



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
724 Wolcott Ave.  
Beacon, NY 12508  
Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 6:30pm**

**Board Members Present**

1. Bob Alpern
2. Peter Capek
3. Seth Davis
4. Allen Gutkin
5. Henry Neale
6. Janine Napierkowski
7. Cathy Page
8. Kyle Rabin
9. Jeremy Rainer
10. Robi Schlaff
11. Stephen Smith
12. Donna Stein
13. Taylor Vogt
14. Sarah Underhill

**Board Members Present by Telephone**

15. Jeff Domanski
16. Ashley Knox
17. Aaron Mair
18. Dr. Gregory Simpson

**Board Members Absent**

1. Nancy Cincotta
2. Mitzi Elkes
3. Joan Gaylord
4. Neil Gordon
5. Arthur Jones
6. Don Raskopf

**Staff Members Present**

1. Hal Cohen
2. Manna Jo Greene
3. Greg Williams

**Guests Present**

1. Tinya Seeger

**Call to Order**

The meeting on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc. was called to order at 6:36PM by president Stephen Smith.

[The Conference Call was initiated at 6:28pm. Dr. Gregory Simpson, Jeff Domanski, Ashley Knox and Aaron Mair were present by Telephone]

A quorum was determined to be present.

Stephen led the attendees by voice and guitar in group mission song, "Down by the Riverside".

The meeting agenda was made available online and physically on the table by the Secretary.



## **Prior Meeting Minutes Approval**

Stephen asked if everyone/anyone had the chance to review the meeting minutes. Stephen called for a **MOTION**: To approve the meeting minutes from Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 6:40pm. The **MOTION** was seconded by Seth. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

[At this time, Donna Stein and Jeremy Rainer arrived at the meeting.]

## **Board of Directors Member Vote: Isaac Honsantner**

Stephen led the meeting informing the Board that he spoke with Isaac Honsantner and at this time, Isaac decided not to join us as a board member because was unable to devote the necessary time it would require.

Stephen announced that we had a vacancy on the board that he asked everyone to bring forward people that we should consider to join us. Those who would be considered should be sent to Stephen for discussion.

It was stated by several members that we should take some time to consider what areas we need help with and backgrounds that would benefit the organization.

## **Clearwater Policy: Indigenous People's Day**

Stephen stated that having a policy for next year regarding recognizing Indigenous People's Day as opposed to Columbus Day would be good for the organization. Recognition of Indigenous People's Day is important, and more and more organizations are recognizing it. Henry Neale pointed out the importance of Columbus Day to Italian American heritage.

Stephen expressed the need for a policy on this and asked for comments from the Board. Seth stated that it shouldn't be year to year, it should be a permanent decision, either way.

Several ideas were discussed such as recognizing both as important, either as they are currently stated or as Indigenous Day and Immigrant Day.

The Communications Committee was determined to be the best group to put together a recommendation that could become a policy.

Stephen asked for a **MOTION** to move the task of making a recommendation that could become policy regarding Indigenous People's Day to the Communications Committee, **MOTION** was seconded by Donna. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

**[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**



Ashley suggested that maybe we confer with some of the experts in the field to learn more about making this transition.

## **Upcoming Board Retreat Agenda (Retreat slated for November 16, 2019)**

Stephen started the discussion regarding the upcoming board retreat by stating that Neil had submitted a great outline for the retreat and the agenda. He stated that Neil's document can be edited, commented on through Google drive and a link would be sent to the Board to do so. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

There is no vote required but the retreat agenda has room for comments and suggestions.

[At this time, Tinya Seeger and Henry Neale arrived at the meeting.]

Bob Alpern asked how outreach fits into the retreat agenda and asked how the development director could present fundraising efforts in the agenda. Donna explained that during a Development Committee call with James Malchow, Development Director for Clearwater, the standing plan was that she and the committee would share the work done so far and that it would be presented at the retreat. Outreach was discussed to be part of strategic planning section of the retreat: Peter announced he couldn't make the retreat and as Program Committee Chair, someone else would have to present on this. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW (2)]**

Greg asked if there was a logistics point person for the retreat. There was no stated point person by anyone at the meeting, but Stephen volunteered to help with the logistics. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

Stephen mentioned that Cathy suggested having a potluck as our food option for the retreat and that a link would be sent to the Board so they could add what they would bring for the retreat. It was stated that it saves money to do a potluck and it was a good idea. No vote was needed but all agreed to do a potluck. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

Henry asked if we would have a facilitator and what was the purpose of the retreat. What is our goal? Stephen stated that we decided to be our own facilitator. Bob expressed that he thinks more staff members should be present, but Greg stated that the agenda doesn't suggest that more staff should attend. Greg specified he would suggest who should be there from staff. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**. Greg provided the following answer regarding the purpose of the retreat: the board retreat should help the board see how we can improve and make decisions faster and be more effective.

Cathy stated that having a solid strategic plan in place would be important for the retreat's success.



## **Old Business**

Board of Directors Meeting Dates tentatively approved at the Annual Meeting were discussed and finalized. It was determined that Schedule #2 worked the best for the majority of the Board:

### **2019-2020 Board of Directors Meeting Dates and Times:**

Wednesday, 10/23/2019

Thursday, 11/14/2019

**No December meeting**

Tuesday, 1/21/2020

Wednesday, 2/19/2020

Monday, 3/23/2020

Monday, 4/20/2020

Wednesday, 5/27/2020

Thursday, 6/25/2020

Monday, 7/20/2020

Tuesday, 8/25/2020

Saturday, 9/12/2020

Saturday, 9/12/20 (**Annual Meeting**) was finalized by using the alternate day of the weekend (Saturday, Sunday rotation) method from the year before.

Stephen asked for a **MOTION** to approve Schedule #2 above as the Meeting of the Board of Directors for 2019-2020, **MOTION** was seconded by Cathy. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. [SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

## **2019-2020 Board Committee Assignments**

Manna asked for a point of order regarding the difference between each committee or group, particularly Program and Environmental Action. Stephen stated that the Program Committee is a standing committee and the others mentioned were ad-hoc committees; several committees may be doing similar things without coordination.

Greg distributed copies of the Committee Assignments to all present. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

Stephen started with the chart of committees and discussed their committee assignment with each person and asked for acceptance and comments.



Bob stated that there should be a link between Environmental Action and Education. Bob also stated that the scope of responsibilities hasn't been resolved. Additionally, high school outreach should be considered. Organizational issues, including the definition and scope of committee assignments should be resolved. Greg pointed out that Neil's outline does call for a discussion of committee assignments, but we need to confirm and implement them after the retreat.

Sloop clubs are a model for affiliating with various colleges (outreach discussion continued from above). Seth agreed that we need to be doing this outreach. Stephen stated that we needed something written to serve as an invitation. Manna suggested that we think of this as youth activism. Manna implored that we come up with effective ideas as well as resources to put those ideas into action.

Chefs is very important to Clearwater and is a valued contribution by those working diligently to make it a wonderful occasion for our organization. Stephen suggested that we, as board and staff, could provide additional help with the organization and implementation of this event; participation is needed and appreciated. This participation and help would be essential throughout the year, the days leading up to and including the day of Chefs. Those who can provide that help should get in touch with Stephen. Stephen also offered to reach out to the RPC and other volunteers for help with the event. Greg and Stephen both expressed thanks to the staff for all their hard work in assisting with the event. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

## **Festival Exploratory Committee Preliminary Briefing**

Taylor Vogt presented a preliminary briefing of the work done by the festival exploratory committee to-date.

"The Festival Exploratory Committee met in person on October 2, 2019 and October 16, 2019 and had a teleconference meeting on October 22, 2019. The committee is comprised of representatives of the membership at large, the Revival Planning Committee and members of the board. Our charge was to investigate and flesh out, to the best of our ability, the state of affairs of our current festival planning model and make proposals on how to approach a potential festival in year 2020 and beyond.

I am pleased to make aware to the board that by in large our committee has functioned with a level of cooperation and respect for each other which, as I have been told by more senior members, is something Clearwater has been striving towards for some time. The flow of ideas has been excellent. The members of the committee have shown that they are willing and able to adapt their own thinking to encompass ideas presented by other members.

Our goal is to take all ideas into consideration and weigh their merits. Three areas of note that I want to report to the board are reducing costs of the festival through stronger negotiation of price with vendors, equipment and musical acts, the adoption of both a festival oversight committee and



possibly multiple festival director/advisors to usher in a new era of thoughtfulness and transparency, and a shift in the mindset away from looking at festival loss as acceptable and moving towards the idea that we need to approach festival from a more fiscally pragmatic vantage point.

In the next five days members of the committee will be presenting the board through a circulated email with a rudimentary festival financial model that can be used as a working tool to contextualize our findings. It is the charge of this committee to complete its work by the November 2019 board meeting, as to allow the board of directors to determine a path forward for festival 2020 and beyond and vote on it.

During the time between the October and the November 2019 meetings we will be updating the board weekly on our progress, so as to expedite discussion and voting."

## **Website Board Bios (and Photos)**

Stephen originally suggested that the Communications Committee could help with the Board bios regarding the use of a basic guideline or framework. Greg provided a general recommendation regarding photos size, color, and other optimal ideas to help make the site more uniform.

A new timeline will be provided for new photos and bios (200 words) by email and all should be submitted to Cathy Page, Secretary, when completed. Current photos will be used and updated with base bios we already have at this time (until new is received). **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW (2)]**

## **Environmental Action Report**

Manna Jo Greene presented her Environmental Action Report.

### **Key Items Included were the following:**

Proposed Danskammer Expansion

National Nuclear Power Decommissioning Program

1. Discussion to act on appeal/file notice of appeal; calls attention the problem, allows more time and we can make a public statement.

Henry asked for a **MOTION** to act before our next meeting, **MOTION** was seconded by Kyle. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**. **[SEE ACTION ITEM BELOW]**

National Nuclear Waste Strategic Plan and Summit

Article 78 Challenge to NY Nuclear Subsidy

Coeymans Creek Research Project

Army Corps of Engineers Proposed Storm Surge Barrier (s)

Regional Renewable Energy Implementation Planning Process

Environmental Action Interns



1. Kyle suggested that a newsletter dedicated to the volunteers with short interviews or short descriptions highlighting their contributions would be helpful with outreach regarding these issues above.

Manna asked if board and staff could help with outreach; Taylor stated having colleges sign up for the newsletter would allow the outreach to be successful.

Diversity and Outreach Committee can coordinate college outreach and clubs

### **KEY MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

- Mon., July 22:** Planning meeting for Regional Decommissioning Forum, Riverkeeper (Ossining)
- Tues., July 23:** Guest speaker on Advancing Environmental and Climate Justice with a Green Jobs Pipeline at New Yorkers for Clean Energy, Kingston.
- July 30 -- Aug. 1:** Energy Democracy Alliance retreat, Stony Point
- Weds., July 31:** Stewart Air National Guard Base Restoration Advisory Board Information meeting, Newburgh Armory Unity Center
- Sun., Aug. 4:** U4CE meeting, Stony Point
- Thurs., Aug. 22:** Regional Renewable Energy Implementation planning meeting, Hudson Valley Regional Council (Newburgh)
- Fri., Aug. 23:** Rep. Antonio Delgado Roundtable on Green Jobs & Opportunity Act, Hudson
- Thurs., Sept. 5:** Nuclear Waste Campaign Plan - Inaugural Meeting webinar
- Sun., Sept. 8:** U4CE meeting, Stony Point
- Tue., Sept. 10:** NYSERDA Storage webinar
- Wed., Sept. 18:** Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance Meeting, Cottekill
- Sat., Sept. 21:** 3rd Annual Climate Solutions Summit, SUNY New Paltz; arranged panel on energy storage
- Sun., Sept. 22:** Clearwater Annual Gathering, Scenic Hudson's River Center
- Mon., Sept. 23:** Meeting with students at Long Dock
- Wed., Sept. 25:** Presented at meeting with NYS PSC Chief of Staff, Tom Congdon, NYS Sen. Peter Harkham and others in Montrose.
- Wed., Sept. 25:** Indian Point Closure Task Force, Joint Meeting, Cortlandt
- Thurs., Sept. 26:** Climate Leadership Action Plan meeting at HVRC in Newburgh
- Wed., Oct. 2:** NRC meeting on CAB/CAP NEIMA 108, Cortlandt
- Thurs., Oct. 10:** Regional Decommissioning Forum (see above)
- Wed., Oct. 16:** Local Governments Leading the Clean Energy Transition, SUNY Sullivan (Loch Sheldrake)
- Thurs., Oct. 17:** Meeting at AM Sandy Galef's office with Jay Kosack, Peter Loughran, and others.
- October 18 – 20:** Drawdown Learn Conference at Omega Center for Sustainable Living, Rhinebeck

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

- Nov. 6:** Trip to NY Independent System Operator (NYISO) tour. Please let me know if you would like to join U4CE for this amazing experience.
- Nov. 8 – 10:** National RadWaste Summit in Albuquerque, NM



## **Executive Session**

Seth asked for a **MOTION** to go into Executive Session, **MOTION** was seconded by Taylor. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

[All those not on the Board or authorized prior to the meeting, both in person and on the phone, exit the meeting at this time]

### Topics Discussed during Executive Session

1. Executive Director Report

Taylor asked for a **MOTION** to end Executive Session at 9:04pm, **MOTION** was seconded by Seth. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

## **New Business**

A resolution was requested by Greg Williams to add Amy Nelson, Winter Captain of the Sloop Clearwater, as a signer to Clearwater's "Boat Account" (7508), effective immediately.

Robi asked for a **MOTION** to authorize this resolution to allow Amy Nelson to sign documents and write checks on behalf of Clearwater, **MOTION** was seconded by Taylor. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**. Seth asked for an amendment and additionally asked for a **MOTION** to authorize this resolution to allow the Executive Director, Greg Williams, to sign documents and write checks on behalf of Clearwater, **MOTION** was seconded by Peter. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

## **Adjournment**

Henry called for a **MOTION**: To adjourn this meeting on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 9:17pm. The **MOTION** was seconded by Stephen. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**.





**ACTION ITEMS (For Immediate Action or for completion by next scheduled meeting)**

<b>ACTION ITEM/CALL TO ACTION</b>	<b>PERSON/GROUP</b>	<b>DELIVERABLE DATE</b>
Indigenous People's Day recommendation for Clearwater Policy (confer with experts in the field as you can)	Communications Committee	12/31/19
Board retreat document upload and share for edits and comments	Cathy Page	10/28/19
Development Committee present work to-date at Retreat	Donna Stein	11/16/19
Outreach and Programs presentation at retreat	Peter Capek (for a stand-in on his behalf)	10/31/19 (To find a stand-in)
Logistics point person for the retreat	Stephen Smith	10/31/19
Send potluck link to the Board and Staff attending retreat	Cathy Page	10/28/19
Suggest who on the staff should attend the retreat	Greg Williams	10/31/19
Committee Assignments final copy to all board members	Stephen Smith	10/31/19
Chef's Committee volunteers for throughout the year and including day of event	Members of the Board and Staff <b>send to Stephen</b>	11/30/19
Timeline for new photos (of choice) and bios (based on guidelines) to be submitted	Cathy Page	10/30/19
Submission of new photos and bios	Members of the Board	11/15/19
Act on appeal regarding Decommissioning Program	Members of the Board and Staff available and able	10/31/19
Send WSJ article about Ohio/Decommissioning	Bob Alpern	10/31/19

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Page, Secretary, 10/25/19. Revised: 10/28/19