

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2011 MEETING

In Attendance:

Alan Baker
Al Floyd
Lois Noble
Deb Talamini

John Burnham
Ken Francis
Barbara Sherman
Tom Talamini

John Drake
Albert Grant
Dick Sherman

Joanne Drapeau
Jim Halloran
Dick Sullivan

Absent:

Gil Hayes

Attending: Sue Gaffney

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: None

MINUTES of October 20, 2011 MEETING: Approved with 2 abstentions.

ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Nothing new.
- b. River Review / Water testing – Views of river show some damage from last 2 storms. September testing unable to be completed; in the future someone else will fill if necessary. Additional to be added: Reservoir Pond, Chestnut Brook, East Road for Broad Brook (above the pond) and Ketch Brook. South Windsor will pick up Route 5 site.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Melrose Bridge – D.E.E.P. gave approval for trails which will be next major project. Member Al Grant supplied plans and material list for bridge that was built off Wells Road in Somers. We are still looking for verification as to use of old telephone poles, since we have a source if approval given. On 10/28, members met with a bridge inspector who suggested that if the iron work on Melrose Bridge was not able to be used, a wooden bridge could be built inside the current structure.
- d. Window decals – No additional sales this month.
- e. November 12th work party – 9 attended and worked for about 3 hours, starting at Old Ellington Road, clearing trail through the woods, along field up to the Scout bridge. Parking area there could accommodate 6 – 10 cars. Not much seen in river at that point, maybe 5 trees.
- f. SRWA – They are trying to be more organized with lists of river and trail workers. After storms volunteers worked on 2 trails and have scheduled another work day on Sunday, November 20; anyone wishing to join them, they are going to be at Bailey Road.
- g. River Areas / Trail names – Looking into the town procedure for identifying and naming sites.
- h. Norton Property – Now that the elections are over, chair will contact the Selectmen to get this

topic back on the agenda.

- i. AHRC Educational Extension – Member Alan Baker stated at least 3 teachers were interested in incorporating river / trail issues into the curriculum (water testing, biology, etc.) and in having a student and teacher liaison to the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. December Work Party – Scheduled for 12/3 to meet at 8:30AM at Burnham barn. Project to get trails in shape for New Year's Day hike.
 - b. Fun River trip - Postponed until Spring. Several members stated they didn't want to wait that long.
 - c. Plans for our trails – Scantic River State Park will be focus of this winter's activities, with goal of readiness for spring.
 - d. End of year wrap-up / workshop – December 3rd, after work party activities, mini-meeting will take the place of the regular 12/15 meeting. Discussion will include 2012 projects/goals, plans for 1/1 hike, scheduling December work party prior to hike, etc.
 - e. Officer positions – January 19th meeting, election of officers.
7. Public input: none

ADJOURNMENT: 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 11/18/11