

WAINWRIGHT HOUSE- TIMELINE OF EVENTS

This timeline illustrates that the Wainwright House's management has a history of mistrust as it applies to abiding by their permissible activity and intentions regarding a financial viability strategy. Additionally, this timeline showcases that the strategy of focusing on commercialization/ becoming an events facility has not provided WH with financial viability to-date, nor is there a guarantee that it would in the future if this request is permitted. Allowing more latitude in programming and events will likely result in even more boundaries crossed, permits violated, and continued financial challenges.

Timeline of Permissible Activity & Violations

- 1864- John Howard Wainwright and wife Margaret bought Milton Point
- 1931- John & Margaret's youngest son, Colonel J. Mayhew Wainwright, built Wainwright House on the family's land in Milton Point to resemble the 18th century chateau Raincheval he was stationed in in France
- 1941- Laymen's Movement, an association of businessmen, formed in an effort to bring spiritual and ethical values into professional and personal life
- 1951- Ms. Fonrose Condict, the only child of, wanted to find a charitable and worthwhile propose for WH as a memorial to her parents and petitions for permission for Wainwright House, outlining, in her own words, her vision, mission and request for its permitted uses
 - [1951 Petition from Condict Requesting Permission for WH](#)
- 1951- WH was established and permitted as a non-profit, non-sectarian holistic learning center
 - [1951 Original Certificate of Incorporation](#)
 - [1951 Letter from the City Granting Permission for Wainwright](#)
- 1951- [New York Times article detailing that the Wainwright House and it 3 acres of land will be used as a research and training center to help business men put religious ideals into practice each Monday through Saturday](#)
- 1983- upon her death, Condict bestowed a \$2.9 million endowment and donated the Wainwright House- then known as Wainwright House Center for the Development of Human Potential- to be used for the continuation of her mission.
- 1983- Transfer of the property from Fonrose Wainwright Condict to the current owner was made subject to restrictions around permissions of the property, including prohibiting non-permissible activity surrounding alcoholic beverages.
- Circa 1996- WH endowment was depleted by the board charged with its preservation and upholding its mission
 - *New York Times*, [Future of Wainwright House in Doubt Despite Trust Fund](#)
- Circa 2004- Wainwright House starts hosting weddings as a means to mitigate financial challenges, without permission/permits from the City
- 2008/09- The weddings came to a head, climbing from four per year to 20-30 per year with amplified sound and, still with no permit or permissions from the City
 - *New York Times*, [Members Questioning Center's Priorities](#)

- 2008- a restated Certificate of Amendment of Incorporation is approved by the State, providing WH the right to appoint directors, officers and employees without the need for outside approvals
 - [2008 Certificate of Amendment of Incorporation](#)
- 2011- the Commission set forth conditions for limited tented events for 2012 through October 1, 2016
 - [Wainwright Resolution Dated 3-22-2011](#)
- 2011- when City Council voted on a resolution that was a limited five-year agreement for tenting/ amplified sound, counsel for WH stated that they intended to reduce the number of tented events over a five-year period, but they increased. Settlement allowed for 10 amplified weddings, 8 non-amplified, tent from May 1 through Sept 30.
- 2015- In a New York Times article, WH executive director Peggy Hill admits they “lost their focus because of money” and booked more weddings as a result, but with weddings came new, unexpected problems- detracting from the kind of program that represents WH and the commotion surrounding the events hurt their reputation.
 - *New York Times*, [Wainwright House, a Haven for the Spirit on Long Island Sound](#)
- 2015- WH petitions Planning Commission for a five-year extension and time period for tented events to extend into October, [which is granted](#)
- Fall 2019- WH appealed to City Planning Commission for permission to host additional events/ weddings, but withdrew, acknowledging neighbor opposition
- Early 2020- WH Board and Row America proposed the row operations and recreational facility, which would require rezoning- a plan that was rejected broadly by the community at large and Rye City Council unanimously voted to not move on the permit
 - *The Rye Record*, [Wainwright Neighbors Unsettled by RowAmerica Rumors](#)
- February 2021- WR goes out with anti-community/ pro-row media message in attempt to shift public perception of their plan with Row America
 - *Rye Record*, [Wainwright Row America Update](#)
 - *MyRye*, [In a Row, Wainwright Wants to Correct the Record](#)
 - *Change.org*, [RowAmerica Rye & Wainwright House- City Code Amendment](#)
- March 2021- Personal attacks in the media against MP neighbors from WH board continue
 - *MyRye*, [LETTER: Wainwright Trustee Takes Neighbor to Task for “Dirty and Untruthful War”](#)
- March 2021- WH seeks permission from City to increase the number of amplified tented events to 15, plus 4 “community events” for a 10 year term, despite the fact that previous events permit was created as a temporary band-aid while the WH board established a sound financial viability plan
 - [WH 2021 Request to City](#)
- April, 2021- WH Board send a letter to WH community and hosts a Zoom discussing--and defending--their attempts to become a commercial enterprise
 - [WH Board Letter to MP Community](#)