

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2016 - REGULAR MEETING  
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Joanne Drapeau	Al Floyd	Albert Grant
Julie Pratt	Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman
Dick Sullivan	Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini
Scott Tripp		

**ABSENT:**

Alan Baker	Ken Francis	Sue Gaffney
Jim Halloran	Ray Jones	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:06 PM
2. **MINUTES** of April 21, 2016 Special Meeting: Motioned, Seconded; after discussion as to adjournment time, Approved, with 4 abstaining.
2. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini acknowledged that the 2 payments of \$200 each were made to Dr. Kirsten Martin to cover e coli testing reagents. Deb will have new statements of our accounts as of July 1 after budget has been approved. Also she verified she has 7 "old" decals and the Chair has the "new" ones.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** 6. c. **Cardboard Boat Race/Duck Race**
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. River Review – Chair did trip from Sabonis Landing to Cemetery Road in about 40 minutes. There were 2 places where you needed to go under trees but no cutting was necessary. Much beaver activity was seen.
  - b. Water testing – On May 13, at University of St. Joseph, Chair attended workshop on water monitoring and listened to Dr. Derek Dube explaining how his program to determine source of e coli was progressing. New to the testing indicators will be ambient temperature. Dr. Kirsten said Enfield and Somers want to be part of the testing but still needed to secure funding for the reagents. Chair met with her and 4 students who will be doing the e coli testing and took them to the sites previously determined. Member Joanne Drapeau will be their guide on the first testing to make them comfortable in finding the correct sites. Chair talked about posting signs at the 3 most used spots: filter beds, Melrose Bridge and Cemetery Road. These signs would be alerts as to the safety of the water for boating or personal use.
  - c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Filter Bed area – It was reported that the state park trail was getting lots of use but was somewhat overgrown. The filter bed area continues to be nice and clean thanks to efforts of Member Ray Jones. Report on Sabonis Landing will be included in future reports.
  - d. Can and Bottle Receptacle – Lots of activity perhaps thanks to Member Deb Talamini suggesting that Earth Day be celebrated by recycling empty cans and bottles using our receptacle.
  - e. CT Trail's Day Hike – Ethos Energy will help with the trail preparation on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our hike is listed in the CT Trail guide as correct: Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. However, both Saturday and Sunday

are listed on website and Member Deb Talamini will try to correct that. Member Albie Grant noted anyone who wants to hike on Saturday can join his group in Enfield.

- f. April Work Party – Two events at Sabonis Landing, to clear brush and make entry or egress of the River easier. There is a good quantity of dried campfire lumber available from area.
- g. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini is posting tons of notices re our hike and had flyers printed if others needed them. She plans to start posting about the cardboard boat race after the hike. She and Vice Chair Tom Talamini attended a workshop lead by Laurie Gianotti who told of a geo-referencing APP. Hopefully, East Windsor will be listed soon.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. May work party – Scheduled for May 21, meeting at 8:30 AM at John Burnham's barn, 178 Scantic Road to take trip down Scantic from Cemetery Road heading to new Scout Hall property or at least Wickett's Bridge.
- b. SRWA – President Mike Emmons is hoping to find funding for e coli testing in Enfield and perhaps Somers.
- c. **Cardboard Boat Race / Duck Race** – Publicity that was to be included in students' take-home packet is still awaiting approval by Superintendent.

- 7. **PUBLIC INPUT** – The Historical Society's planned walk in from Scantic Road to Wickett's Bridge will be May 28.

Guest Rebecca Talamini asked if there had been any word on the grant application for the Melrose Bridge project. Member Deb Talamini said that Laurie Gianotti mentioned that she had seen it and it looked good. Chair noted he had been told it can take up to a year before you know anything. Former member Gil Hayes said he would try his contacts regarding its progress.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Sherman 5/20/2016