



Claverack Historical Society

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

July 20, 2026

Call to Order

Vice President Gary Davis confirmed that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Attendance

Present: Gary Davis (Vice President), Paula Ptaszek (Treasurer), Robert LaPorta (Trustee), Thea Schoep (Trustee), Chris Tiné (Trustee), and Noelle Toland (Secretary)

Approval of Previous Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 17, 2026 meeting.

During discussion, Paula noted that attendance should be included in future meeting minutes. Noelle advised that attendance had already been added to the revised June minutes distributed to the Board.

The June 17, 2026 meeting minutes were approved as revised.

Treasurer's Report

Paula reported a bank balance of \$1,086.26 as of June 29, 2026. She explained that the balance reflected the end of the June reporting period and therefore did not include deposits made in July.

There are no outstanding bills requiring payment.

Action: Paula took the action to develop a monthly Treasurer's Report detail the financial transactions for the month and showing how they tie to the current balance.

Noelle reported that a donated issue of TIME Magazine sold on eBay for \$52.39.

Gary reported that additional donated magazines would be evaluated for future sale to benefit the Society.

IRS Filing

Paula reported that the Society's required IRS filing for tax year 2025 had been completed and accepted, maintaining the Society's nonprofit status.

Future annual IRS filings are generally due by May 15, based on the Society's fiscal year.

Banking

Gary reported that the Society's records with Greene County Commercial Bank had been updated and that Gary Davis and Paula Ptaszek are the authorized signatories on the account.

Action: Gary to contact Greene County Commercial Bank to set up online banking for the Society's account.

Website

Gary reported on continued improvements to the Society's website and thanked Noelle and Nate for their work modernizing the site, improving navigation, and streamlining its appearance.

Noelle reported that the Society's Square account is being set up and will be integrated into the website to support online memberships and donations.

Membership & Communications

Noelle reported that membership management software is being implemented to improve recordkeeping, renewal reminders, electronic newsletters, and member communications.

Noelle offered to donate the cost of the membership management software for the first year, and the Board accepted the offer with appreciation.

Grants

The Board briefly discussed current grant opportunities and agreed to continue monitoring potential funding sources.

Historic House Tour

Members discussed a potential Historic House Tour as a future educational program and fundraiser.

It was agreed that planning a full house tour would require substantial preparation and would be more appropriate for 2027.

Chris offered to participate by including his home and suggested beginning the project with an online showcase featuring photographs and brief histories of historic homes through the Society's website and social media.

The Board agreed that an online feature would help generate community interest while laying the groundwork for a future in-person tour.

Trivia Night Fundraiser

Paula reported that planning continues for the Society's Trivia Night fundraiser, tentatively scheduled for late September.

All agreed to continue planning the event while exploring additional fundraising opportunities.

Event Idea - Steamboat Days on the Hudson

Thea reported that Captain Stanley Wilcox is willing to give his talk on *Steamboat Days on the Hudson* (78 slides lasting just over 1 hour). The Board expressed interest in the presentation and agreed to explore scheduling it as part of the Society's future events

Bylaws

Action: Gary to schedule another bylaw working session for a final review before presenting a final draft for approval.

Other Business

Action: Thea, Paula and Noelle to work together to get training on how to use the library scanner and to digitize the Farmer's Diary plus any other artifacts the Society may own.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Bob, moved to adjourn the meeting.

Gary thanked everyone for their participation, and the meeting concluded at approximately 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Noelle Toland

Secretary

Claverack Historical Society