

# Housatonic River Estuary Commission (HREC)

Representing the towns of Shelton, Milford, Orange, Stratford, Derby, and Ansonia, CT.

## HREC Minutes

*Regular meeting of the Housatonic River Estuary Commission*

*Tuesday, March 26, 2013*

*6:30 pm, Shelton Community Center, Shelton, Connecticut*

### **1. Call to Order/Pledge Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Gesullo at 6:37 PM.

The members present were:

Bob Gesullo, Chairman - Shelton

Lori Romick, Vice-Chairman - Milford

Bill Rock - Stratford

Scott Corner – Member-at-Large

### **2. Public Portion (15minute limit per guest) - No one from the public spoke.**

### **3. Approval of the January 29, 2013 Minutes**

A motion was made by Lori Romick to approve the January minutes as presented and the motion was seconded by Scott Corner. All were in favor.

### **4. Finance Report**

Bob Gesullo reported that \$500.00 would be deposited into the account from the town of Shelton. Scott would provide Bob with the contact for the \$5500.00 donation for the river clean-up. There is currently about \$5,000.00 in the account. There would be no changes requested for 2014.

### **5. Website**

Bill Rohland reported that the website has been updated and he had to purchase the program to do the updating from his assigned out-of-state FEMA work location. He will submit an invoice to Bob.

## 6. River Clean-up Discussion

Lori and Bill Rock revoted to donate the \$500.00 to the river clean-up. Scott provided the flyer which was sent out to various community organizations. Steve Johnson the new Milford Open Space and Natural Resource Officer would alert the scouts and his army of volunteers. He met with Scott and Lori and has already conducted three similar shoreline clean-ups. Sacred Heart will also announce the event to their students.

## 7.) Membership replacements

Bob contacted Mayor Lauretti and requested his assistance in contacting Mayor Zeoli and Mayor Staffieri to appoint members from Orange and Ansonia respectively. Lori agreed to also write an additional letter requesting the same.

## 8. Commissioner's Reports

Bill Rock - Stratford

Bill agreed to contact the Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture School Principal, John Curtis, to request student to continue with the river debris study.

Bob Gesullo - Shelton

Bob did speak to Mayor Lauretti requesting assistance with Orange and Ansonia for replacement members. He had not heard back from Mayor Zeoli regarding Eric Tashlein's proposed appointment.

Bob agreed to try and see if the signs at Wooster Island were still up.

*Bill Rohland – Derby*

*Bill was still unable to attend due to his FEMA job assignment out-of-state. He will continue to update the website.*

Scott Corner – Member-At-Large

Scott discussed the Clean-up and the signs that would be available soon.

Lori Romick – Milford

Lori provided copies of the Long Island Sound Assembly report and the CT River clean-up brochure.

Lori agreed to contact University of New Haven to see if they would be interested in continuing with the river debris study where Sacred Heart left off. Lori will also provide a summary of what the Commission is looking for in this study.

9. **Next meeting – Tuesday, May 28, 2012 at 6:30 at the USCGA Birdseye boat ramp in Stratford.**

10. **New business - None**

11. **Old Business –** Discussion continued regarding the patrolling of Wooster Island by DEEP EnCon for summer 2013. Discussion of the supporting testimony for House Bill 6528 An Act Supporting Clean Marinas. Testimony in the form of an e-mailed letter was sent and read into the record. An electronic vote was made with Bob, Lori, Scott, and Bill Rock in favor. Also - See Commissioner's report section. Discussion also continued regarding House Bill 5182 An Act Concerning the Role, Duties, Powers and Training of Harbor Masters. Members were not entirely against the training but unsure how that would be carried out. The group also discussed the new online boating class and the proctored exam.

12. **Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn was made by Lori Romick and seconded by Bill Rock at 7:37 PM (1937 hours).

All were in favor.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Romick, Vice-chair, Milford Representative*

Bob Gesullo, Chair (Shelton) [bobge@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobge@sbcglobal.net) , Lori Romick, Vice Chair (Milford) [lromick@optonline.net](mailto:lromick@optonline.net), William Rock (Stratford), William Rohland (Derby), William Urban (Ansonia), Scott Corner (Member-at-large), Vacant (Orange)