Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
America's Environmental Flagship

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**
**Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 7:00pm**

**Board Members**
Sarah Armour
Peter Capek
~~Stuart Findlay~~
Joan Gaylord, Executive Comm. At Large
Samantha Hicks, President
Gareth Hougham
Arthur Jones, Vice-President
Aaron Mair
~~Lynsey Cooper~~
L.A. Kauffman
~~Jillian Maresco~~
~~Jennifer McMillan~~
~~Tom Murphy, Treasurer~~
Jeremy Rainer
Dan Riesel
Larry Rothbart
~~Gabriella Spielberg~~
Steve Stanne, Executive Comm. At Large
Adenike Bamgboye, Secretary
Julia Wilson
Neall Burger
(~~strike through~~ indicates absence)

**Staff Members**
Jen Benson
Erin Macchiaroli
Emily Marcet
Meg Mayo
David Toman, Executive Director

The meeting was called to order at **7:06 pm** with a quorum of **13 members** present.

**Approval of 6/16/26 Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion:** Steve moved to approve the minutes with a revision to reflect entering executive session.
- **Second:** Joan seconded the motion.
- **Result:** Passed with **11 votes in favor** and **2 abstentions**.

**Operations Update**

- **Financials & LOC Borrowing:** Audit and restoration funding were the focus of financial presentation. LOC is open and being drawn on (~$53k) for early project preparation. Also discussed long-term strategy, security, and cost concerns regarding the home port location, noting the next renewal decision is in August 2033 (7 years away).
- **FY2025 Audit Update:** The final draft audit is ready for approval and stakeholder distribution; timelines have improved, and a going concern footnote is no longer required.
- **NYS Museum Update:** The OPRHP grant contract is fully executed. The museum exhibit targets an October opening event, leading up to a larger grand opening in 2028.

- **Education Programs Update:** Programs including Mudlark, River Ramblers, and youth empowerment initiatives are actively seeking participants. Upcoming events include July 25th sales, Paddle for our Hudson, and an August 22nd folk picnic.
- **Advocacy & Comms:** Joan helped secure an environmental contribution proclamation from Dutchess County.
- **Sail 250:** The event generated significant media coverage (45 outlets), expanding social media reach and raising approximately $36,000 in donations and memberships.
- **Restoration Project Update:**
    - License agreement signed by HRMM with minor timing adjustments and a $37,000 facility fee (for the extra time alongside) to be raised both from CW and collaboratively.
    - Barge placement for sloop was finalized after a short delay by Scarano's (moved from August 5th to August 11th).
    - Emily is creating a volunteer docent program for education around restoration.
    - Federal funding is supporting bulkhead repairs at the Maritime Museum (not our project, but affects the sloop)

**Resolutions**

- **Resolution 1 (2025 Audit):** To accept the 2025 financial statements.
    - *Moved by Arthur, seconded by Larry; passed unanimously.*
- **Resolution 2 (Revival Signs):** To authorize the donation of revival signs and artifacts to the New York State Museum.
    - *Moved by Aaron, seconded by Larry; passed unanimously.*

**Development Report**

- **Performance:** Development revenue is at 109% of budget and 113% of last year's performance.
- **Summer Appeal:** Launched a music legacy-focused appeal targeting a $30,000 goal.
- **Planned Giving:** Finalized the OPRHP contract to proceed with the CREST review. Outlined plans to cultivate relationships with trust and estate attorneys and host a webinar about wills.

**Working Session: Capital Campaign**

- **Legacy Society:** Proposed enhancing the program by assigning a board champion to coordinate two annual mailings, two social events, and a formal committee.

- **Progress & Expectations:** The Sloop Restoration Capital Campaign requires $175,000 by April 2027. Board participation is currently at 48%; all members are asked to make personal financial commitments and join outreach or fundraising events.

**Motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:33pm**

- **First:** Larry
- **Second:** Peter C.
- **Result:** Passed unanimously

**Adjourn from Executive Session and meeting by unanimous vote at 9pm**