

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY - MARCH 17, 2022 - 6 PM**  
**OSBORN HOUSE 115 SCANTIC ROAD EAST WINDSOR, CT**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Joanne Drapeau	Amy Larew	Juie Pratt
Bud Schultz		

**GUEST:**

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order** – 6:02 PM.
2. **Minutes** of February 17, 2022 meeting, Motioned, Seconded and Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported nothing new.
4. **Added Agenda Items** – 6d. **Connecticut Trails Day Hike.** 6e. **Collaboration with Arts & Culture.** 6f. **CT Land Trust Hike**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
  - a. River review – Water is down some even with recent rain and snow.
  - b. Water testing – Regular monthly sampling by Deb Austin is ongoing, as well as special testing by Dr. Martin, who just published the "State of the Scantic 2021". Soil sampling has been put off because of frozen ground conditions and inaccessibility.
  - c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Trails are all passable. But there are reports of a tree down near trailhead, and another split and needing watching between Bridges 7 and 8. It was noted that Bridge 5 has been cabled to the pipes and now is being watched to see if it floats as river rises.
  - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Slower activity. Work to raise it for better door closing is needed.
  - e. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posts when trail conditions change. At Girl Scout event, Mall Madness, she gave out some of our guides and answered questions from those who stopped at her "River" table.
6. **New Business**
  - a. March Work Party – Too busy for March but work party scheduled for **April 2 and 3** to

address Bridge 8. It might even need a second weekend to completely replace the bridge which is the largest / heaviest and an original with tamaracks as the foundation. It'll be an all hands on deck to get it accomplished. Signs will be posted at trailhead that work's being done. **PLAN: MEET AT CORNFIELD OFF ROUTE 140 AT 9AM.** Email will go out several days before as a reminder.

- b. SRWA – The Spring Splash will be held this Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup>. There is no novice race at this time and no buses will be available. SWRA hopes to have a food truck. Some chain saw work was done in river. They are coming to a milestone and expect to do something perhaps at the annual meeting. At the meeting Dr. Martin mentioned that the Long Island Sound group is now focusing on the upper Connecticut River – which is us.
- c. Board of Finance – Our budget will be on its agenda on its March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7PM
- 6 d. **CT Trails Day** – Member Deb Talamini asked if we were going to participate again this year. We decided yes, on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> with our hike starting at 10AM.
- 6 e. **Collaboration with Arts and Culture** – Member Deb Williams told of their new idea to produce a saw carving on one of our downed tree stumps. A local craftsman is available to do the work and we will collaborate with the effort.
- 6 f. **CT Land Trust Hike** – Member Albert Grant is leading a hike on Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> to Culver Pond which is just over the Somers border on the Stafford line. This is one of the sources of the Scantic River. Meeting at 10AM on right side of Gilbert Road which is a dirt road. All are welcome.
- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – People have questioned if a trail still exists at the end of Old Ellington Road. Since it does not we will remove the trailhead sign.

**Adjournment: 6:58 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman  
March 18, 2022