

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION  
**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY – June 15, 2023 – 5:30 PM**  
East Windsor Park  
Reservoir Avenue, East Windsor, CT 06088

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Albert Grant	Amy Larew
Bud Schultz	

**GUEST:**

Tom Talamini

1. **Call to order.** 5:31 PM
2. **Minutes** of May 18, 2023 regular meeting. Motioned to Accept, Seconded and Approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Deb Talamini reported on the budget balances and noted that there were several outstanding invoices still to be submitted. Vice Chair Rebecca Davis stated that the new river brochures were formatted and will be sent for print. Additional guides as well will be done to be invoiced within this budget.
4. **Added Agenda Items** – None.
5. **On-Going Business / Old Business**
  - a) River review – Water has been clear but low. There was discussion to take a trip down to check and see if it is clear enough for our cardboard board race.
  - b) Water testing – Regular monthly testing continues. E. coli testing has now been done for 2 weeks with only one issue the first week.
  - c) Scantic River State Park / Trolley Crossing – Member Joanne Drapeau reported on spotting the most beautiful piliated woodpecker when she went after checking reports of paint cans left at Trolley Crossing. However they had been cleared up by the time she arrived. She hoped that the town would be able to fill some of the many pot holes. The SRSP trail is still in good shape after Tom Talamini and member Scott Trip used the DR to mow the trail both sides as far as Bridge#9.

- d) Arts & Culture Collaboration – Member Deb Williams presented the owl and announced there will be a contest to name it with the winner being selected on National Night Out. The winner will earn bragging rights!!!
- e) EW Community Grant – Signs are in the works, bench is purchased and our share of the owl was paid for.
- f) Grass Roots Fund Grant – There was a partial award granted in the amount of \$3230. We are on the agenda for the Board of Selectmen's meeting to request that the town be the fiscal sponsor for the grant. It will provide money for 6 benches for the trail. Two choices for bench order and members opted for full presentations rather than purchasing the seating material ourselves.
- g) Social Media / Publicity – Member Deb Talamini will start posting information about the cardboard boat race and we will put up sandwich boards inviting everyone about the event.

#### **6. New Business**

- a. June/July Work Party – Work party scheduled for Saturday July 8 to check the path of the race. If any issue comes up prior to that, phone calls will gather the workers to help. Future work party will mow the ridge portion of the trail.
- b. SRWA – Dr.Martin reported that on the draft of our section of writing the river. Next meeting will be Monday June 26 at the Melrose School House starting at 7pm . All are welcome.
- c. Cardboard Boat Race / BMX Duck Race – Deb Talamini repeated that we need boats and it won't be much of a race with only 3 BOATS!!!

- 7. **Public input / Questions / Correspondence** – Guest Tom Talamini felt we needed to continue our search for a location for the owl.

**Adjournment: 6:13pm**

**Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman June 16, 2023**