

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THURSDAY - APRIL 19, 2018 REGULAR MEETING WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

Joanne Drapeau	Al Floyd
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman
Deb Talamini	Tom Talamini
Dick Sullivan	Scott Tripp
Mark Whelden	

ABSENT:

Albert Grant	Jim Halloran
Julie Pratt	Rebecca Talamini

GUEST: Deb Nordell

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM
2. **MINUTES** of March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded, Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini noted receipt of donation of \$600 from SRWA for Braille signs and a bill for deposit on the signs of \$900.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – River is very high and dirty; the banks are changing with the amount of water.
 - b. Water testing – Deb Nordell is continuing her monthly sampling. Dr. Derek Dube emailed an invitation to attend an end of semester presentation by the students who have been studying the water samples. Presentations will be by May 1 and May 3 in 3 hour sessions. Several members will attend. This year's E. coli testing reagents will cost \$1406.30 and that request has already been submitted for approval to Board of Selectmen. We have sent a display for the Bio Blitz set for April 20 & 21 with focus on the environment /nature. The display shows news articles of our testing and a picture of our signs alerting the public to the conditions of the Scantic River. It was mentioned that we will have testing done in 2 additional sites this year.
 - c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Filter Bed area – The filter beds area was good. During a work party in the State Park on Saturday, April 14th, 7 Members replaced the bridge that had floated into the woods and extended its length, placing it higher up on the bank hoping it will now stay put. Another mudwalk was repaired. Meanwhile 2 Members went to the new western trails and cut back the Rose of Sharon briars and moved downed trees out of the path. Again on Wednesday this week 2 members continued that new trail and made it to the Enfield line.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Activity continues.
 - e. RTP Grant Award – Secretary reported the Lions Club will increase its donation after hearing that the Braille signs would cost more than originally priced. A thank you sign will be made for the ribbon cutting.
 - f. Membership – We still have open positions.

- g. Social Media/Publicity – Member Deb Talamini is posting our CT Trails Day hike and it was noted that this year will have the most hikes ever.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. April / May Work Party – Plan for a work party is set for Sunday April 29 meeting at Melrose Bridge at 9 AM. Email will go out for help. Dates in May will depend on availability.
- b. Scantic River Watershed Association – The Spring Splash was a success and a completely 'different' event with the dam down. They had a good turnout and Chair, Members Albie Grant and Julie Pratt helped out.
- c. CT Trails Day – In addition to the Hike that is listed in the state booklet, we will have a ceremonial 'ribbon cutting' to mark the opening of the trail on the western side of the Scantic river. Officials will receive an invitation to the event which is set to start at 10.

6. PUBLIC INPUT / QUESTIONS: None

Adjournment: 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman, Secretary
April 20, 2018