

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER
COMMISSION

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2009 MEETING

In Attendance:

Michele Belisle John Burnham John Drake
Joanne Drapeau Al Floyd Dick Pippin
Barbara Sherman Dick Sherman Tom Talamini

Absent:

Albert Grant Kristen Martin
Margaret Steinbugler
Peter Weilhouwer

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

MINUTES of Sept. 19, 2009 MEETING: Approved.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT and WELCOME to Guests: First Selectman, Denise Menard, BOS Member Dale Nelson, Leaders and Scouts of Troop 89. Scouts were working on a badge for "Citizenship in the Community". Scouts were told how a commission works and meetings conducted. Explanation of purpose and function of this Commission, since its inception 10 years ago, was given and questions were invited. Rex Joffray, president of Scantic River Watershed Association, was also present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" (formerly Mansions on Scantic) – Chair spoke of walkway to be constructed of stonedust. Commission will have input as to location and then access and use.
- b. East Windsor River Guide /SRWA Guides – Effort to put together an East Windsor version comparable to SRWA guide, which is being sold at local store owned by parent of visiting Scout.
- c. Canoe Trips on Scantic / Flood (River) Review – Request for feedback whenever the river is traversed. This will enable the Commission to know of new obstacles and conditions for safe passage which is utmost concern of group. Anyone wishing to join a future paddle or work party were advised to call or let Scoutmasters know.
- d. Trail Markers – There is a marked trail for about 1 ½ miles from east side O'Melia Road. Offer of blue markers was made to Scouts who might want to blaze further trail. Noted mostly brush along the way, with heavy multifloral roses. Safety is key factor for all.
- e. Membership – Welcome made to any who wished to join Commission. Note that the charter calls for 11 members with even distribution among Republicans and Democrats per State statues but any number can be associate members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Report on commission paddle of 9/20/09 with explanation of newspaper article. Talk of history along the river over the years. Book "Through the Years" is available either at the Town Clerk's office or Library.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Noted that associate member, Kirsten Martin, had received her doctorate. She did research on greenish/blue dragonfly. Ms. Martin checks water quality and takes samples at 2 easy to reach spots, which helps determine the "health" of the river.

- b. Upcoming project is to place markers on river for emergency egress and warning signs at areas of previous concern. Water trail markers will be placed after leaves are gone.
- c. Proclamation made by First Selectman Menard citing the work of the Commission and volunteers on behalf of the town. Offer was made to showcase the proclamation and any other Commission/river artifacts at Town Hall.
- d. Mr. Joffray offered their equipment which was purchased with Greenway grant for Enfield's section of the Scantic. Hoped East Windsor could receive similar grant for its Work.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 P.M.