

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY - June 18, 2020 - 6 PM  
OSBORN HOUSE, 115 SCANTIC ROAD, EAST WINDSOR, CT**

**PRESENT:**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Joanne Drapeau  | Julie Pratt      |
| Barbara Sherman | Dick Sherman     |
| Dick Sullivan   | Susan Sullivan   |
| Deb Talamini    | Rebecca Talamini |
| Mark Whelden    |                  |

**ABSENT:**

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Al Floyd         | Albert Grant |
| Scott Tripp      | Deb Williams |
| Russell Williams |              |

**GUESTS:**

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Deb Austin   | Rick Austin |
| Tom Talamini |             |

1. **Call to order** – 6:00PM .
2. **Minutes** of May 21, 2020 zoom meeting. MOTION TO ACCEPT made, SECONDED, APPROVED.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini updated her report telling the balance in our Town line- item account was \$747.93 and pending items will wipe that out.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6e. Duck Race.**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
  - a. River review – Water level is so very low – Member Dick Sullivan suggested it might be a good time to try for a paddle to see what needs to be done to open the river.
  - b. Water testing – Dr. Martin started testing for E. coli yesterday and all sites were BLUE. For the first week she did 3 East Windsor spots: East Road, filter beds and Melrose Bridge, as well as 3 in Enfield/Somers. Next week she will expand to the full 8 sites in East Windsor. She has no interns this summer and will do most of sampling herself except for some volunteers from Enfield who will help at the other 3 locations. Dr. Martin also said that Dr. Dube will resume his research on the bacteria sources now that his lab is reopened. Deb Austin will add that to her tasks of water samples.
  - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Bed Area – Trails at park are seeing lots of use with the pandemic and yet the vines and trail are seeing overgrowth. A work party did trimming starting at Bridge 8 and going up to Bridge 10 with more to be

addressed. Ray Jones and Nick continue to keep the filter bed area in good condition.

- d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Lots of activity, probably thanks to Covid 19.
- e. Social Media / Publicity – Not much to post but several posts on use of the trails.

#### **6. New Business**

- a. June / July Work Party – Plans to replace Bridge #5 were made for work party on June 27 meeting at Melrose Bridge to start at 9AM. The necessary material is all Prepared and ready for installation.
- b. Braille signs – Update was given noting that 5 new signs were ordered to complete the Braille trail. Since we did not have to buy reagents there was money in the budget to complete our grant plans.
- c. SRWA – Zoom meeting held June 15<sup>th</sup> and next one will be July 13<sup>th</sup>. Although there is no meeting in August, it is hoped that a full moon paddle can happen after working out the social distancing issues.
- d. Filling position of Vice Chair – With Tom Talamini's withdrawal from AHRC, there is a vacancy for that post and Rebecca Talamini agreed to fill it.
- e. **Duck Race** – Treasurer Deb Talamini was approached about our Cardboard Boat Race plans, by the BMX committee. BMX hopes to still have their Duck Race and they rely on our members to capture the ducks. If it were possible it would have to be later in the summer perhaps the weekend after Labor Day. More discussion to follow.

- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – Guest Deb Austin requested that the area at Rte. 140 where she collects samples be cut back in hopes of avoiding the poison ivy that is abundant. It was promised that it would be done.

**Adjournment:** 6:28 PM.