NOANY Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 22, 2026

Call to Order

Eve Mancuso called the meeting to order at 7:02 after confirmation that a quorum was present. Members briefly discussed recent severe weather and local events before beginning board business.

Board Members present: Eve Mancuso, Carol Burns, Alex Wilkie, Dave Hayes, Edie Blum, Susanne Flower, Kate Walker, Suzanne Rocheleau

Committee Chairs present: Catherine Grady, Marty Kellerman, Raymond Kozma, Ingrid Strauch, Janet Sibarium, Doris Blasi, Jerry Flower, Nancy Dargis.

Excused: Janet Perlberg, Andy Frank, Marty McDonald.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the May 27, 2026, and June 24, 2026, board meetings.

> May minutes: Edie offered motion to approve, seconded by Alex. All voted to approve.
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> June minutes: Dave offered motion to approve, seconded by Edie. All voted to approve; Kate abstained.

Nominations Committee

Eve Mancuso reported that the Nominations Committee had recruited Lillian Negron and Susan Shockett as candidates to replace retiring board members. Preparations for the upcoming election ballot, proxy, and meeting notice were discussed.

Open Meeting

The Open Board Meeting is scheduled for Wed. August 26. Committee Chairs need to write updates and submit them to Kate by ~~Monday, August 17~~, Friday, August 14, so she can compile them into one document and share them with the membership.

Camp Security

Eve mentioned recurring issues involving the lodge being left unlocked and inconsistent lockup procedures. Members agreed that improved communication and reminders are needed when departing camp, and that guidance should be published for the membership regarding proper lockup procedures.

Facilities and Maintenance

Discussion focused on replacement of deteriorated cabin siding and the challenge of locating suitable wood materials while preserving the camp's historic appearance. Members considered alternative materials and agreed additional research with suppliers and other Harriman camps is necessary. Eve will call some local suppliers.

Dave Hayes reported on maintenance needs throughout camp, including deteriorating infrastructure at the swimming area, volunteer workload concerns, and the need for improved operational procedures. Discussion also included the possibility of hiring a caretaker or adopting a work-camping model in the future.

The Board reviewed an incident involving damage to a camp gate lock and discussed whether members should bear responsibility for repair costs resulting from negligence. Members agreed to monitor the issue before establishing a formal policy.

The Board also agreed that the current trail camera subscription should continue while alternative methods of monitoring camp access are explored.

Treasurer's Report: Suzanne Rocheleau

Suzanne presented a financial update, including:

- Quickbooks expense: $424
- Total passport income of approximately $5,720 (35 passports)
- Annual fee income of approximately $7,345.
- Passport revenue running about $1,500 below the previous year.
- A projected budget deficit of approximately $4,500.
- Continued positive income from hosted weekend day fees.
- Purchase of a duplicate gate padlock costing approximately $240.
- Ongoing concerns regarding porta potty cleaning; supposed to be weekly but only happening every other week. Requesting GPS log from the vendor Call-a-Head.
- 17 Centennial t-shirts ordered thus far.

Members discussed possible future fee adjustments and additional revenue opportunities. When evaluating the end of year expenses, a new fee schedule may need to be implemented for next year to cover the increase in operating expenses. This will be discussed in the November and December BOD meetings.

Secretary’s Report: Kate Walker

The Board discussed moving club records from Kate's personal Gmail account into a shared Google Workspace account with centralized document storage and controlled access for officers. We will start with the $5/month plan, which offers 30GB of storage.

Members also reviewed document retention practices and the importance of preserving historically significant club records and archives, but this will need to be discussed further at another time. Business documents like hike waivers only need to be kept for three years.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee: Jerry Flower discussed applicant guidance and improving coordination for hike scheduling. Keyholder number remains the same; number of applicants is now at 14.

Camp Committee: Dave Hayes

- Gate Lock Incident – A member jammed their key in the camp gate lock, requiring Dave to extract the key and order a backup lock. This sparked a discussion about member responsibility and cost accountability.
- Trail Cameras – Dave proposed discontinuing the trail camera service when the current subscription ends and exploring alternative monitoring systems for camp entry.
- Swim Area Deterioration – Dave reported multiple rotten boards and a hole in the floating platform at the swim area, flagging it as an urgent infrastructure concern requiring significant replacement costs.
- Volunteer Burnout & Caretaker Proposal – Dave raised concerns about increasing member irresponsibility and volunteer burnout, and proposed hiring a caretaker under a work-camping model at approximately $40 per member annually.
- Operational Streamlining – He emphasized the need for procedural changes and better recruitment of active volunteers for board positions rather than relying on individual enforcement.

Hosting Committee: Doris Blasi reported that several August and September weekends still require hosts. August 22-23; August 29-30; September 12-13; and October 3-4. (October 3 will be Centennial Ceremony and meal.)

It was also discussed that members need to remove the trash daily during the summer. We should use small bags, not the large black bags if it's just a small amount of garbage. Trash removal is not only the responsibility of hosts, but of every member who utilizes the facility during day trips, and unhosted weekends.

Hiking Committee: Ingrid Strauch discussed challenges scheduling qualifying hikes for applicants and the need for improved coordination between the Membership and Hiking Committees. Currently on the schedule: Ray's hike on Saturday (non-qualifying) and a hike in late Sept led by Ingrid that will be qualifying. Ray plans to lead a qualifying hike on September 27th.

Trails Committee: no report

Conservation Committee: no report

Environmental Education Committee: Marty Kellerman reported that he encouraged people to contact Governor Hochul to sign the one-year moratorium on data centers, which she has done.

Archives Committee: Ray Kozma reported plans for another historical Centennial presentation program September 26. He will lead the Raymond Torrey Memorial hike this weekend as well as offer an evening presentation.

Website: no report

Old Business:

Centennial Planning Committee: Ray, Dave, Eve

- Final Centennial celebration scheduled for October 3.
- Will be Italian food, catered. Eve will explore hiring a server and someone to help clean up.
- Planning for an online art auction. Will close 9/30 so people can pick up art on 10/3. We will be able to keep all the proceeds.
- Seventeen t-shirts ordered thus far; pickup will be in the pack room. Eve will deliver the merchandise to camp and place it in a large bin. Each item will be individually labeled with the members name so they can pick up their purchase at their convenience.

Ad-hoc Committee on Applicant Process: Kate, Dave, Ingrid, Jerry, Ray

- New business card, recruitment flyer and promotional jingle. Cards are for members to hand out individually. Flyers are to be posted anywhere frequented by people with a sincere interest in the outdoors, as well as online.
- We've made improvements to the sponsor-applicant handbook, including replacing the term "sponsor" with "mentor". We will also begin to assign the first mentor to new applicants, to help them get the process started.
- We'll continue to advertise in the Trail Walker rather than at the NYNJTC gala.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting (Open Board Meeting) is scheduled for August 26, 2026. Eve may be away but Marty will be available to run it.

Adjournment

Susanne offered a motion to adjourn; seconded by Dave.
Adjourned at 9:28 PM.