



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:30pm

Board Members

~~Bob Alpern~~

Peter Capek

~~Nancy Cincotta~~

Seth Davis

Jeff Domanski

Mitzi Elkes

Joan Gaylord

Neil Gordon, Treasurer

Scott Greathead

Allen Gutkin

~~Samantha Hicks, Executive Committee At Large~~

~~Gareth Hougham~~

~~Arthur Jones, Executive Committee At Large~~

~~Ashley Knox~~

Aaron Mair

Janine Napierkowski, Vice-President

Henry Neale, Executive Committee At Large

Jeremy Rainer

Gregory Simpson

Steve Stanne, President & Acting ED, Chair

Donna Stein

Rosemary Thomas

Sarah Underhill, Secretary

~~Greg Williams~~

Thomasina Winslow

~~(strike through indicates absence)~~

Staff Members

Hal Cohen

Mannajo Greene

Amali Knobloch

Erin Macchiaroli

Meg Mayo

Gigi Rapetti

Nick Rogers

Matt Salton

Anita Vargas

Members

Susan Berliner

Victoria Christof

Allan Goldhammer

Betty Harkins

Maryellen Healy

Ben Kaminsky

James Malchow

Alan Thomas

Roy Volpe

Steve Stanne opened the meeting by singing “Just Another Link in the Chain.”

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm

Approval of Minutes

Thanks to Peter Capek for taking the minutes at the last meeting. MOTION to approve the Minutes of the Dec. 9th Board meeting made by Neil Gordon, seconded by Sarah Underhill and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Education Department:

A \$14,000 grant reimbursement was received from National Fish and Wildlife. A grant from the Malcolm Gordon Charitable Foundation Fund is being sought. There is discussion about merging the Sloop and Education Departments. This new department would be led by a Program Director, a position to be filled in March. More integration between the boat programs and the shore programs is anticipated.

Board members are asked to continue to promote and share program announcements with their networks.

Environmental Action Department:

Work is being done on a grant from the Birches Foundation for 2021, to focus on involving disadvantaged communities with the decommissioning of Indian Point nuclear plant.

Steve Stanne spoke at Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney's press conference announcing the banning of new anchorages in the Hudson between Kingston and Yonkers, which would have been used for oil tankers in all probability.

On Jan. 18, Gregory Simpson will be interviewing fellow Board member Aaron Mair in an online event sponsored by the Hudson Valley Environmental Justice Coalition.

Sloop:

The hiring process is beginning for the Spring crew, who are due to arrive in March. Work continues with the Coast Guard in scheduling the upcoming fastener inspection.

Webinar Series:

A series of four events is in place, to celebrate publication of the third edition of the book "The Hudson: An Illustrated Guide to the Living River," a Clearwater project in which past and present staff have played a major role.

Treasurer's Report

Neil Gordon reports that fundraising efforts are keeping ahead of our conservative projections for income. Currently there is enough money to cover payroll through mid-March. The Budget is still being built, and spending remains conservative. An additional Payroll Protection Loan is being sought. A priority is to return the staff to 100% of their prior hours and pay. Neil asks the board to consider giving Steve the authority as Acting Director to do this.

RESOLVED: That the board authorize the Acting Executive Director to end as soon as practicable the Workshare furlough that started with the pay period starting October 10, 2020.

MOTION to approve this resolution made by Donna Stein, seconded by Aaron Mair and **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Development Report

Meg Mayo reports that the Holiday Appeal brought in \$75,000, three times the anticipated amount. The Grants Working Group is assisting with research and applications for grants. The fundraising calendar includes the Virtual Gala on March 4th, a Membership Drive in March, the kickoff of the sailing season in April, celebration of Pete Seeger's birthday in May, and the Virtual Revival in June.

Meg gave some coaching tips and led a discussion of the "Elevator Pitch" speech. The message of such a speech was summarized as follows: Clearwater inspires lifelong stewardship of the Hudson River watershed by connecting people of all ages with the living river.

Development Committee

Rosemary reports that the Webinar Series is ready to go, with 123 people registered for the series so far. The series is free to members and serves to boost awareness of Clearwater, but also brings in some

revenue. The Gala's Honoree, to receive the Spirit of the Hudson Award, will be Karl Coplan, director of Pace University's Environmental Litigation Clinic and a former Clearwater board member. MC will be Folk DJ Ron Olesko. The event is on March 4th at 6:30 pm.

Nominating Committee Report

The committee will be meeting on Jan 25th. Tasks include drafting the annual Board self-assessment and exploring the concept of reducing board size.

Planning and Governance Committee

The Good Governance Practice review is complete. Work is being done on the whistleblower protection policy, and the committee is reviewing other policies that affect the board.

Properties Committee

Henry Neale reports that Erin Macchiaroli is getting an estimate on the cost of various repairs to the office and associated premises.

Environmental Action Committee

Henry reports that the EA is renewing its call for passage of the bill to create a decommissioning oversight board for nuclear plants in NYS. It is currently stalled, but may be reintroduced next session. Governor Cuomo seems to have used some of its language in a signing statement for a related bill, directing the Public Service Commission to create a decommissioning oversight board. Henry requests that the EA department be raised to two full time paid employees, up from one full time and one part time associate.

Program Committee

Peter Capek reports that he has found an archive of music recorded at past Revivals and is hoping to have it edited for possible use in the next Virtual Revival. The committee has received a list of 60 college environmental clubs and plans to do outreach to them.

Sloop Club Committee

Donna Stein reports that she is continuing to meet with reps from the Sloop Clubs. Gigi Rapetti is the staff liaison. The clubs are seeking a list of names of Clearwater members in their local areas, which they are entitled to as specified in Clearwater's by-laws.

Strategic Planning

Seth Davis will bring an analysis of interview and survey findings to the next meeting.

MOTION to adjourn made by Seth Davis, seconded by Donna Stein and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Underhill, Secretary