

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2016 - REGULAR MEETING
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Joanne Drapeau	Al Floyd
Albert Grant	Jim Halloran
Ray Jones	Barbara Sherman
Dick Sherman	Deb Talamini
Tom Talamini	Scott Tripp

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Ken Francis	Sue Gaffney
Lois Noble	Dick Sullivan	

GUEST: Julie Pratt, new resident of E. Windsor; Kent Greenman, of S. Windso;, Dick & Kathy Pippin; and Rebecca Talamini.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:08 PM

2. **MINUTES** of December 17, 2015 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded and Approved, with 4 abstaining.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini reported 2 decals were sold at the hike, now \$628.96 in account. Also she was asked if it was possible for someone to donate to the AHRC as a thanks for the trail work that was done. Discussion followed that all such donations would be deposited into our account.

4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None

5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. River Review – The water is high and lots of ducks have been observed in river as well as at Broad Brook Pond. It was noted that a large tree near bridge #2 will need to be removed come spring. Ralph Winn a tree close to his property is likely to fall into the river and it was mentioned that perhaps it could be felled before it landed in the river. Any work, of course, dependent on weather.
- b. Water testing – Winter has not stopped the testing. Dr. Kirsten has reported that Somers in now on board with the addition of 2 new volunteers from that area. She and Alicea Charamut are putting together a 2016 Connecticut Water Monitoring Conference scheduled for May 13. More information will follow as the date gets closer.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Filter Bed area – Member Ray Jones verified that the damage done to the filter bed area when a driver came too close to the water's edge was recovered by the Town in the amount of \$2400. It was noted that the amount should be encumbered so that, in the spring, the trees that were lost could be replaced with the insurance money. Ray fought hard to get the restitution accomplished. Nice job, Ray. Recently, he took the new First Selectman Robert Maynard on a tour of the area and was pleased that it was still in good condition and park users were keeping it clean. Ray also noted the filter bed area was the only "park" that we take care of that does not have a kiosk and that would be brought up to the Scouts if anyone was looking for a project.
- d. Can and Bottle Receptacle – seeing a lot of use. In addition, a site was found to recycle unwanted mattresses if more should be left at the receptacle in the future. More discussion on whether to get another receptacle and if so then where to place it.
- e. New Year's Day Hike – Members noted about 200 hikers participated with close to 30 dogs. Scott Tripp and his wife Sharon collected food for people and pets. He offered to have available some plastic bags for

next year's hike, in case some dog owners had forgotten theirs to clean up after their pets. A letter of thanks, from the 5 Corner Cupboard, was later received acknowledging 327 pounds of food would now be available for distribution thanks to that collection effort.

- f. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini reported some hike photos will appear in the Hartford Courant. She will submit info for our CT Trails Day hike scheduled for Sunday June 5th starting time 10AM.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. January work party – Scheduled for Saturday January 23 to move the metal box and replace it with one in better condition. Members Tom, Dick and Scott were going to take care of this. It was suggested that if anyone had some extra time cutting away some of the underbrush on the bank at the Sabonis property would be worthwhile. Clearing should be done heading back toward the bridge. But it was deemed that the weather would probably be too snowy for a while to do anything else.
- b. SRWA – Member Al Grant reported on Monday night's meeting. The Spring Splash is Saturday March 26 with a re-schedule date of 4/17. Also there will be the annual Super Bowl Sunday hike starting at 10AM at Bailey Road. It was also reported that the removal of the Springborn Dam would be starting soon.
- c. Cardboard Boat Race and Rubber Duck Race – After looking at a calendar, the members decided to again choose the last Sunday of June (26th) for the annual races. Now it could be added to the school calendar but the location will be determined in the future.

- 7. **PUBLIC INPUT** – Mr. Greenman asked if there was a gauge station on the Scantic River. There is none but the idea appeared to have merit. And the suggestion will be researched and if possible implemented

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sherman 1/25/2015