**JOURNEY THROUGH HALLOWED GROUND PARTNERSHIP**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING**

**HELD**

Via Video Conference

December 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Members attending: JTHG Team attending:

Chair Chuck Ledsinger Bill Sellers

Co-Vice Chair Chris Wall Michelle Burrelli

Co-Secretary Jim Campi Katie Smolar

Co-Secretary Betsy Merrit Penny Williams

Peter Friedman

Gertraud Hechl Other Attendees:

Hollis McLoughlin

Martha Raymond Brent Glass

David Vela

David Williams

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am.

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

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the September 17, 2021 Board meeting.

MOTION BY: David Williams

SECONDED BY: Chris Wall

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

**Nominating and Governance Committee**

**Motion:** To nominate the following slate of officers for 2022:

* Chair: Chuck Ledsinger
* Vice Chair: Kathleen Kilpatrick and Chris Wall
* Treasurer: Chris Miller
* Secretary: Jim Campi and Betsy Merritt
  + Assistant Secretary: Michelle Burrelli

MOTION BY: Peter Friedman

SECONDED BY: David Williams

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

**Motion:** To renominate the following board members for a third term on the board: Peter Friedman, Gertraud Hechl and Chris Wall.

MOTION BY: David Williams

SECONDED BY: David Vela

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

**Nomination of new Trustees**

Mr. Williams discussed Hollis McLoughlin’s nomination and their professional relationship. Mr. Wall and Mr. Friedman discussed their previous experiences with Mr. McLoughlin.

**Motion:** To nominate Hollis McLoughlin to serve on the JTHG Board of Trustees.

MOTION BY: David Williams

SECONDED BY: Chris Wall

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Vela discussed his previous experience with Ms. Raymond. Mr. Sellers discussed JTHG’s previous relation with Ms. Raymond.

**Motion:** To nominate Martha Raymond to serve on the JTHG Board of Trustees.

MOTION BY: David Vela

SECONDED BY: Peter Friedman

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

Mr. McLoughlin and Ms. Raymond joined the call.

**Financial Discussion**

Mr. Sellers provided an overview of the current financial status. Ms. Williams presented the draft financials. Ms. Williams discussed the pledge receivables and the proposed 2022 National History Academy budget.

Mr. Sellers discussed the plans for the residential Academy program. Chair Ledsinger asked about plans for online programs. Mr. Sellers discussed the virtual field trips program and continued online summer programs.

**JTHG Programs**

**National Heritage Area**

Mr. Sellers discussed the current bill which would extend the JTHG NHA legislation and the potential future boundary updates. Mr. Sellers also discussed the future NHA evaluation.

**National Scenic Byway**

Mr. Williams discussed Rt. 15 North of Leesburg. Mr. Sellers also discussed a zoning issue in Prince William County near Manassas Battlefield which has recently come up.

Ms. Burrelli and Mr. Sellers discussed the bike path proposed from Frederick to the C&O Canal and collaboration with Senator Cardin’s office.

**Wayfinding**

Mr. Sellers mentioned the Wayfinding project. Adams County, PA is the only section of the National Scenic Byway not yet marked with wayfinding signage.

**Living Legacy**

Mr. Sellers provided an update on the Living Legacy Tree Planting Project.

**National History Academy**

Mr Sellers discussed the challenges and the opportunities of the National History Academy program. Mr. McLoughlin agreed with the idea of creating an excellent experience for a smaller number of students.

Mr. Sellers discussed differences between the in-person and online experience for students. Virtual site visits have been helpful for schools. Ms. Smolar is working on a 20-minute tour video format to use in connecting students with our network of sites around the country.

Mr. Vela asked about student feedback for the program. Mr. Sellers and Chair Ledsinger mentioned that there has been very positive feedback from students collected after the Academy sessions.

Mr. Sellers plans to launch Academy recruiting next week.

Mr. Sellers mentioned we had a wonderful Hispanic heritage month experience. Mr. Vela said that he had received positive feedback from the superintendents involved and encourages future such diversity efforts with sites, including NPS sites that would be relevant.

**Fundraising Report**

Mr. Sellers discussed current fundraising priorities within his network and those he is seeking connections to.

Dr. Glass discussed his recent presentation to the Educational Travel Consortium, where he spoke about National History Academy as the travelers of the future.

Mr. Sellers discussed the role of the National Advisory Council and potentially adding a student advisory council. Mr. Williams and Mr. Wall agreed with the idea of an expanded role for the National Advisory Council.

**Other business**

* Proposed 2022 meetings:
  + March 11, 2022
  + June 3, 2022
  + September 9, 2022
  + Annual Meeting - December 9, 2022

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting

MOTION BY: Chris Wall

SECONDED BY: David Williams

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm.