

**JOURNEY THROUGH HALLOWED GROUND PARTNERSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING**

**HELD**

Via Video Conference  
March 12, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Members attending:

Chair Chuck Ledsinger  
Vice Chair Kathleen Kilpatrick  
Secretary Jim Campi  
Peter Friedman  
Gertraud Hechl  
Betsy Merritt  
Elizabeth von Hassell  
Chris Wall  
David Williams

JTHG Team attending:

Bill Sellers  
Michelle Burrelli  
Katherine Wilkins  
Penny Williams

Other Attendees:

Brent Glass

The meeting was called to order at 10:04.

Chair Ledsinger confirmed that a notice of the meeting has been given and that a quorum is in attendance.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 12, 2020 Board meeting.

MOTION BY: David Williams

SECONDED BY: Chris Wall

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Sellers gave a brief overview of recent program successes, including the installation of the JTHG National Scenic Byway signs in Virginia and ongoing efforts with the Route 15 Coalition. National History Academy will operate online again in 2021.

**Financial Discussion**

Ms. Williams presented the Balance Sheet and financial documents and discussed the projected cash flow and the reason for variances from year to year.

Ms. Williams also presented the revised FY2021 budget. Mr. Sellers provided a brief overview of fundraising opportunities presented in the budget.

**Motion:** To approve the updated 2021 Budget.

MOTION BY: David Williams  
SECONDED BY: Chris Wall  
NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

## **JTHG Programs**

### Route 15

Mr. Sellers discussed Route 15 South. Mr. Williams stated that the current plans seem to reflect JTHG's goal to preserve the rural character of Route 15 South.

Mr. Sellers also discussed Route 15 North and the Catoclin Coalition. Ms. Merritt gave an overview of the current status of the project and Loudoun County's response. Mr. Sellers discussed the strategies Loudoun County has used to avoid a Section 106 review. Ms. Merritt stated that the Journey's leadership on this has been very effective.

### Wayfinding

Ms. Burrelli showed the recently installed JTHG National Scenic Byway gateway sign which was recently installed in Charlottesville. Nearly all of the Virginia signs are now installed.

### Living Legacy

Ms. Wilkins discussed the Living Legacy project. Planting plans for 2021 are still in process, but we are working on updating the tree tagging for trees planted last year.

### JTHG Website and Partner Outreach

Mr. Sellers discussed our current effort to compile a list of partners who offer memberships so JTHG can begin contributing to them financially in an organized way.

### National History Academy

Mr. Sellers discussed that there will be no residential National History Academy in 2021.

Mr. Sellers discussed the uncertainty with the National Park Service and the NHA bill recently passed by the House of Representatives. The bill increases funding but more importantly, eliminates the sunset provision for National Heritage Areas.

Mr. Seller discussed the planned program for summer 2021, which will include week-long sessions and shorter historian seminars. NHA has started weekly online field trips and will start planning for year-round programming once Ms. Katie Smolar joins the staff full time in June.

### Fundraising

Mr. Sellers discussed the increase in funding for NEH and other foundations that will be available for history and civics programs.

Mr. Sellers stated that as NHA grows and expands, it impacts many more students which is appealing for donors like Mr. Rubenstein. Dr. Glass thinks the environment for NHA is better now than when we began, and more funding will become available.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

MOTION BY: Elizabeth von Hassell  
SECONDED BY: Chris Wall  
NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.