

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THURSDAY - May 18, 2017 REGULAR MEETING WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Joanne Drapeau
Ken Francis	Sue Gafney
Albert Grant	Jim Halloran
Rebecca Talamini	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. **MINUTES** of April 20, 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 – Levels have been up since rains, enough so that the trees below the Osborn Bridge have moved. Today 3 people were swimming in river near Melrose Bridge.
 - b. Water testing – Monthly testing as well as E. collie sampling accomplished by Debbie Nordell. Seminar held at University of St. Joseph had interesting talks on all the viruses found in the river. We are “collaborators” with Dr. Derek Dube in his effort to secure a grant for funding further testings. Chair showed 8 students the test sites for the summer testing.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Beds – After the April 29 work party during which damaged bridges were repaired, the members felt trail was in pretty good condition.
 - d. Bottle Receptacle – Activity continues with Ray Jones trying to stop the dumping at the site.
 - e. Update on RTP Grant – We are awaiting the third bid per Charter, then a contract will be drawn up. But still no information on date money will be available. Still no information on date for funding to be given.
 - f. CT Trails Day hike - Info appears in State booklet confirming our hike on Sunday, June 4th starting at 10AM. Event was mentioned to senior group who were looking for site to hike.
 - g. Social Media / Publicity – Park & Rec have linked their page with ours. Member Deb has flyer at Town Hall and other places to get the word out. She noted it was 5 weeks to the cardboard boat race and that info would be posted on our site as well. The Rubber Duck Race was going forward and they would be needing help with their event.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. June Work party – Scheduled for June 10 to take canoe down from filter beds to Sabonis Landing to ensure area is open for cardboard boat race. Time for work party to be determined.

- b. SRWA – At their meeting, they hosted Joanna Shapiro from North Central Conservation District. Her group is looking for a project for the Broad Brook watershed something that is manageable since they are a small group and was seeking suggestions. Several at the meeting gave history of the area and issues therein.
- c. Veterans' Committee – Sent an invitation for the Commission to march in the Memorial Day parade but the members were not available.
- d. Membership – The fact that there are 2 alternate positions open on the Commission was discussed. It was felt we needed members who could both work on projects and also attend meetings to discuss our future plans.

PUBLIC INPUT – CT Rivers Alliance sent a request for help suggesting examples of streams and watersheds that are stressed, pristine or on the edge of either for the State Water Plan and other water-protection work. The information was forwarded to Dr. Kirsten Martin.

- Upcoming events:

June 4 - CT Trails Day hike

June 25 - annual Cardboard Boat Race & Rubber Duck Race

ADJOURNMENT: 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Sherman
4/21/2017