

Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association

Minutes January 20, 2026

Meeting: President Eric Norberg called the meeting to order at 7:02PM in the Town Hall.

Board Members Present: Pattie Scott, Marie Sidgwick, Susan VanDeBogart, Debbie Walsh, Chrissy Wolcott, Erik Hazelton and Loretta Miller.

Board Members Absent: Ray Costantino, Rafael Diaz

Member/Guest: Peter Bellizzi, Colleen (Ulster newspaper), Brooke Nam, and Stephen Greenwell

Minutes: The minutes were approved with a motion by Eric Norberg and seconded by Pattie Scott, with the following correction: Richie Roza will replace the heating unit in the Pavilion. Eric will meet with Richie Klotz, Superintendent of Highways, about the Parking lot across from the Fire House #2 and the potholes on New Paltz Road parking lot.

Corresponding Secretary Report: No correspondence received or sent.

Treasures Report: Of note: Heartland Global Payment Services test charges by Chrissy for which she requires reimbursement, and receipt of donations by Debra and Ernest Gomez and by the Lytton Foundation requiring acknowledgements by Marie Sidgwick, Corresponding Secretary. The available funds less committed/reserved is \$61,927.83. The report was approved with a motion by Loretta, seconded by Susan..

New York State Parks: Chrissy is liaison to Parks, with Eric N as backup. She will attend a meeting Monday, 01.26.2026 with Lori Robertson of WOTH and Brian Bishop of NYS Parks. Concerns: continuing a solid partnership, contacts for those holding events, using parking lot.

Membership: Chrissy reported there are 137 members.

Trail Maintenance: Frank Alfonso is now handling plowing of the trail since Parks has acquired a plow. Eric to meet with Frank to discuss needs.

Susan requests attention to snow removal at Commercial Avenue kiosk area, and pavilion pathways.

Pattie indicated need for removal of piled snow in set-up area for Winterfest.

Eric noted that bench at Eagle Scout trail memorabilia site is broken, in need of repair or replacement, to be removed.

Eric also brought to our attention a that Lake, a Troop 70 Scout, has set up a Go-Fund-Me to help finance his Eagle project which is the placement of 3 park benches on the rail trail and indicates he will send us the link to share. Chrissy will ask Janet to place the link on our social media pages.

Chrissy stated that the Dog Waste Bag dispenser at Commercial Avenue is broken. Eric indicated we have a replacement dispenser in storage.

A leak in the trailer is to be addressed.

Susan asked for replacement of plastic tracks for 101 New Paltz Road sign.

Ongoing Projects: Memorial Bench to be done in Spring -

Haviland Caboose - Interior work being done.

Ford Bridge – Work to resume in Spring. Historic Signage also planned.

New Paltz Road Kiosk – work to resume in Spring.

Winterfest February 7, 2026: Pattie requests all Board Members report to the pavilion at 8:30am.

Pattie will have coffee and donuts available for staff. Pattie indicates there is a DJ to provide background music. She also states From the Ground Up Food truck will be on-site. Pattie indicated the volunteers are lined up to man the tickets and sales/memberships area, chili serving (6 Rotarians, 8 Interact Club members), crafts table (3 Interact Club members), tent & table setup/breakdown (Troop 70 Scouts 8:30 - 10am & 2:30-4pm). A free T-Shirt will be given to those purchasing a new membership. She stated that replacement floor mats and 5 heaters have been purchased. Eric is to arrange for wood and manage the firepits. Pattie and Susan tested the chili pots; we have 19 working pots. One additional pot may be able to be recovered from The Garage in Marlboro. Debbie & Pattie will deliver chili pots to contestants on 02.02. 2026. Richie Roza will handle installation of the extension cords for the chili pots. Pete Bellizzi will provide Hayrides along the trail. Eric & Peter will obtain the haybales from Wallkill View Farms. Corey's Sugar Shack, Elia's Catering, From the Ground Up, Gateway Diner, Hard Roll Deli, On-a-Roll Deli, P & G's, Sal's Catering, Sal's Place, and Wagon Wheels Deli. She is awaiting call-backs and has 2 new leads.

Chrissy will be handling placement of road signs in advance of the event.

Chrissy suggested Janet, our student volunteer give a shout-out to current contenders and entice additional contestants on our Social Media pages.

Chrisy also suggested we have trail clean-up bundles available at Winterfest to provide attendees for their use on trail clean-up day, Earth Day?

New Business:

2026 Event Forms: Eric indicates we are currently receiving event requests and asks if our events request form could be put on-line. Chrissy will ask Janet to do so. Eric stated he and Debbie have met with the planners of Project Purple which will hold their inaugural event on the HVRT this year.

TOL Board member /HVRTA Liaison: Mike Petty is to be our new liaison. Eric indicates he will meet and establish working relationship with our new town supervisor and board members, invite Supervisor to HVRTA Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55PM on motion by Loretta, seconded by Erik Hazelton.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Van De Bogart for
Loretta Miller
Recording Secretary

