

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THURSDAY - AUGUST 16, 2018
REGULAR MEETING
WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

Sue Gaffney	Albert Grant	Julie Pratt
Dick Sherman	Rebecca Talamini	

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair called the al fresco meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
2. **MINUTES** of July 19, 2018 Regular Meeting: Motioned, Seconded; Approved.
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Talamini said status quo since July 1, 2019.
4. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None
5. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. River Review – water level is high/low then high again; muddy/clear and muddy again after rain.
 - b. Water testing – Regular monthly testing and the weekly E. coli testing continues with E. coli levels very high after our rains. Dr. Martin will be continuing the testing herself going forward for the rest of the season, in Enfield and Somers until her supplies run out and East Windsor until mid-September.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Beds – 3 Work parties totaling 18 hours had members working on cutting back overgrowth on the yellow trail, with more still to do. Six hours spent identifying the best route down to the brook to build the bridges for easier passage.
 - d. Bottle Receptacle – Good activity has enabled the purchase of waders for members who help in the blueway maintenance.
 - e. RTP Grant Award – New grant opportunities available, with an October 31st deadline for submission of application. Discussion ensued regarding applying for the balance of our original grant to finish the Braille trail. It was agreed that we go forward seeking the additional funding.
 - f. Community Night Out – had our table set up but little activity as the crowds were limited due to the dire weather forecast. But we tried – every opportunity to tell residents of our mission and seek new help.

g. Membership – Sue Gaffney Sullivan now a full time member, leaving 1 full membership open and alternate slot still available.

h. Social Media/publicity – Deb Talamini said nothing new posted.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a. August work party – Members will meet Saturday, August 25th at 9:00am at the filter beds to check the navigability of the Scantic from that point to Sabonis landing – beyond if time allows.

b. SRWA – Their Full Moon Paddle is set for August 25 with registration starting at 6 PM and push off set for 7:15. Suggestions to bring a flashlight along with PDF, etc. All participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to benefit the local area food pantries.

c. Fun Paddle on the Scantic – Barbara Sabonis has said that her family will be gathering over Labor Day and have plans to do a paddle from filter beds down to Sabonis Landing. They will borrow some of the Commission members' canoes and equipment. It is expected that some of the Commission members will accompany the Sabonis paddlers.

d. Heritage Day - Discussion as to plans for our float, which Deb Talamini registered for us. Member Julie Pratt will make the banner and members will meet the week of September 15 to get it set up.

7. PUBLIC INPUT / CORRESPONDENCE – Newsletter from CT River Conservancy was received with a request that we keep alerted for any European Water Chestnut plants – a very invasive species.

Also a thank you was received from 5 Corner Cupboard for the \$50 donation from our registrations at the Cardboard Boat Race.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman
August 17, 2018