

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY - April 21, 2022 – 6:00 PM**  
Osborn House  
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Joanne Drapeau	Amy Larew	Julie Pratt
Bud Schultz	Rebecca Talamini	Deb Williams

**GUESTS:**

Tom Talamini	Adrian Neill
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1. **Call to order.** 6:03pm
2. **Minutes** of March 17, 2022 meeting. Correction: MOTION had been made by Barbara Sherman for our share of the sealer for water testing, \$1500, to be taken from our Donation account and allocate it to that purpose. MOTION was Seconded by Vice Chair Rebecca Talamini. All were in favor. **Now Motion to accept minutes as corrected: Accepted, Seconded and Approved.**
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported that the balance in our Budget of \$620.38 after additional disbursement for the subscriptions. We still have secretary minutes to end of year and guides to purchase. The Donation account after the disbursement for the sealer was \$326.39 this included the \$100 donation by BMX Skate Park from proceeds of duck race and another \$100 from a hiking friends for our efforts on the trails. Deb then was presented with an envelope from Dunkin Donuts. Member Joanne Drapeau said the manager Ron wanted to thank the members for all the hard work they put in for the maintenance of the trails. His donation was \$300 which Treasurer Deb will turn over to Finance office
4. **Added Agenda Items** – None at this time.
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
  - a. River review – Muddy after rains and very high level again. A local fisherman reported that upstream of Melrose Bridge was the appearance of a beaver dam causing a large pool of water where in the past we have put in our canoes.
  - b. Water testing – Testing ongoing, with Deb Austin in need of bottles and labels. Invoices had been submitted for \$1500 for sealer and for \$1,019.62 for reagents.
  - c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – The replacement of Bridge 8 had 14 volunteers working and took 6 ½ hours to complete after several days of preparation . It was quite a feat! But they had a plan and worked their plan. The remnants of the old bridge will be removed and area spruced up. Also a hiker left a note stating a bear had been sighted near the bench by Bridge #3. "Bear Awareness" signs will be posted in kiosk and at the trailhead. Of note that bench needs repairing badly. It is often used; maybe we could get an Eagle Scout project to take it on. The downed tree just past the kiosk has been removed. And both Bridge #8 & #5 were cabled for fear of high water washing them away.

- d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Continues with work on receptacle itself still to be done.
- e. Board of Finance Budget Review - Our budget was presented at meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup> and we await the vote for the budget.
- f. Arts & Culture Collaboration – Report by Member Russell Williams on behalf of Deb stating that the local carver has not yet had time to survey the area for a tree that could be used.
- g. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posted the pictures of the Bridge #8 work and will begin to tell of our upcoming June hike.

**6. New Business**

- a. April/May Work Party – Next project is to put ramps on Bridge #8 with a work date of Saturday April 30 meeting at 9AM at the cornfield. Rain date is Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>. The mud walk at Bridge 4 will be put off until other tasks are complete.
- b. SRWA – Dr. Martin had presented the need for the sealer again and SRWA pledged \$1200 and we made offer of \$1500 which she presented to university and USJ in turn agreed to cover the balance of the \$6800 cost. Its next meeting is this coming Monday April 25.
- c. CT Trails Day Hike – Member Deb Talamini said it is set for Sunday June 5 starting at 10AM and will appear in the CT Forest and Park brochure.

**7. Public input / Questions / Correspondence – None.**

**Adjournment: 6:50 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman

April 22, 2022