

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

**HELD**

Via Video Conference

June 9, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**Members attending:**

Chair Chuck Ledsinger  
Co-Vice Chair Chris Wall  
Co-Secretary Jim Campi  
Gertraud Hechl  
Ken Merin  
Martha Raymond  
David Vela  
David Williams

**JTHG Team attending:**

Bill Sellers  
Michelle Burrelli  
Katie Smolar  
Becky Wilhelm

**Other Attendees:**

Brent Glass

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

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

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the March 10, 2023 Board meeting.

MOTION BY: David Williams

SECONDED BY: David Vela

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Merin abstained.

**Financial Discussion**

Mr. Wall pointed out that this is a heavy cash outlay period for JTHG with the Academy starting soon. Ms. Wilhelm reviewed the cash flow and Profit & Loss statement.

**Fundraising Report & Discussion**

Mr. Sellers discussed the 50 state approach for fundraising and student recruitment, and reported that we have supporters in 15-20 states. Mr. Sellers the event at the Kennedy Center on July 6. He also discussed growing the Academy by one bus load.

Dr. Glass said he thinks this is a great strategy coming out of Covid.

### **National History Academy**

Ms. Burrelli provided an update on NHA recruiting. We have received more applications this year for the Academy than in any past year.

Ms. Burrelli also discussed the challenges with hiring staff for this summer. Staff gender ratios have to closely match student gender ratios to provide supervision in the dorms, but recruiting qualified female teachers has been an issue this summer.

Ms. Smolar walked through the itineraries for the Academy, the online program, and the Extreme Journey Summer Camp

### **National Scenic Byway**

Mr. Campi discussed the Wilderness Crossing issue. Mr. Sellers gave an overview of the data center issues in Virginia, and recent meetings JTHG has been involved with.

### **Wayfinding**

Ms. Burrelli provided a brief update on the wayfinding in Adams County, PA. PennDOT has approved the signs without the directional arrows, so we hope to have those signs up this summer.

### **Living Legacy**

Ms. Burrelli provided an update on the VDOT Living Legacy grant. The funds must be used for tree planting, and JTHG must invoice against the grant this year.

### **National Heritage Area**

Ms. Burrelli discussed the Gettysburg 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, which will be held at the Majestic Theater in Gettysburg, PA, October 13-15, 2023.

### **National Park Service Evaluation**

Chair Ledsinger discussed the National Park Service evaluation, and how we should use this as a tool as we plan strategically for the future of JTHG.

Mr. Williams said he felt it was a thorough assessment of where JTHG has been historically. Mr. Merin said he learned a lot about the Journey through the document. He thought it was a very positive report overall.

Ms. Raymond was pleased with what she has read. Mr. Sellers thought about the disconnect between the Management Plan and what we actually do as he read the

Evaluation. He discussed the possibility of reviewing and re-working the Management Plan to better reflect our current trajectory.

Mr. Sellers also discussed revitalizing the Board Committees.

Ms. Raymond said when we are doing a strategic plan, review the legislation and use it to guide the strategic plan. Mr. Sellers also discussed creating a new business plan that better addresses the Management Plan.

### **Executive Session**

Executive Session began at 12:05 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 12:44 p.m.

### **Other Business**

- Proposed 2023 meetings:
  - September 8, 2023
  - Annual Meeting - December 8, 2023

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

MOTION BY: David Vela

SECONDED BY: Chris Wall

NONE BEING OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.