

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY
Combined meeting of
Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.,
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council,
and
Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.
October 8, 2025
Boscobel House and Gardens
1601 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524
And Via Zoom
MINUTES

Attendance

Conservancy Members Present

Burke, Kevin, Conservancy Chair
Carlquist, Jennifer, Putnam County Council Member
Brown, Kristin Cole, Conservancy Member
Daniels, Jane, Conservancy Member
Jacks, Betsy, Conservancy Vice-Chair, Meeting Chair
Lanzetta, Cindy, Conservancy Member
Olson, Sarah, Conservancy Secretary

Conservancy Members Present by Proxy

McLaughlin, Jayne, Conservancy Treasurer
Wermuth, Thomas, Conservancy Member
Williams, Jeanne, Conservancy Member
Yarabek, Stephan, Conservancy Member
Hinchey, Hon. Michelle, Conservancy Member – present via Zoom

Council Members Present

Aldrich, Wint, Council Vice Chair
Downey, Meg, Council Chair
Elliott, Robert, Westchester County Council Member
McNamara, Mary, Ulster County Council Member
von der Heide, Linda, Rensselaer County Council Member

Council Members Present by Proxy

Gaughan, James, Albany County Council Member

Piscitelli, Anthony, New York City Council Member – present via Zoom

Council Delegates Present

Feeney, Ryan, Delegate for Assemblymember Eachus

Joint Delegates Present

Landfried, Susan, Joint Delegate for NYS Secretary of State

Joint Delegates Present by Proxy

Malave, Linda, Joint Delegate for Chair, Empire State Development

McGlynn, Mark, Joint Delegate for Commissioner of NYS Office of General Services – present via Zoom

Greenway Staff Present

Ackerman, Kristin, Finance Manager

Arana, Cody, Regional Planner

Beers, Andrew, Director, Empire State Trail

Campochiaro, Beth, Trails Program Director

Day, Shannon, Director of Operations

Jeanson, Dan, Project Director

Kitzmann, Andy Executive Director

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by Chairs Meg Downey and Kevin Burke.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairs Meg Downey and Kevin Burke welcomed the Board and meeting attendees. The Board and meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Conservancy Vice Chair Betsy Jacks presented a set of slides depicting her latest paintings which are on display at Boscobel.

Conservancy Member and Boscobel Executive Director Jennifer Carlquist welcomed the Board to Boscobel and presented the latest updates on the renovations at the House and Gardens.

Celebration and Remembrance of William Barnabas McHenry

Council Vice Chair Wint Aldrich gave a tribute to his close friend and colleague Barney McHenry.

Chair Meg Downey read a proclamation renaming the Hudson River Valley Greenway Community Grants Program to the “William Barnabas McHenry Greenway Community Grants Program.” Chair Downey called for a motion from the Board. On a motion from Jennifer Carlquist (Linda von der Heide second), the Board unanimously

approved to rename the Hudson River Valley Greenway Community Grants Program to the “William Barnabas McHenry Greenway Community Grants Program.”

Chair Kevin Burke gave a toast to William Barnabas McHenry, and the Board and gathered attendees toasted to his memory with sparkling apple cider.

Agenda Review

Chair Kevin Burke called for any comments on the agenda. No comments were made.

Minutes of June 11, 2025 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc., and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.

Chair Kevin Burke then asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2025 Greenway Joint Meeting. On a motion from Jane Daniels, (Carla Castillo second, the minutes of the June 11, 2025 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc., and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc. were unanimously approved.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

Call to Order

Chair Kevin Burke called the Conservancy meeting to order.

Conservancy Annual Audit

Andy Kitzmann presented the progress of the annual Conservancy Audit, completed by the firm of Lutz, Zeliz and Zeronda.

Greenway Trail Designation

Beth Campochiaro reviewed the trail nomination that had been received.

The Westmoreland Sanctuary, Westchester County, has requested designation of the Raptor Ridge Trail as part of the Greenway Trail System.

Chair Kevin Burke called for a vote on the Trail Designation. On a motion from Jane Daniels (Betsy Jacks second), the Trail Designation for the Raptor Ridge Trail was unanimously approved.

Albany-Hudson Electric Trail Update

Cody Arana updated the Board on the paving project for additional segments of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail and the progress to date. Mr. Arana also reviewed the most up to date results of the AHET Trail Use Report. He also noted that as part of the Empire State Trail project, the Springtown Bridge in New Paltz would be evaluated and upgraded. Mr. Arana also noted that the Greenway would be assisting Parks and Trails NY with an economic impact study of the Empire State Trail.

Conservancy Trail Grants

Executive Director Andy Kitmann reviewed the Conservancy Trail grant applications that has been recommended for funding by the Grants Committee.

The Town of Moreau, Saratoga County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$75,000 for Nolan Road Riverside Trail Phase II Planning. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$75,000.

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$19,425 for Ford Bridge Nature Trail. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$19,425.

The Town of Woodstock, Ulster County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$20,000 for the WooHu Trail. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$20,000.

The American Battlefield Trust, Rensselaer County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$2,000 for Bennington Signage 2025. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$2,000.

The Town of Montgomery, Orange County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$189,000 for the Kimball Park Rail Trail. The Committee recommends \$189,000. Town of Montgomery Parks Director Theron Adkins thanked the Board for the funding and support.

The Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$27,500 for the Sunnyside Park Improvement/Woodland Path. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$27,500.

The Rogers Island Heritage Development Alliance Inc, Washington County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$25,000 for Rogers Island-Champlain Canal Interpretive Trail Planning Project 2026. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$25,000.

The Village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County, is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$43,775 for Schuylerville 2025 Design and Planning for The Waterfront Memorial Trail and Woodland Connector Trail in Historic Fort Hardy Park. The Committee recommends funding in the amount of \$43,775.

Chair Burke called for a vote to approve the Greenway Conservancy Trail Grants. On a motion from Cindy Lanzetta (Jane Daniels second), the Greenway Conservancy Trail Grant applications were unanimously approved.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

Call to Order

Chair Meg Downey called the Council meeting to order.

Greenway Communities and Compact Committee Report

Cody Arana updated the Board on the efforts to increase participation in the Greenway Communities and Compact programs, including outreach and presentations by Greenway staff.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (HRVNHA)

Call to Order

Chair Meg Downey and Meeting Chair Besty Jacks called the National Heritage Area (NHA) meeting to order.

25th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble

Beth Campochiaro noted that the 25th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble took place throughout September 30, 2025, with help from partners such as the Hudson River Estuary Program, NYS Parks, and many others. More than 170 events were held, with Greenway staff hosting two events, one in Putnam County with the assistance of Cornell Cooperative Extension, and one in Kinderhook with collaboration from the Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail, the Columbia County Historical Society, and others. Participant counts would hopefully be complete by the end of October.

Federal Funding Update

Andy Kitzmann gave an update on Federal funding for the National Heritage Area, including the inclusion of the National Heritage Areas program in the Senate's 2026 budget. The Board will continue to receive updates as more details become available. Mr. Kitzmann also updated the Board on the various grants that the Greenway manages on behalf of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Executive Director's Report

As part of his Executive Director's report, Andy Kitzmann introduced Kristin Ackerman, the Greenway's new Finance Manager. Mr. Kitzmann also noted that Emily Lavin would be starting later in the month as the Greenway's new Communications and Outreach Manager.

Andy announced that a Greenway Nominations Committee, including both Chairs, Jane Daniels, Bob Elliott, and Senator Michelle Hinchey would be meeting to help fill Board vacancies.

Mr. Kitzmann also noted that the NYS Comptroller's Audit of the Greenways internal controls over critical system was now completed with a clear audit result.

Old Business

Chair Downey called for any Old Business. Priscilla Brendler, Executive Director of Greater Hudson Heritage Network, thanked the Board for the National Heritage Area's support of the 2025 Quiet Dangers preservation workshops.

New Business

Chair Meg Downey called for any New Business. None was proposed.

Future Meetings

The next Joint Board meeting is scheduled for:

- Wednesday, December 11, 2025

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 10:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Campochiaro
Meeting Secretary