

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

**MINUTES OF THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 21, 2017
REGULAR MEETING
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY**

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

Alan Baker	Jim Halloran
Julie Pratt	Dick Sullivan
Rebecca Talamini	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM
2. **MINUTES** of August 17, 2017 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded, Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini said all status quo.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** 6. C. Eversource / Aquarion Merger; 6. D. 2018 Float for Community Day and 4 Town Fair.
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – Water is very low, would be a good time to get across for abutment work.
 - b. Water testing – This week is next to the last for this year's E.coli testing: Blue for Cemetery Road the filter beds but Yellow for Melrose Road Bridge. A spreadsheet will be provided at the next meeting showing the results for this year. But it is too soon to come up with any conclusions or patterns. There is tremendous interest in the project by new students, while the students who helped with the sampling and testing will be giving several presentations around the state. Hopefully they could come to one of our meetings or a meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Group from UMass wants to see and possibly use the data.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Filter Bed area – The filter bed area still clean with no trash left behind. Group reported on the work party done on the new trails on the east side of the Scantic. 8 members-volunteers cleared up to the barn and then planned footbridge. Chair showed his idea for markers to be used on the new trails on the east and west sides of the Scantic, with designations of blue trail and red trail in addition to our originally marked yellow trail.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Chairman cleared it this week.
 - e. RTP Grant Award – Secretary reported the decking was applied to the walkway this week. Sometime next week the cap will be put on the abutments and that will need a week to cure. Then the walkway will be placed probably the first week of October.
 - f. Source2Sea Paddle/Picnic event – More thank you's came from Andy Fisk and his group. Member Deb Talamini was asked if her picture could be used for publicity and also for her to supply a brief quote of her experiences with event, etc.

- g. Commission Vacancy – Member Jim Halloran’s work email, home email and home phone were all tried in an attempt to get better contact for him, and even a letter was mailed to his home address but no reply. Member Alan Baker has not attended meetings but had said at another Town meeting that he was very busy with vacation home. We already have 2 alternate spots open and if these members do not want to participate going forward then 2 more places are vacant.
- h. Social Media/Publicity – Member Deb Talamini was pleased that North Central’s publication showed a picture of the Paddle. She continues to post and, in response to request, said yes to her photos on Face Book could be used in the Town annual report.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. September Work Party – Set for Sunday, September 24, members meeting at 8:30 am for 2 hours to cut up the downed tree to give Hartland better access to the Old Melrose Bridge. Email will be sent out for help. As for October work party, members will see what the weather allows before the next meeting.
- b. Scantic River Watershed Association – At their meeting SRWA bragged that the Springborn Dam was down and the service roads removed. No confirmation on place or date of annual meeting as of yet.
- c. **Eversource / Aquarion Merger:** Emails were received regarding this business happening and Member Al Floyd wondered if we were going to provide any input or response prior to the vote tomorrow. This entire merger has been almost a secret. Discussion followed.
- d. **Float:** Member Deb Talamini asked if the members were interested in a float for the 2018 events for next year in conjunction with the 250th Birthday celebration of the Town and all said YES.

7. PUBLIC INPUT / QUESTIONS:

Correspondence had been received from the Enfield group asking if we wanted to join their Source to Sea cleanup at South River boat launch on Saturday September 23 starting at 9 AM. (Our members were already committed to among other things the Community Day activities in East Windsor.)

Adjournment : 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman, Secretary
September 25, 2017