

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
724 Wolcott Ave.  
Beacon, NY 12508  
Tuesday, March 21, 2017**

Board Members Present.

1. Betsy Garthwaite
2. Bill Flank
3. Robi Schlaff
4. Anne Osborn
5. Stephen Smith
6. Mitzi Elkes
7. Ross Gould
8. Jeffrey Domanski
9. Don Raskopf
10. Sarah Underhill

Board Members Present by Telephone

11. Donna Stein
12. Neil Gordon
13. Bob Alpern

Board Members Absent.

14. Sharon Rowe
15. Allen Gutkin
16. Seth Davis

Staff Members Present.

1. Amy Bonder
2. Wren Longno
3. Dave Conover
4. Manna Jo Greene
5. Aleythea Dolstad
6. Michelle Acosta

Guests.

1. Joshua Kogan
2. Taylor Vogt
3. Allan Goldhammer

The March 21, 2017 meeting of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. was called to order at 6:35 PM by president Betsy Garthwaite. A quorum was determined to be present. Stephen Smith led the attendees in the traditional mission song selection, "If I Had a Hammer", by Pete Seeger.

The Secretary called for a **MOTION:** To approve the previously circulated minutes of the January 26, 2017 meeting. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Announcement:**

Board President Betsy Garthwaite announced the passing of Clearwater's Naval Architect and great friend Cyrus Hamlin. Betsy provided information about Cyrus and his relationship to Clearwater, mentioning that without him, Clearwater might have been merely a dock-side attraction rather than an actual sailing vessel. The Clearwater Community expresses its sincere condolences and its deep sense of loss.

**Announcement:**

Dave Conover announced the temporary absence of Erin Macchiaroli. All present recognize her as an integral part of Clearwater and wish her a speedy return.

**Interim Executive Director's Report – Dave Conover**

Interim Executive Director Dave Conover notes that compared to where we were last year we have made remarkable progress and are in a much better place, thanks in large part to the people in this room. We have exciting prospects that we can feel good about. While overhead expenses are quite low due to understaffing, this is not sustainable. We have restored the boat and restored the

festival, now it's time to restore the organization. (Remaining ED report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

**DC Trip Update:**

Most of you know that we are interested in bringing the boat to Washington DC, to carry a message from our members and from the region. We all know the situation in Washington so Clean Water, Science Advocacy and the Hudson Valley that is the birthplace of the environmental movement are central to the message. Many details remain to be figured out and we haven't announced as yet. The gist is that we will give people an opportunity to send their message. I'm pretty excited about it but we do have to do some fundraising on this and need to find the best way to approach that.

(Secretary's Note: A general discussion of the DC Trip ensued.)

Sarah: I have 20 hours of video from the 1980 trip.

Manna: That will be invaluable.

**Welcome to Wren Longno, Development Director:**

Dave Conover introduced Wren Longno, the new Development Director for Clearwater.

Wren: I have been getting acquainted, met with staff and learned their roles. I've been talking to potential major donors, just calling to say "hi", no asks yet. Next week, as soon as we're ready to go live with the DC trip, we plan to have a phone bank and will have a script made up and a formal campaign to raise funds for DC. There are already other plans in the works.

There are typical development department structures that we should look at. The message from staff is about what we do, environmental action and education. Interaction with thousands in the invasive species program. Looking for great stories to share, the ways we cross over with other people that share our mission. I plan to be ready to give financial report by next meeting. (The Development Summary and Grant Report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

Betsy: Do we have a Development Committee?

Annie: Yes, consisting of myself, Dianne, Ann Mellor, Wren and Ms. Cohen and we meet every other Tuesday either before or after the staff meeting.

**Announcement:**

Board Vice President Annie Osborn announced the securing of a significant donation to Clearwater and pledges for significant additional help. These donations will go a long way toward providing the "change capital" needed to implement the Financial Stabilization Plan. All present expressed gratitude to Annie for this wonderful news.

**Finance Report – Michelle Acosta**

The finance report will be posted on-line as soon as we get the 990 form.  
(The Finance report hereby incorporated by reference.)

**Environmental Action Report – Manna-jo Greene**

(The EA Report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

**Sloop Report –Aleythea Dolstad**

(The Sloop Report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

**Festival Report**

(The Festival Report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

**Education Program Report – Maija Niemisto**

(The Education Program Report is hereby incorporated by reference.)

**Executive Director Search Update – Betsy Garthwaite**

A few of us have had some preliminary discussions. Vicki Lowry has generously been helping out. She's semi-retired but was in the development world and I know she'll be invaluable in the search process. Vicki is not currently on the board, she has agreed to help us on the search committee. We're also reaching out to Hal Cohen who has seen every ED that has ever worked here. Right now, we're just testing the waters. We want to get this up and running so that we can have that person in place by beginning of June.

(Secretary's Note: A general discussion of the ED Search ensued.)

**Board Outreach – Jeff Domanski**

This idea was inspired by the phone bank concept, but it's not just about asking, it's also about giving. On a quarterly basis, we want to develop a script that includes survey questions, some Clearwater updates that we want to share and there could be an ask in there. The idea is to give the members a voice, ask them why they are members. Each Board member would make 3 to 5 calls on a quarterly basis. While we are not going to get to every member in a year, the members will at least know that we are reaching out to them.

(General discussion of the Board Outreach suggestion ensued.)

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

END OF MINUTES