

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY – October 20, 2022 – 6:00 PM
Osborn House
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Amy Larew	Ian Neill	Julie Pratt
Bud Schultz	Mark Whelden	

GUESTS:

Alan Baker	Tom Talamini
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1. **Call to order.** 6:04pm
2. **Minutes** of September 15, 2022 meeting. Motion to accept minutes: Accepted, Seconded and Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini said nothing new with budget.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6d. Haunted Highway**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – Level is about normal after highs from rain. Report of a Boy Scout troop making a trip with chain saws from Trolley Crossing to Sabonis Landing. They did some 'work' along the way but it was doable.
 - b. Water testing – Regular monthly continues. Spreadsheet with E.coli results was attached to agenda. Dr. Martin brought a group of students to the East Road testing site for a class that started with paper marbling using river water and then they moved on to a physical river assessment. Hoping she will give a finding at the SRWA annual meeting.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Another tree has fallen and damaged the fence at the Braille Trail. Also Dave Smith reported that a tree had fallen near Bridge 7 and Member Deb Talamini and Tom cleaned that up.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Recycling continues.
 - e. Arts & Culture Collaboration – Report by Member Deb Williams that the craftsman has found a suitable tree for his project. Plans were made to transport it to his facility for carving. Prep for a foundation will need to be done. We have 2 months to get that done.
 - f. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posted information that the park has multi purposes and everyone needs to be aware of other activities. She also posted fall

foliage photos.

6. New Business

- a. October / November Work Party – We will meet Saturday October 22 at 9AM at the Melrose Bridge to work on the downed tree on the Braille Trail. If enough volunteers come, some will go to Bridge 10 to assess the needed repairs there and perhaps some touch up will be done on Bridge 4.
- b. SRWA – Their next meeting is October 24. We await scheduled annual meeting date.
- c. Meeting Dates for 2023 – Are attached hereto.
- d. **HAUNTED HIGHWAY** – Is next Thursday at East Windsor Park on Reservoir Avenue in Broad Brook. Members Deb Talamini and Rebecca Davis will hand out candy and all are welcome to join in.

Public Input / Questions / Correspondence – It was noted that the plexiglass doors on the kiosk at Cemetery Road parking area have been cleaned.

Alan Baker told of a survey from townpeople who said outdoor recreation was important. With that in mind, it is possible that funding will be set aside for future upgrades and expansion on the trails. He asked questions as to what costs might be and some purchase figures were provided.

Tom Talamini said the trails were in pretty good shape but he hoped to do one more mowing before winter in hopes of getting rid of some of the briars to make the springtime easier. Of course it requires more than a mower, it requires lookouts for fallen branches and other debris and someone to help the mower transverse roots etc. It would require a work party and Tom is not available until mid November.