

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY - September 17, 2020 - 6 PM
PATIO @ OSBORN HOUSE, 115 SCANTIC ROAD, EAST WINDSOR

PRESENT:

Albert Grant	Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman
Deb Talamini	Rebecca Talamini	Scott Tripp
Mark Whelden	Deb Williams	Russell Williams

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Julie Pratt	Dick Sullivan
Susan Sullivan		

GUESTS:

Tyler Netz	Bud Schultz	Tom Talamini
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1. **Call to order** – 6:04PM.
2. **Minutes** of August 20, 2020 meeting. MOTION made to accept, SECONDED, approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini said nothing new.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6d. Braille Signs**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – It was reported that river from Sabonis Landing to Cemetery Road is open after several work parties cleared a water path.
 - b. Water testing – Monthly samples ongoing, with Dr. Martin working on them in her home lab. Samples for Dr. Dube were turned over to him for his use at U. of St. Joseph. Chair took samples from the EW3 site to be part of the Samplepalooza. Rebecca Syme, the student helper to Dr. Martin, assisted with the paperwork in her effort to be involved with water conservation. This annual sampling of the water of the Connecticut River and several of its tributaries will be part of published results by Connecticut River Conservancy.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Bed Area – The Talaminis removed the downed tree near Bridge #1. We received a report that there were some fallen trees in the upper section. Trailhead sign was installed to make it clearer to hikers new to the area.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Very good activity.
 - e. Source to Sea – 10 tires were retrieved last weekend and trash that filled a canoe removed. Member Deb Talamini will issue the final report on September 27.

- f. Social Media / Publicity – Deb Talamini continues to share Source to Sea clean up pictures and received feedback with offers of help in cleaning the river in the future.

6. New Business

- a. September Work Party – Plans were made for river work on this Sunday, September 20th meeting at 10 AM at the filter beds. Expectation is to paddle to Sabonis Landing and make sure that section is navigable. Please contact if you are going to take part so there are enough boats.
- b. SRWA – Held a zoom meeting but no Commission member was able to take part. Kristen Martin recapped the testing that was done this summer. She talked about Rebecca Syme, the girl from East Windsor who is working on a project with her. Dr. Martin also mentioned some further testing that might take place this fall.
- c. Fun Paddle – Tentative plans were made for October 4th, depending on the water level, with possible back up date of October 18. Watch for postings on Face Book for further info.
- d. **Braille Signs** – The 5 new Braille signs are completed and we need to get them ready for installation. Tom Talamini will purchase the backing used on the other ones so it all matches.

- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – Bud Schultz and Tyler Netz, having been on several work parties, expressed interest in becoming members of the Commission.

Members spoke of the need for better ways of maintaining the trails and discussed what type of equipment would make that easier.

Adjournment: 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman, Secretary

September 18, 2020