

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2011 MEETING

In Attendance : (BOLD DENOTES COMMISSION MEMBERS)

John Burnham **Al Floyd** **Barbara Sherman** **Dick Sherman**
Deb Talamini **Tom Talamini**

GUEST: Dick Sullivan

Absent:

Alan Baker **John Drake** **Joanne Drapeau** **Ken Francis**
Albert Grant **Jim Halloran** **Gil Hayes** **Lois Noble**
Kirsten Martin (associate)

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: None.

MINUTES of June 16, 2011 MEETING: Approved without change.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Nothing done up to this point.
- b. Canoe Trips on Scantic / Flood (River) Review – 2 trips were taken this month; first time with 2 inexperienced kayakers and the ride was fine. Second group reported that several large trees were down. Water-testing is continuing.
- c. Trail – Still needs to be weed-wacked due to overgrowth from lots of rain but too hot.
- d. Membership – Dick Sullivan filled out paperwork to be given to Board of Selectmen.
- e. Decals – 2 more sold at Duck Race.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. South Windsor's Wheels, Water and Walk Ways group sat in on stream walk presentation given by Associate Member Kirsten Martin. They are eager to start.
- b. Duck Race – Had a good turnout and the longer course worked better. Commission members were thanked by BMX Skate Park Committee for helping.
- c. Bridge plans – Will be discussed in future.
at its July 27 the meeting. The Chairman said he would attend that meeting.
- d. At the July 6th work party there were 4 volunteers; on July 9th volunteers went up stream from Rte. 140 and cut snags and trees that had fallen. Then July 16th volunteers put in at the filter beds and cut up snags and downed trees between there and Omelia Road.
- e. Donation – The Athletic Club members donated \$250 to be used for supplies for the water testing project.
- f. SRWA – There were no plans made at their meeting for a full moon paddle in July or August but they probably would do one in September
- g. New grant info was forwarded from Rep. John Larson's website, via Rep. Chris Davis, and passed along to both Robin Newton and Kirsten Martin.
- h. Stream Walk – A field trip was held on July 9th to educate the S.W. group as to how information from a stream walk should be gathered. The information required includes the height of the banks, the type of river bottom composition, identification of incoming streams or water pipes, and any other landmarks among other items.
- i. Trail naming – Still tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Work party Schedules: July 30 was picked with goal of entering at Rte. 140, going toward Melrose Bridge. Start time would be 8AM, meeting at John Burnham's barn. Then again on August 6, a work party would continue working toward the goal.
- b. Commission members were invited to have a get together to relax after all their work.
- c. Open Fun Trip - plans were briefly discussed regarding an invitation to paddle on the river from Melrose Bridge to Omelia Road to show the extent of the efforts of the many volunteers . This would probably be in September.
- d. DEEP Loan program – It was noted that the DEEP had equipment that it would loan to organizations or groups that already had a water testing project in place. Application to get some of this available equipment was made by Kirsten Martin on behalf of AHRC.
- e. Stream walk survey – This survey needs to be done by August 15 and discussion took place as to members splitting up the 4 sections and doing it. Emails would go out to coordinate efforts to eliminate any duplication but ensuring full coverage.
- f. River & Trail "People" hours – The Chairman brought to the Board of Selectmen a recap of documented volunteer work hours with note that more were completed and then he requested all to please send in info as to work done on trail or river so our "in-kind" records would be complete.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman, Recording Secretary 7/25/11