

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY – December 15, 2022 – 6:00 PM
Osborn House
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT

PRESENT:

Rebecca Davis	Barbara Sherman	
Dick Sherman	Deb Talamini	Scott Tripp
Deb Williams	Russell Williams	Mark Whelden

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Albert Grant	Amy Larew
Ian Neill	Bud Schultz	

GUEST:

Tom Talamini

Call to order.

2. **Minutes** of November 17, 2022 regular meeting. They were accepted, seconded and approved.

3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported a \$100 donation from Sylvia;s food truck (a thank you was sent) and the \$2000 award from the East Windsor arm of Hartford Foundation for Public Giving was deposited into the Town 'grant' fund for purposes set out in the Sensory Project Application.

4. **Added Agenda Items** – None.

5. On-Going Business / Old Business

- a River review – Level is about normal except just north of Melrose Bridge where beaver activity is increasing the pond with a build-up of twigs and leaves, etc making the level there very high.
- b. Water testing – Regular monthly testing continues, with new labels delivered to Deb Austin.
- c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Trolley Crossing is still being monitored by Member Joanne Drapeau. Bridge #10 was returned to its base, thank to our volunteers. Sign for the hike was put up but then the strapping slipped and needs to be adjusted.
- d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Continues.
- e. Arts & Culture Collaboration – Member Deb Williams showed the latest version of the carving. There was discussion about getting it to the hike and plans will be made.
- f. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posted pictures of the snow scenes from the trail and also started mentioning the hike on FB with over 134 'interested' in going.

6. New Business

- a. December Work Party – A work party was planned for Sunday, December 18 to rehang

the hike sign. There will be oversight of the trail just before the hike, with any remediation necessary.

- b. SRWA – Next meeting is December 19 by zoom. Annual meeting is postponed until January.
- c. Meeting with Marcella Hube – Members Deb Talamini & Debra Williams met with Marcella Hube and her associate to get a general idea as to positioning the carving and other issues as to the State Park. It was agreed that the permanent placement of the carving would not take place until the spring at which time all state guidelines would have been reviewed and we would be in compliance with them. Member Deb Talamini forwarded to Ms. Hube the website for the rubber docking material that had been used in other parks as a possibility for use here if there were funding to make it feasible.
- d. New Year's Day Hike – Ours is one of 12 hikes in the State of Connecticut. Plans for the amenities of hot chocolate, the sign-in board and a wood fire were finalized. Again collection for the food pantry will be made with items for pets and people being accepted. There have been several email inquiries about the nature of the trail and difficulty, etc.

7. Public input / Questions / Correspondence –

Email was received from Deb Nordell Austin regarding trash left at Sabonis Landing. That info and pictures were sent to the highway department and they removed all of it. It was advised that it appeared someone was living there and suggested that further disturbances be reported to the police department. It was then reported that a large tree had fallen down blocking anyone from driving down to the back of that property. Perhaps that will eliminate the possibility of a recurrence.

Adjournment: 6:47 PM