

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

ZOOM MEETING THURSDAY - May 21, 2020 - 6 PM

PRESENT:

Al Floyd	Susan Gaffney-Sullivan	Albert Grant
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Dick Sullivan
Deb Talamini	Rebecca Talamini	Scott Tripp

Mark Whelden

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Julie Pratt	Deb Williams
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Russell Williams

GUEST:

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order** – 6:02PM .
2. **Minutes** of February 20, 2020 meeting. MOTION made, SECONDED, approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported a balance in our Town line-item account was \$2,770. MOTION was made by Member Rebecca Talamini, SECONDED by Member Scott Tripp to order another 300 Trail Guides. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Added Agenda Items** – None.
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – Water level is low even with rain. But there is lots of tree damage in area of Melrose Bridge. It was noted the water is starting to warm up. Member Albert Grant thinks we should see if we can get down river from filter beds to at least Sabonis Landing.
 - b. Water testing – Monthly samples ongoing. The scheduled Stream Walk has been postponed. Dr. Martin gave a presentation to the Board of Selectmen on the sampling and results. She spoke of the various findings and was asked about sources of E. coli by the members of the Board. Selectman Alan Baker praised the work of the Commission.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Bed Area – Trails at park are being used daily in present pandemic. New bridge markers were installed. Bridge #3 was widened to 6 foot and a 29 foot mudwalk was installed just before it. Ray Jones and Nick have really kept up the filter bed area.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Tremendous activity, probably thanks to Covid 19.
 - e. Social Media / Publicity – Not much to post.

6. New Business

- a. May / June Work Party – Plans were made for work on May 30 meeting at Melrose Bridge to start at 9AM to clean up multi-flora rose near Bridge #8 and any other tasks that need addressing.
- b. SRWA – Meeting report by Member Albert Grant. He said the tools were being inventoried, and were available for borrowing; the trailer needed to be registered.
- c. CT Trails Day Hike – State of CT did not publish a booklet of hikes; there are no organized hikes but CT Parks and Forest hopes that each individual group will post whatever videos of hikes there are.
- d. Cardboard Boat Race / Duck Race – With the current situation, there will probably be no events this summer.

- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – Guest Tom Talamini observed that there was dumping on the access road to Wicketts Bridge. He would alert the Public Works Department of that.

Adjournment: 6:35 pm.