

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF *SPECIAL MEETING* THURSDAY - AUGUST 19, 2021 - 6 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM – TOWN HALL
11 RYE STREET, BROAD BROOK, CT

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Joanne Drapeau	Amy Larew	Julie Pratt
Bud Schultz		

GUEST:

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order** – 6:01 PM.
2. **Minutes** of July 15, 2021 meeting, Motioned, Seconded and Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini said nothing new.
4. **Added Agenda Items – 6. C) Halloween Haunted Highway.**
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
 - a. River review – Water is so muddy, high and more coming!
 - b. Water testing – Regular monthly sampling by Deb Austin is ongoing. Dr. Martin reported that all BLUE. She is looking ahead to needing new equipment.
 - c. Scantic River State Park / Filter Bed Area – There were reports of fallen trees along the path and it would probably take a small work party to clean up the area. Water everywhere and several bridges at State Park are under water AGAIN.
 - d. Bottle / Can Receptacle – Steady activity.
 - e. Braille Signs – Braille signs have been reinstalled. A large tree fell at the end of the trail. Three members/1 volunteer cleaned it up, to make the path passable again.
 - f. Park Names – Board of Selectmen referred this to a Town meeting which will be held tonight.
 - g. Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini posts when there is news and will ask anyone to alert us to downed trees or other trail issues. An article on our activity will appear in the fall edition of the 5 Village Voice.

6. New Business

- a. August Work Party – Too much water to try to do anything until conditions get better. It is expected that the first big project will be Bridge #8.
- b. SRWA – Their scheduled a full moon paddle is Saturday August 21, but that will be weather dependent. They will have an August meeting this year and discuss Dr. Martin's message about needing new equipment.
- c. **Halloween Haunted Highway** – Member Deb Talamini posed a question if the Commission wanted to take part in the repeat of last year's event. The difference this year we would have to supply our own candy. All agreed. It will take place Thursday, October 28.

7. Public input / Questions / Correspondence – Dr. Martin had sent an email stating that she wanted us to know the IDEXX sealer machine was starting to show its age. She wrote perhaps we should be thinking about how to replace it, maybe with a fundraiser. She originally had secured it with a grant and had tried to get more funds the same way but so far was not successful. The cost would be about \$6500.

Dr. Martin also mentioned she planned to bring my fall hydrology class to the Scantic River again this fall, and would like to have them complete a physical assessment (substrate, topography, flow rate, etc.) at the Sabonis Landing site. N.B. – We will make sure the area is mowed and fully accessible.

Adjournment: 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman
August 20, 2021