



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Annual Meeting**

**Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
8 Long Dock Rd  
Beacon, NY 12508**

**Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 9:30am**

**Board Members Present**

1. Bob Alpern
2. Peter Capek
3. Seth Davis
4. Jeff Domanski
5. Mitzi Elkes
6. Joan Gaylord
7. Bruce Ginsberg
8. Neil Gordon
9. Allen Gutkin
10. Arthur Jones
11. Aaron Mair
12. Henry Neale
13. Cathy Page
14. Kyle Rabin
15. Robi Schlaff
16. Stephen Smith
17. Donna Stein
18. Sarah Underhill

**Board Members Absent**

19. Nancy Cincotta
20. Jeremy Rainer
21. Don Raskopf
22. Taylor Vogt

**New Board Member Candidates**

1. Janine Napierkowski

**Staff Members Present**

1. Hal Cohen
2. Debbie Cohen
3. Erik Fyfe
4. Manna Jo Greene
5. Erin Macchiaroli
6. Pete Kerby-Miller

**Members and Guests\***

1. Susan Berliner
2. Sandra Brennan
3. Stephen Brennan
4. Claudine Craig
5. Donkey Dover, Jr.
6. K Doren
7. Thomas Elliott
8. Vince Farina
9. Sue Gamache
10. Betsy Garthwaite
11. Roberta Goldberg
12. Joyce Hanson
13. Betty Harkins
14. Joette Kane
15. Kathleen and Gary Koran
16. Noel Kropf
17. Christine Lifgren
18. Rudy Lu
19. James Malchow
20. Meryl Marcus
21. Susan Murphy
22. Rick Nestler
23. Donna Nestler
24. Anne Osborn
25. Nancy Papish
26. JC Parker
27. Pietro Poccia
28. George Potanovic
29. Robert Reardon
30. Trenteny Reed
31. Steve Schwartz
32. Susan Shapiro

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### **Staff Members Present (Continued)**

7. Gigi Rapetti
8. Eli Schloss
9. Anita Vargas
10. Shaye Weldon
11. Greg Williams

72 people were in attendance

### **Members and Guests (Continued)**

33. Quinn Sheehan-Hipple
34. Ajax Stavis
35. Alan Thomas
36. Rosemary Thomas
37. Roy Volpe
38. Marc Weiner

(\*Names are as written on Sign-in Sheet)

## **Call to Order**

The annual meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2019 of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. was called to order at 10:00AM by president Stephen Smith.

A quorum was determined to be present.

Stephen Smith and Sarah Underhill led the attendees by voice and guitar in group mission song, "River" by Bill Staines.

The meeting agenda was made available online and physically on each table by the Secretary as well as at the sign-in desk by Erin Macchiaroli.

## **Prior Meeting Minutes Approval**

Stephen requested that the Board members approve minutes from the last meeting.

Stephen called for a **MOTION**: To approve the meeting minutes from Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 10:10am. The **MOTION** was seconded by Sarah. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

## **Introductions**

Stephen led the meeting after prior meeting minutes approval by introducing Executive Director, Greg Williams to begin with annual meeting opening remarks.

Greg Williams introduced the candidates, in attendance, for election: Janine Napierkowski, Bob Alpern, Sarah Underhill, Jeff Domanski, Neil Gordon and Cathy Page.

Greg spoke about pronouns as being a part of introducing people by name. It is intended to start a discussion and undermine the notion that we should all just make assumptions. A really big part of Clearwater is to challenge assumptions and getting to know people well and listening well and explicitly stating pronouns is the way we do that.



Greg discussed the importance of recruiting members, partners and sloop clubs and renewing our commitments between Clearwater and those sloops. He discussed appreciation and efforts by engaging the former by Ann Mellor, the RPC and Roy Volpe.

We have a new Development Director. His name is James Malchow. He has been participating with Clearwater and Beacon Sloop Club for many years as a Board Member and President of the Beacon Sloop Club. He has an advanced degree in non-profit management and fundraising.

## **Board of Directors Candidate Statements**

Greg announced that we have a total of 10 candidates, and we'd like to give them a chance to say something about themselves and respond to questions, as asked.

Candidates were introduced by slide (pictures were posted with additional information):

1. Neil Gordon (current Treasurer),
2. Cathy Page (current Secretary),
3. Bob Alpern (current Board Member),
4. Jeffrey Domanski (current Board Member),
5. Sarah Underhill (current Board Member),
6. Isaac Honsantner (not present but Erik spoke on his behalf),
7. Ashley Knox (new candidate, not present but Manna spoke on her behalf),
8. Janine Napierkowski (new candidate),
9. Dr. Gregory Simpson (new candidate, not present but Manna spoke on his behalf)
10. Chana Widawski (new candidate, not present but Robi spoke on her behalf)

## **Introduction of Clearwater Staff**

Greg introduced the Clearwater Staff and encouraged everyone to get to know them:

1. Erin Macchiaroli (Director of Operations)
2. Hal Cohen (Information Technology Director)
3. Debbie Cohen (Database Administrator)
4. Gigi Rapetti (Administrative Volunteer)

### **Sloop Department**

5. Nick Rogers (Senior Captain)
6. Aleythea Dolstad (Captain)



### **Development**

7. James Malchow (Director of Development)
8. Ann Mellor (Manager, Membership and Sloop Club Relations)

### **Environmental Action**

9. Manna Jo Greene (Environmental Action Director)

### **Education**

10. Erik Fyfe (Education Director)
11. Eli Schloss (Tideline Discovery Program Director)
12. Shaye Weldon (Vessel Logistics Manager)
13. Amali Knobloch (Education Coordinator)
14. Pete Kerby-Miller (Education Coordinator)

Stephen thanked the staff on behalf of the Board as well as appreciation for Greg Williams.

## **Education Department Report**

Erik Fyfe presented on Education for Clearwater. This year we've had 101 education sails. Education happens at every level of the organization. Volunteers, staff and crew all serve as educators as well as learn every day.

Some of our Programs include: (41 Programs for 2019 thus far)

1. Tideline Discovery Program (Running until end of October)
2. Professional Development Program
3. Youth Empowerment Program (Summer - 3 Multi-Day Programs)
4. Climate Change Curriculum (Integrating Local Planning and increasing our involvement)  
(Working on Micro-Plastics as well)

Erik encouraged people to come volunteer on-board and/or reach out to Eli to find out how to become a contract educator or if you have kids in school, talk to someone there and let them know about Clearwater's programs and get them involved.

## **Environmental Action Report**

Henry Neale, temporary Chair of the Environmental Action Committee, introduced Manna Jo Greene. He talked about our continued goal to make the Hudson River Valley a cleaner, healthier and more viable place for everybody. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

[Manna announced there was 20 minutes until the ballot would be closed and to please vote if you haven't]



Manna Jo Greene presented on Environmental Action for Clearwater. 3 Categories included:

1. Water Protection
2. Watershed Protection
3. Hudson River PCBs

Signing petitions makes a difference. Over 3,000 signatures were collected and a team was put together to reach the agencies and elected officials.

Clearwater is working closely the Newburgh Clean Water Project to get the contamination cleaned up out of the water supply.

Indian Point National Decommissioning Group: we are working on a Citizen Advisory Board and hope in the coming year this will come together. Regional and national calls are being made with people who are decommissioning across the country; around 90 or so reactors are either in the process of being decommissioned or are facing decommissioning. Making sure this is done safely is really critical. A cost/benefit risk analysis is being put together by several people (with Bob Alvarez) to present to officials so risk is being considered and discussed.

Coordination strengthens our ability to get Congress (only one who has oversight over the Nuclear Regulatory Commission) to take responsibility.

October 10, 2019 there is a regional decommissioning forum to educate our elected officials and other decision makers.

A national summit in November 2019 in NM will also take place. Climate change and youth was mentioned as well.

Bob Alpern spoke about how Manna Jo Greene's efforts and everyone's involvement could save the world. We should be proud of this organization for the national and international leadership that it is providing.

## **Clearwater Launch with Betsy Garthwaite**

Betsy Garthwaite presented on Clearwater Launch.



## **Sloop Club Charters**

Stephen presented the Sloop Club Charters:

1. Beacon Sloop Club
2. New Jersey Friends of Clearwater
3. New York City Friends of Clearwater
4. Riverlovers
5. Walkabout Clearwater Sloop Club
6. North River Friends of Clearwater

## **Election Ballot Closed @ 11:30am**

## **Break/Ballots counted and finalized**

## **New Board of Directors Announced**

The Beacon Sloop Club invited the Sloop Club Congress onto the Woody Guthrie for a meeting and it was successful, they are going to do it again. The Sloop Club Meeting will be on the Woody Guthrie today.

Stephen Smith announced the election results and thanked everyone who participated.

The results were as follows:

### **Candidates Elected**

Bob Alpern  
Jeff Domanski  
Neil Gordon  
Ashley Knox  
Janine Napierkowski  
Cathy Page  
Dr. Gregory Simpson  
Sarah Underhill

### **Candidates Not Elected**

Isaac Honsantner  
Chana Widawski

## **Adjournment**

Robi called for a **MOTION**: To adjourn this meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 12:05pm. The **MOTION** was seconded by Neil. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.



## **Call to Order (New Board of Directors Meeting)**

The new Board of Directors Meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2019 of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. was called to order at 12:10PM by president Stephen Smith.

A quorum was determined to be present.

There was no group mission song for this meeting.

[Question/Answer Statement by the Executive Director]:

### **Financial Report**

Greg Williams reported that we would normally have the financial reports (as part of our governance for a non-profit organization) for the annual meeting, however, we filed an extension until October 15, 2019 to complete those this year. We had transitions within our accounting department and the audit process took longer but we expect to conclude successfully.

We will make those documents and that data available as soon as we have them. He expects to provide to those who are interested in them in October or November 2019.

## **Nomination of Officers, Executive Committee and Nominating Committee**

Stephen presented a slate of recommendations:

### **Officers:**

Robi Schlaff as Vice President  
Neil Gordon as Treasurer  
Cathy Page as Secretary

Nominations are open. None were suggested otherwise.

Sarah asked for a **MOTION** to accept the slate as stated. **MOTION** was seconded by Neil. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

We have 3 At Large positions that would place one on the Executive Committee. (Joan Gaylord, Mitzi Elkes and Seth Davis). Seth has decided to step down from this role.

The Executive Committee held nominations to suggest to the Board that the At Large position be filled and that was won by Arthur Jones.

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Therefore, the suggested slate for the At Large positions are:

Mitzi Elkes  
Joan Gaylord  
Arthur Jones

Robi asked for **MOTION** to accept the suggested slate for the At Large positions as stated above, **MOTION** was seconded by Neil. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

### **New Executive Committee**

Stephen Smith  
Robi Schlaff  
Neil Gordon  
Cathy Page  
Mitzi Elkes  
Joan Gaylord  
Arthur Jones

### **Nominating Committee**

Stephen presented nominating committee members Sarah Underhill and Arthur Jones.

Stephen asked for **MOTION** to nominate Sarah and Arthur, **MOTION** by Joan, **MOTION** was seconded by Seth. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

### **Board Meeting Dates for 2019-2020 Announced**

This does not preclude amending these dates after further discussion regarding observed holidays.

The tentative dates were presented

Thursday 10/17/2019  
Thursday 11/21/2019  
Tuesday 1/28/2020  
Thursday 2/27/2020  
Thursday 3/26/2020  
Tuesday 4/28/2020  
Thursday 5/28/2020  
Thursday 6/25/2020 (If no festival)





Thursday 7/23/2020

Tuesday 8/25/2020

Saturday 9/12/2020 Annual Meeting (tentatively decided after discussion with Members)

Stephen asked for a **MOTION** to tentatively accept these meeting dates, **MOTION** was seconded tentatively by Neil, subject to the doodle poll with revisions as necessary. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

A doodle poll will be submitted to the Board of Directors for revision and approval. The announcement will be posted to the website upon approval and acceptance.

### **Welcome Guest Speaker, Tim Guinee**

Tim Guinee presented on The Climate Reality Project.

### **Announcements by Stephen Smith, President**

Stephen opened with discussion regarding the 2020 Clearwater Festival.

It is a part of our tradition and who are we, however, we need to recognize the changes that affect our ability to put on an event like this successfully. With music file sharing and other changes over the years, we are forming a committee to deconstruct festival and make some changes for the future. It is necessary to effectively be able to support everything we do, festival has to support our efforts and Taylor Vogt will lead that committee along with Roy Volpe, Mitzi Elkes and others. Their task will be to find a way to make festival a viable enterprise for Clearwater in the future. This committee will convene soon and get started on doing so.

Roberta Goldberg asked when those who work on festival should expect to know more regarding timing and expectations.

Stephen said we are working on that now, but the committee needs to convene and review all possibilities. We are working to have an answer by mid-November, we are working toward that goal.

New board retreat was proposed by Stephen as something that was important and needed. He proceeded to invite any members of the Staff who'd like to attend.

Stephen asked for **MOTION** to setup the Board of Directors Retreat, **MOTION** was first by Arthur, **MOTION** was seconded by Kyle . The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.



## **Adjournment**

Stephen thanked all guests, members and staff for being at the Annual Meeting and thanked Rudy Lu, our photographer for coming today as well. Group and individual board photos to be taken outside after we adjourn.

Stephen called for a **MOTION**: To adjourn this meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 12:57pm. The **MOTION** was seconded by Neil. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Page, Secretary, 9/30/19