



**DRAFT** Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 7:00pm**

**Board Members**

~~Sarah Armour~~  
Peter Capek  
Mitzi Elkes, Executive Committee At Large  
Joan Gaylord  
~~Neil Gordon, Treasurer~~  
Scott Greathead  
~~Samantha Hicks, Vice President~~  
Gareth Hougham  
Arthur Jones, Executive Committee At Large  
~~Steve Kielar~~  
Aaron Mair  
~~Jennifer McMillan~~

Tom Murphy  
~~Henry Neale, Executive Committee At Large~~  
Jeremy Rainer  
Dan Riesel  
Larry Rothbart  
Steve Stanne, President, Chair  
Donna Stein  
Rosemary Thomas, Secretary  
Sarah Underhill  
Greg Williams  
~~Julia Wilson~~  
(~~strike through~~ indicates absence)

**Staff Members**

Ruthie Gold  
Amali Knobloch  
Erin Macchiaroli

Meg Mayo  
David Toman, Executive Director

**Members**

Jeremy Baron  
Alan Thomas

Alex Stavits (Ajax)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.  
Mission Song sung by Sarah Underhill, "Now is the Cool of the Day".

**Approval of Minutes**

The 05/10/23 Board meeting minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

**Executive Director's Report**

David started with the education and sloop update. Season to date, there have been 44 education sails (using 10 docks between Brooklyn and Kingston), 30 Tideline programs, 7 public sails and 4 charters. David spoke to opportunities to join an education sail or shadow a Tideline program. He asked for support in promoting public and charter sails as we head into the summer months. The summer calendar is live, making opportunities easy to find, and the google form remains available if you do not see a slot that works. David

spoke to upcoming events where Clearwater will be tabling, including Beacon Sloop Club's Strawberry Festival, New Baltimore Music Festival (July), Randall's Island Waterfront Festival (July), Hudson's Waterfront Wednesday (July), and Cossackie Farmer's Market (July). David said the first of two sloop maintenance weeks is at the end of July. David commended Dylan Kane for a gaff jaw repair which involved manufacture of a new piece. Lastly, David said \$20k of wood is needed this summer to allow it to season in time for planned work in the winter of '24-'25 and specific financial support for this project is still needed.

Turning to Environmental Action, David thanked those who attended Manna Jo Greene's retirement party and said a send-off sail is planned for Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30, leaving from Beacon, with music. You can buy tickets and share the information with others. David said the EA Director position has been offered to a stellar candidate who is expected to start in July.

Administratively, a draft of the 2020 audit is expected next week and work on 2021 has started. Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson will be announcing a grant to Clearwater at a press event scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11:00, at the Beacon Dock. The small, easy lift NYC donor cultivation event was successful and needs to be replicated up and down the river as a way to both re-engage former supporters and cultivate new ones. New revenues remain critical and David how everyone can help. A solicitation letter went out this past week.

Steve reminded people how board members would team up on charter sails last year and that seemed to work well. Dan asked the price of a charter and Ruthie replied \$3500 for a straight charter sail or \$4500 for corporate sails. The sloop capacity is 45 passengers. There was discussion on how to book a charter and it was noted that, to avoid the Fare Harbor booking fee (which we cannot adjust), there is an option to call the office and pay over the phone. Arthur said that last year he created an Ambassador page for his board sail and it worked well.

### Development Report

Meg reported development revenue to date is 12% over the same period last fiscal year, and 15% above projections through May. The Patron Fish appeal has underperformed, which will show in June revenue, and actions are being taken to address that.

Meg acknowledged Scott, Arthur, Larry and Steve for work re-engaging past supporters and connecting with new people at the recent cultivation event in Brooklyn, that resulted in both donations and an On-Board Volunteer application. Meg spoke to the importance of cultivation events for expanding our base of support, which is so important for long term fiscal health. The next cultivation event is July 19<sup>th</sup> in Hudson, connected with Hudson Waterfront Wednesday activities, and the sloop will be there.

Meg encouraged Board, and regular, members to host house parties, or other easy lift events, over the summer, introducing new people to the organization and helping cultivate a wider base of support.

Meg also gave an update on grants, covering awards to date for this year and foundations we are considering or making applications to.

Rosemary emphasized the board sails can be cultivation events. Steve added that people like sailing from place to place and there are several routes that can work, such as Beacon to Cold Spring or Poughkeepsie to Rhinebeck, which would make for great fall foliage sails, and encouraged people to consider those options.

Tom asked whether we have ever reached out to lumber yards to fund or donate wood and mentioned two yards where he would be happy to write letters asking for help.

### Nominating Committee

Sarah said the deadline for creating a slate is in five weeks and if you have candidates, now is a good time to come forward. Arthur recapped the timeline for the year, showed a spreadsheet of potential candidates, and asked people to work through him, rather contacting them directly.

Arthur also highlighted a free membership event at Two Way Brewing in Beacon, on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Kingston Earth Fair May 13th

Steve reported that Kingston’s 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Fair, with Clearwater now in charge of putting together music for the event on two stages, was wonderful. Clearwater festivities commenced on a Friday night sail, with guests enjoying music by Reggie Harris and Lara Hope. On Saturday, there was a fabulous line up of music on the Gallo Park Stage and the Gray Barn Stage, both affording great views of the creek and passing vessels. Steve thanked Jeremy Rainer for sound engineering support, highlighted the technical and financial help provided by Radio Kingston, and expressed appreciation for the Music & Celebration Committee’s support. The event lived up to its environmental goals. Steve said this model could be used by other communities along the Hudson. Attendance was estimated at 3,400 people. Looking to next year, we need to think about both traditional media and social media for getting the word out.

New Business

Ajax Stavits highlighted the importance of keeping members involved, specifically mentioning volunteer opportunities and thank you notes. Arthur said there is a member event planned for June 24<sup>th</sup> in Beacon and we are thinking of a service project.

Executive Session

The board went into executive session at 8:20.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rosemary Thomas, Secretary