were ready and available on the Connective River Watershed Council website (<http://connecticutriver.us/site/content/sites-list>). At the end of May, 6 commission members and volunteers cleared some of the portage areas from Melrose Bridge to the filter beds. At the end of May, 6 commission members and volunteers cleared some of the portage areas from Melrose Bridge to the filter beds. Water is being tested in East Windsor at the Broad Brook near the filter beds, Harrington Stream near Rte. 140 and Ketch Brook off Rye Street.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail – Members noted it was in great shape for Ct Trails day.
 - d. CT Trail Day Hike – 42 Volunteers from Ethos Energy helped clear the trails on June 4 at 9 AM. Over 40 participated and it was a great day for the June 6th hike.
 - e. Can and Bottle Receptacle – has been used and the recyclables will repay the members for the oil and gas used in personal equipment when cleaning up downed trees. Members will assist in putting the roof on after the meeting.
 - f. Cardboard Boat Race – Start will be set up differently this year in hopes of making the entry smoother for all participants, who will be separated into age categories. Awards will be presented. A portapot will be available. Due to a forecast of rain, the conditions will be monitored starting at 8AM with hopes of a

decision as to safe conditions no later than 11AM. Bring bug spray.

- g. Facebook / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini has posted on Facebook nearly daily so our media sites are up to date on all activities from the CT Trail information, the picture of the can and bottle receptacle and info on the cardboard boat race.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. July work party – Members will meet on Saturday July 18th at 9 AM at John Burnham's barn to set up for river work from filter beds to Omelia Road. Member Ray Jones has been working on filter beds park area on a regular basis and he reported that much damage was done to the area after 2 vehicles needed to be pulled out of the river bank. The Police Department was notified of these 2 mid-June events, one by a fisherman and the other by a teen.
- b. SRWA – Hike held during CT Trail weekend. They are planning a full moon paddle soon.
- c. June Meeting of Board of Selectmen had Chair Dick Sherman present the plans for e coli testing and a plea was made for funding. The Board members approved \$520 to cover the cost of reagents to test for the bacteria. Also at that meeting, the Board voted to bring the transfer of the Sabonis Chaffee property to a town meeting.
- d. General Meeting held May 28 was attended by Member Alan Baker who reported it was focused on general business development for the town. Presenter was Rogerr J. O'Brien.

7. PUBLIC INPUT – None.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman
6/26/2015