

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THURSDAY - April 20, 2017 REGULAR MEETING WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Ken Francis
Sue Gafney	Albert Grant
Jim Halloran	Dick Sullivan
Rebecca Talamini	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM
2. **MINUTES** of March 16, 2017 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded and Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Nothing new.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – No one has reported back as to trips and conditions. Large tree from river bank north of Osborn Mill Bridge fell into water, then floated and met up with others to cause bigger log jam south of the Bridge.
 - b. Water testing – Monthly testing accomplished by Debbie Nordell. Dr. Martin notified us of seminars to be held at University of St. Joseph. Several professors will talk on water samples that were examined for fecal matter to identify source: cow, sheep, goose, or chicken. Seminars are May 2nd & 4th and an RSVP is requested by April 24 to make sure there is adequate room for attendees. Dr. Martin reported that some of her students will be gathering the samples for this summer's E. coli testing. The members felt that the area just inside the filter beds would be the best spot for the additional E.coli testing site. A payment voucher to cover the early months' testing was submitted.
 - c. Scantic Rive State Park / Filter Beds – Filter bed area showed signs that someone had discarded lawn cuttings but other than that it was in good shape. A large tree near bridge 7 was across the trail. Near the sycamore tree on the opposite side is a nesting Canada goose. Bridges 2 & 3 moved.
 - d. Bottle Receptacle – Activity continues but so does the dumping at the site.
 - e. Update on RTP Grant – Several persons have questioned Commission members why they are keeping the grant a secret. That is not the case. We just have been working to secure the funds needed to make up the difference between the award and the amount of the project estimate before bragging about getting the grant. Members were advised of efforts to date and hopes of donations to close the gap.
 - f. Social Media/publicity – CT Trails Day hike info will be in State booklet confirming our hike on Sunday, June 4th starting at 10AM. Other postings are rolling along with June 25th identified as our Cardboard Boat Race. The hot dog cart should be available.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Work party – Scheduled for April 29 meeting 9AM at Melrose Bridge and if necessary May 6th 9AM at Melrose Bridge. Will bring ATV and carry in necessary tools and materials to fix damaged bridges/mudwalks. Hoping Ethos Energy group can come to do a work project prior to CT Trails Day.
- b. SRWA – At their meeting, they reported profit of over \$1,000 from Spring Splash. They funded their share of reagents for E. Coli testing. At their next meeting, there will be a speaker, Joanne Shapiro who represents a group who are interested in the water quality of the Broad Brook area.
- c. Oobinator project – Member Deb Talamini inquired of DEEP as to the testing being done on the trees in the Scantic River State Park. She received many responses about the 2 projects going on, Information will be placed in the kiosk to inform the hikers and Deb has posted full explanation on our FaceBook page. It is very interesting to have the eyes of many watching the insects in our area.

PUBLIC INPUT – None.

- Upcoming events:
 - May 2 & 4 – U of St. Joseph Seminar on E. coli samples
 - June 4 - CT Trails Day hike
 - June 25 - annual Cardboard Boat Race & Rubber Duck Race

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sherman
4/21/2017