



**Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.
Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 10, 2020 at 6:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom Meeting**

Minutes

Attendance:

Board Members:

Steve Stanne - President &
Acting ED
Janine Napierkowski - VP
Neil Gordon - Treasurer
Sarah Underhill, Secretary
Samantha Hicks, Arthur
Jones & Henry Neale -
Executive Committee at
Large

Peter Capek
Seth Davis
Jeff Domanski
Mitzi Elkes
Joan Gaylord
Scott Greathead
Allen Gutkin
Gareth Hougham
Aaron Mair
Jeremy Rainer

Donna Stein
Rosemary Thomas
Greg Williams
Thomasina Winslow

Absent:

Bob Alpern
Nancy Cincotta
Ashley Knox
Gregory Simpson

Staff:

Debbie Cohen
Amali Knobloch
Erin Macchiaroli
Meg Mayo
Gigi Rapetti
Matt Salton

Guests:

Susan Berliner
Betty Harkins
Maryellen Healy
Ben Kaminsky
James Malchow
Tinya Seeger

Laura Selleck
Alan Thomas
Marc Weiner

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Mission Song "Sailing Down My Golden River" by Pete Seeger, performed by Steve Stanne.

MOTION to accept the minutes of board meeting of 10/05/20 with the spelling of Gareth Hougham's name corrected, made by Greg Williams, 2nded by Neil Gordon and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc
724 Wolcott Avenue, Beacon, NY 12508
P: (845) 265-8080 F: (206)350-5680
www.clearwater.org

Acting Executive Director's Report - Steve Stanne

The Pumpkin Sail Concert raised \$6357 from 103 donors, 49 of whom were first time donors. A board match of \$2000 was met, adding that amount to the total revenue. Approximately 140 viewers watched the concert via Facebook Live and Youtube. Thanks to all who made this event possible.

Education Update: Eli and Nick did one shore program at Esopus Meadows. There have been 27 educational programs since October 1st, including Clearwater Connects and Fish Advisory programs. The upcoming budget will assume funding for a new Program/Education Director starting in the spring.

Environmental Action Update: Clearwater mourns the passing of WEACT Deputy Director Dr. Cecil Corbin-Mark. On Nov. 13, Mannajo Greene will present testimony at a virtual Congressional briefing on the decommissioning of the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant. On Nov. 20 she will facilitate a Virtual Regional Decommissioning Forum.

Sloop Update: the sloop is in Kingston being down rigged for the winter. One captain and one mate will comprise the winter crew. The extension to the OPRHP grant was approved through 12/9/22. A case statement is being drafted for a capital campaign to raise upwards of \$500,000 for next year's sloop restoration.

Treasurer's Report- Neil Gordon

There has been a good response to our Fall Appeal and the Pumpkin Sail Concert. Revenues are adequate to continue through January. Steve and the staff are working on a budget which should be complete by sometime in December.

Development Director's Report- Meg Mayo

Revenues for 10/2-11/9 totaled \$92,000. Upcoming fundraising efforts will include a Holiday card, Year End giving, Giving Tuesday in December, a membership drive in January and a Virtual Gala in February. Various methods of donating were discussed, including GiveCloud.

Social Media Report- Amali Knobloch

The Our River Connects Us social media campaign is ongoing and has the goal of creating a media library among other things. Benchmark goals were exceeded. Profiles of the crew proved to be one of the more popular offerings. The campaign brought in new donors, for example the first time donors to the Pumpkin Sail Concert. The possibility of offering social media training to board members was discussed.

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Development Committee Report - Rosemary Thomas

The committee has been developing a six month plan to bridge the gap between revenue and expenses. We need to pick up the pace to cover these projected gaps. The goal is for all board members to participate, donating money, labor, or both. This issue should be at the top of the agenda at board meetings. An effort also needs to be made to rebuild relationships with legislators as was done in the past.

Ways to improve engagement include adding more virtual events such as virtual house parties or a series of webinars on nautical themes rather than focusing on music. Potential high donors need to be identified and approached, perhaps with an offer of a virtual event. The Gala is proposed for 2/25/21. The committee will request that the Planning & Governance Committee examine the ban on alcoholic beverage companies as potential sponsors and explore lifting this restriction.

Nominating Committee - Arthur Jones

A general call went out for potential board members to be recruited. The committee will examine the size of the board and may suggest a reduction in the maximum number of members (currently 25). Clarification and codification of the write-in candidate policy will also be on the agenda.

Planning & Governance Committee - Rosemary Thomas

This committee is working on clarifying their charge.

Properties Committee - Henry Neale

The committee is still seeking members, and is working on clarifying the rent/lease situation for the office with the goal of negotiating a new lease. An inspection report on the building was done within the past 18 months. At this time, Henry said, it is his understanding that this committee's purview does not include matters pertaining to the sloop.

Program Committee - Peter Capek

This committee is working on clarifying their charge. Focus to include programs such as Young Men/Women/LGBTQ at the Helm, college outreach and improving the website.

Sloop Club Liaison - Donna Stein

An overview of Sloop Clubs and their history and function was given.

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Strategic Planning Committee - Samantha Hicks and Seth Davis

The committee is still gathering data from members, board and staff, conducting interviews, and analyzing the data. A focus on longer education programs with the sloop, such as the Young People at the Helm series, was indicated.

The call went out from President Stanne for New Business, and hearing none, he expressed his thanks to staff and board for their participation and called for a motion to adjourn. MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Seth Davis, 2nded by Neil Gordon and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Underhill, Secretary