

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THURSDAY - May 16, 2019 REGULAR MEETING WAREHOUSE POINT LIBRARY

IN ATTENDANCE:

Joanne Drapeau	Al Floyd	Albert Grant
Barbara Sherman	Dick Sherman	Dick Sullivan
Debbie Talamini	Rebecca Talamini	Tom Talamini
Scott Tripp	Mark Whelden	

ABSENT:

Julie Pratt	Sue Gaffney Sullivan
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GUESTS: Deb Williams, Russell Williams. Russell Williams the Fifth

1. **Call to order** at 7:00pm and attendance.
2. **Minutes** of April 18, 2019 meeting, approved and seconded.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini presented the balances in our two accounts. She also noted that decals were given out at the Scout hike Saturday.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6. e. Braille signs.**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – After being so high it is going down even with more rain. But there are trees down that can be observed from various points. Even though we need to focus on the trails at this point, a quick run to make sure the cardboard boat race area is open will need to be done.
 - b. Water testing – Regular testing ongoing . Dr. Martin will take some students on May 23 to the various sites to give them an awareness of the area. Most testing spots have been weed wacked and will be maintained. A report on Dr. Dube's students' findings will be presented next meeting.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Bed Area – Member Joanne Drapeau has been picking up trash at the filter beds. A work party of 5 spent 4+ hours on Saturday again doing more bridge reclamation to get ready for the June 2nd hike.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Members saw big activity.
 - e. Banner – Member Rebecca placed the order and we should have the banners within a week or so.
 - f. EW Scouting hike – Member Deb Talamini was joined by 25 kids and parents as they looked at and smelled the flowers, picked up trash (most already covered over by the growth of the foliage from the rains). She noted how much the trails

have grown up in just a short 2 weeks. But the kids had a blast and ended the morning with a picnic on the new walkway in the sunshine.

Membership – Our guests put in their applications and were told the vote would take place at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on June 6th.

- h. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini continues posting on conditions of the trails to keep users aware. Pictures from the Scout hike were added. Now she will focus on the CT Trails Day hike, and the upcoming cardboard boat race.

6. New Business

- a. May / June Work Party – Members will call a work party when time and conditions allow. Also, they will probably meet at OMBridge Saturday June 1st the day before the hike, to ensure the trails are ready.
- b. SRWA – Several Watershed members met with a reporter from CT Public Radio and toured sites in Enfield and Somers in preparation of an article on the Scantic River State Park. It is hoped the reporter will come to East Windsor to see our section. It was offered at their meeting that if we were to do more Braille signs, they would be able to contribute to them.
- c. CT Trails Day – Member Deb Talamini has several copies of the State booklet with our hike listed. The JI too will be publishing something. Also Pippin and Son will be contacted to provide portable sanitary facilities for the hike.
- d. Cardboard Boat Race – Date of June 23 was selected with back up of June 30, etc. depending on conditions. It will be advertised starting this month in order to give folks enough time to build a boat. Again we will be assisting the BMX committee with their Duck Race held prior to ours.
- e. **Braille Signs** – Member Scott Tripp questioned if we were still hoping to position the Braille signs permanently before the CT Trails Day Hike. But due to the need to keep working on the trails that project has been postponed. We also need to see where the river will finally settle since all the rain has changed its path.

- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – Our guests were asked if we would celebrate? We said we usually do after the cardboard boat race.

Adjournment: 7:35 PM

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman
May 17, 2019