AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY – November 17, 2022 – 6:00 PM

Osborn House 115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT

PRESENT:

Rebecca Davis Joanne Drapeau Barbara Sherman

Dick Sherman Deb Talamini Scott Tripp
Deb Williams Russell Williams Mark Whelden

ABSENT:

Albert Grant Amy Larew Ian Neill

Bud Schultz

GUESTS:

Marcella Hube Tom Talamini

Call to order.

- 2. **Minutes** of October 20, 2022 regular meeting. They were accepted, seconded and approved.
- 3. **Treasurer's Report** Treasurer Deb Talamini reported nothing new
- 4. Added Agenda Items 6c. Grant
- 5. On-Going Business / Old Business
 - a) River review Level is about normal after rains but water is murky, yet above the dump in Enfield it appeared clear.
 - b) Water testing Regular monthly testing continues. Dr. Martin received a \$5000 Somers HFPG grant. The focus of the grant is on establishing an after-school Scantic Stream Team, to introduce students to environmental field monitoring, and teach them how to collect, sample, and analyze water samples. Part of the grant funds will go towards equipment which will help establish a testing lab at the school.

As for the 319 grant that the Scantic its purpose of that grant is to establish a Scantic River Watershed Management Plan. CT River Conservancy is the lead group on that grant, but Dr. Martin will be part of the steering committee representing USJ and the Scantic River.

- c) Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing Trolley Crossing sign is installed. Member Joanne Drapeau is picking up all sorts of interesting debris at that site. This past weekend Bridge #10 was torn down and rebuilt. Many thanks to the 12 + volunteers who gave up another day to make our hiking trail better.
- d) Bottle / Can Receptacle Continues.
- e) Arts & Culture Collaboration Update by Member Deb Williams who was told by the carver what was needed for the base of the carving. He was working of the project and assured her it would be ready for New Year's Day Hike.

f) Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posted pictures of the work done on Bridge #10 this past weekend. As of Thanksgiving she will start to post about the first day hike.

6. New Business

- a. November / December Work Party A work party was planned for Saturday, November 26 with a rain date of Sunday, November 27, 2022. Plans are to meet at 9:30 AM at the trailhead and plant the base for the carving.
- b. SRWA Still looking for site for its annual meeting.
- 6 c. GRANT Member Barbara Sherman told of email received today announcing the granting of an award of \$2,000 from the East Windsor Greater Together Fund Advisory Committee in response to the request for funding. The funds will be used to extend the Braille Trail, provide a bench thereon and cover our share of the carving being made.

7. Public input / Questions / Correspondence -

Some members will meet for the dedication of the park at Cemetery Road on Saturday, November 19th at 10 AM.

Guest Tom Talamini felt the trail was in good shape for the hike but perhaps, as a caution, some members will check out Bridge (mudwalk) #4 and remediate if necessary.

Guest Marcella Hube provided some background on herself and her duties. She talked about the need for paperwork regarding volunteers and liability. She made plans with Members Deb Talamini and Deb Williams to meet Friday, November 18 at 7:30AM to do an on-sight visit to the area where the carving will be placed.