

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY – March 16, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Osborn House
115 Scantic Road, East Windsor, CT 06088**

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Albert Grant
Amy Larew	Bud Schultz

GUEST:

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order.** 6:02 PM
2. **Minutes** of February 16, 2023 regular meeting. They were accepted, seconded and approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini presented our to-date balances in the 3 line items. Our budget will be discussed at Finance Board review March 28.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6.e. CT Trails Day; 6.f. Mast Study; 6.g. Earth Day**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – River is very high but as of tonight clear.
 - b. Water testing – Regular monthly testing continues. Labels provided to sampler, Deb Austin, with thanks for all her efforts.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Member Deb Talamini reported a conversation with Marcella Hube who stated the request for repair of Bridge (mudwalk) #4 was submitted but it is at the bottom of a long list. Further survey of Bridge #10 showed the talked-about reroute will not work but another reroute is definitely feasible.
 - d. Arts & Culture Collaboration – Member Deb Williams found a new carver, and set up a conference call with him so we could get his insight and ask our questions. We hope to have a decision on location and topic of the carving within a short time.
 - e. Social Media / Publicity – Nothing new posted recently.

6. New Business

a. March Work Party – Work party is scheduled for Sunday March 19 at 10 AM at Melrose Bridge to try to locate a good site for the carving and decide what needs to be done to temporarily fix mudwalk at Bridge #4 (again).

Then on Saturday March 25, the mudwalk will be addressed with work party starting at 9 AM to reset Bridge #4. Again, meeting at Melrose Bridge.

b. SRWA – The Association received a ARPA grant to establish dog waste stations to be installed at all 4 parks. Spring Splash is set for Saturday March 25. Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

c. New Grant – An application was made to New England Grass Roots Environment Fund for a Grow Grant to cover cost of 6 benches to be placed along the trails at the SRSP. Marcella Hube supported the idea as they would be a 'nice touch'.

d. Cardboard Boat Race / BMX Duck Race – Member Deb Talamini confirmed the date of Sunday July 9 for the events. More to come.

6. e. CT Trails Day - Member Deb Talamini noted that as of March 1 info could be posted and the date was set as Saturday June 3rd with a start time of 10 AM.

6. f. Mast Study - Member Deb Talamini passed along information explaining the reason for the red bands painted around some trees in the SRSP. It is part of a UConn Ag program, counting acorns. Many hikers had questioned the purpose. It will be sent to all who request it. .

6. g. Earth Day – Plan to celebrate Earth Day by being in the Park with a group of Leos from East Windsor High School. Project will be to paint markings on the trees to better identify the trail. Tentative date is Saturday April 15.

7. Public input / Questions / Correspondence – Dr. Kirsten Martin sent an outline of what would be included in our chapter on our section of the Scantic River. Her request for information to assist in Dr. Martin's efforts was sent to all members.

Adjournment: 7:15 PM