

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 17, 2016 REGULAR MEETING WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

Al Floyd
Barbara Sherman
Scott Tripp

Albert Grant
Dick Sherman

Julie Pratt
Deb Talamini

ABSENT:

Alan Baker
Sue Gaffney
Rebecca Talamini

Joanne Drapeau
Jim Halloran
Tom Talamini

Ken Francis
Dick Sullivan

GUESTS:

Selectman Dick Pippin & Kathy Pippin

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM
2. **MINUTES** of October 20, 2016 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded and Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini - no changes to report.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** 6. d. **Appointment**
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – Another downed tree was spotted further down on the Noble property. Rain made a bit of difference to the river's water level but not much.
 - b. Water testing – To clarify from last month's minutes: only the E. coli water testing for this year has ended. The normal monthly testing done by Deb Nordell continues year round.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Filter Bed area – Filter bed area is still in good condition. It was noted the signs pointing to the ridge trail and the parking lot have been removed. Selectman Dick Pippin offered material to make new signs. Many markers are missing from the state park and Members Albie and Deb offered to replace them on their walks. Also noted that several bridges have broken boards and Member Scott will make note of which ones and the sizes needed. Then repairs can be made. The group needs to get some work done on the new trail to conform to the grant requirements. Member Albie Grant said he has been doing maintenance on the old trails and has cut back about three quarters of the old trail. It was discovered that the Scantic River State Park had been the site of a scavenger hunt by a classic car group.
 - d. Can and Bottle Receptacle – Bin still has lots of activity.
 - e. October Work Party – 5 members and volunteers cut up the downed trees near the Osborn Bridge.

- f. Grant Progress - Requests have been for letters in support of the project. Still awaiting numbers on the various aspects of the rehabilitation. The Board of Selectmen approved the submission of the application at its meeting November 15, 2016. Deadline for filing application is December 15.
- g. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini confirmed that we will be conducting our New Year's Day hike and she will post its start time of 1PM and have it listed in CT Department of Tourism schedule. Eventually she will publicize our new trails. Deb suggested that we post signs indicating where the new trails will be so the hikers can be informed and increase interest.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. November work party – Chair asked for members or volunteers to give a shout when there is some free time to work on the new trails, marking trees and in addition repairing existing bridges..
 - b. SRWA – No monthly meeting but the annual meeting will be December 1st at the Enfield Senior Center, starting at 6 PM. Program is said to include history of the Spring Splash.
 - c. Board of Selectmen's Meeting Presentation – On November 15, Dr. Kirsten Martin presented her report of the E. coli testing done this past summer, focusing on the results from the 5 East Windsor sites. The talk had some disturbing numbers and more needs to be tested in the future to come up with answers to the source(s) of the pollution. The presentation was well received by the audience.
 - d. **Appointment:** Rebecca Talamini has been appointed a full Member of the Commission. She will be unable to attend meetings at this time because of conflict with her duties on the 250th Birthday Celebration but will be available for work activities.
- 7. PUBLIC INPUT** – Selectman Dick Pippin commented that it was very informative and even with hearing statistics it kept your attention.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sherman 11/18/2016