

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY – May 19, 2022 – 6:00 PM**  
Osborn House PATIO  
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Amy Larew	Ian Neill	Julie Pratt
Bud Schultz		

**GUESTS:**

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order.** 6:00pm
2. **Minutes** of April 21, 2022 meeting. Motion to accept minutes: Accepted, Seconded and Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported she will verify the balance in our Budget account for the next meeting.
4. **Added Agenda Items** – None at this time.
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
  - a. River review – Level is low even after the rains. There has been no reports of additional downed trees.
  - b. Water testing – Testing ongoing. Sealer has been delivered. Thank you received from USJ for our supporting their water testing project with money for sealer and reagents. Dr. Martin has said that additional equipment would help such as extendable swing water sampler for \$189.98 and another Ph/temperature meter for \$80.
  - c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Member Joanne Drapeau is continuing her every other week clean up of Trolley Crossing. She reported lots of activity use there. Area near Bridge #8 was cleaned up after repairs. A volunteer has agreed to replace trail markers that have been removed or destroyed.
  - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Recycling continues.
  - e. Arts & Culture Collaboration – Report by Member Deb Williams that the project is on hold while they look for another craftsman to work on the carving and she expressed her disappointment and asked if we were still interested and she was assured we were.
  - f. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posted information about the hike and after event she will start posting about the cardboard boat race which will be held Sunday June 25. Deb said she was worried because most of the boats used previously are not usable so we really will need new boats.

## **6. New Business**

- a. May/June Work Party – Plans for mowing prior to the hike will be on June 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 9 AM. There is need for spotters and walkers to assist with the mower. Also some vines need to be pruned back.
- b. SRWA – Some of its members helped with our bridge repair and were thanked. They discussed several ways of giving back to the community perhaps with a scholarship or aid to other food banks. Its next meeting is Monday May 23. .
- c. CT Trails Day Hike – Member Deb Talamini said it is listed in CT Forest & Parks; confirmed that hike is set for Sunday June 5 starting at 10AM. We will use the small banner.
- d. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge “Writing the Land Project” – This project assigns a writer/poet to each participating watershed. After research and interviews the poet writes stories and poems about that particular area. Dr. Martin has offered to pay the \$250 cost to be part of the project if SRWA and AHRC want to participate. We agreed we will be part of it. The goal is a published book and copies would cost \$10 apiece, which we could then buy to sell as a fundraiser. Member Albie Grant was asked about the former farmer/owners of the land that the state bought for the park and he recounted the names of some of them.

7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – It was noted that our budget for next year was increased. Also reported that BMX group was ready for the Cardboard Boat Race with their publicity and we were told that John Burnham will not be at the Cardboard Boat Race but will provide the usual prizes and winner board. NOW ALL WE NEED ARE BOATS.

**Adjournment: 6:25 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman

May 20, 2022