

**NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST
Thursday, October 29, 2020
Virtual Board of Trustees Meeting**

Via ZOOM

**10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

Call to Order

Ms. Ng, serving as chair for Mr. Miller, called the meeting to order at 10:04am.

Open Public Meetings Act

Ms. Guzzo notified the Board that public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call

Ms. Guzzo called the roll and confirmed the meeting had quorum.

Trustees present: Kenneth Miller, Katherine Ng, Janet Foster, Deborah Kelly, Peter Lindsay, Katherine Marcopul (DEP), Chris Perks, Patricia Ann Salvatore, Robert Tighue (Treasury) and Sean Thompson (DCA)

NJHT staff present: Dorothy Guzzo, Glenn Ceponis, Carrie Hogan, Haley McAlpine, Erin Frederickson, Sam Siegel, Ashley Parker and Paula Lassiter

DAG present: Beau Wilson

Public present: Margaret Westfield, Janet Strunk, Donna Ann Harris, Andrew Calamaras, LoriAnne Perrine, Robert Cornero, Rita DiMatteo, John McInnes, Wendy Kovacs, Karen Knoepp, April Grier, Desiree Bronson, Patrice Bassett, Kate Fleschler, Annabelle Radcliffe-Trenner, Nancy Zerbe, Michelle Novak, Beth Bjorklund, Susan Ryan, Donna Macalle, Andrew Walker, Ronald Renzulli, Paul Dement, Mary Tempone, Troy Simmons, Allen Kratz, Lisa Easton

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Ng asked if there were any comments or discussion regarding the June minutes of the Board. There being no comment, Ms. Kelly moved to accept the meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Salvatore. The motion passed unopposed.

Communications

No report.

Reports of Officers

Chair

Mr. Miller congratulated staff on wrapping up the 2020 grant round and praised applicants.

Vice Chair

Ms. Ng echoed Mr. Miller's sentiment regarding staff efforts amidst the pandemic.

Treasurer

No report.

- **Adoption of Operating Budget:** Ms. Guzzo explained that the Trust's budget is on a 12-month basis despite the truncated state budget. She reminded the Board that the Trust is now carrying staff and overhead in the budget; these items were previously covered in a separate budget. Mr. Perks moved to accept the operating budget and Mr. Lindsay seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Secretary

No report.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Guzzo referenced her report and the staff report included in the Board packet. The database project remains on hold but will likely continue with the 2020 round coming to a close. Because the corporate business tax (CBT) revenue was higher than anticipated which has allowed the Trust to fund \$10 million in this grant round. Projections for next year remain positive but are still subject to change. There has been no movement on the prospective board members. Ms. Guzzo reiterated praise for Trust staff who continue to operate virtually. The 2021 conference will likely be virtual with more details coming at the December meeting. All Department of Community Affairs (DCA) continue to work from home with cleaning and reporting protocols in place for those who choose to go into the office. There is no plan to return to the office at this time.

Report of Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Mr. Thompson echoed Ms. Guzzo's sentiments regarding department operations. The department is focused heavily on funding for vulnerable populations at this time. The fire division continues to provide assistance for firehouses experiencing Covid-related issues. The FY21 budget is truncated and the state is currently planning for FY22.

Report of Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Dr. Marcopul reported that the National Park Services' proposed National Register rule changes have been forwarded to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. That review period is 90 days but can be waived. DEP anticipates that the rule changes will be pushed through despite concern regarding their adoption. The NJ Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has scheduled a meeting with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to express the State's concerns. State and local governments have special status when expressing rule concerns. Additionally, HPO is offering, with Rutgers' New Jersey Climate Change Resource Center, their final flood resiliency webinar on November 10. The webinar will focus on elevation specifics and review handles at the state and local level. DEP continues to work remotely with no timeframe for returning to the office.

Dr. Marcopul left the meeting in the middle of providing the DEP report. She concluded her comments upon returning to the meeting.

Report of Department of Treasury

No report.

Reports of the Standing Committees

Report from the Executive Committee

No report.

Report from the Grants & Loans Committee

Ms. Kelly referenced the Committee's report included in the Board packet and asked if board members had to recuse themselves. Ms. Guzzo stated that Dr. Marcopul intended to recuse herself from discussion and voting for the Amzi Stephens Homestead extension request because of a potential conflict of interest but was not present at the meeting at this time. Ms. Kelly reviewed the extension requests for the Douglass House and Jackson Street Bridge (2008.2109) and the Amzi Stephens Homestead (2010.1006). Ms. Kelly moved and Ms. Foster seconded to accept both requests for extension. The motion passed unopposed.

Ms. Kelly referenced updates in the report. The Newark Landmarks Preservation Committee's 2010 open grant for a National Register nomination has been delayed multiple times. Revisions have been submitted to the Historic Preservation Office, but the draft remains inadequate. Ms. Kelly relayed that the committee had discussed two options. The first option is to limit the scope to complete a nomination for one school. The second option is to encourage the grantee to apply for a planning grant to complete the project as it was applied (a MPDF nomination). The committee felt that the MPDF nomination was the better option as it would afford some protections to these publicly owned buildings, some of which have been divested in recent years to private developers. Mr. Ceponis added that the Trust is working to schedule a meeting with HPO and Newark Landmarks to discuss next steps. Ms. Foster expressed the importance of the meeting and noted that the realistic timeframe of completing a nomination is likely further delayed as many repositories remain closed.

Recommendations for Preserve NJ Funding

Ms. Kelly praised the evaluators and the staff for reviewing 2020 grant applications. Ms. Parker shared the PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Guzzo referred to the presentation and provided a brief summary of the 2020 grant round, including applications received, geographic distribution and total funding requests. The committee recommends fifty applications and two special initiatives for funding, totaling \$10,777,499. Ms. McAlpine presented the HSM (planning) projects and Mr. Ceponis presented the capital projects in county order. Ms. Guzzo presented the two special initiatives. A list of recommended projects is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Kelly asked if there were any recusals. Ms. Ng stated that she would recuse herself from discussion and voting for all capital level II and multi-phase to avoid a potential conflict of interest should her contracting firm be involved with any potential construction projects. Mr. Perks recused himself from discussions and voting for the Camden City Hall heritage tourism and Battleship New Jersey capital level II projects to avoid any potential conflicts of interests given his position on the board of the Camden County Historical Society.

HSM Projects – Ms. Kelly motioned to accept the HSM projects as recommended by the committee. Mr. Lindsay seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Heritage Tourism Projects – Ms. Kelly motioned to accept the heritage tourism applications as recommended by the committee, excluding the Camden City Hall project. Ms. Salvatore seconded. The motion passed unopposed. Mr. Perks recused himself from discussion and voting for the Camden City Hall heritage tourism application. Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the Camden City Hall heritage tourism application as recommended by the committee. Ms. Foster seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Capital Level I Projects – Ms. Kelly motioned to approve all capital level I applications as recommended by the committee. Mr. Perks seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Capital Level II Projects – Ms. Ng recused herself from all discussion and voting for all capital level II projects. Ms. Kelly motioned to accept all capital level II applications as recommended by the committee, excluding the Battleship New Jersey. Mr. Thompson seconded. The motion passed unopposed. Mr. Perks recused himself from discussion and voting for the Battleship New Jersey capital application. Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the Battleship New Jersey as recommended by the committee. Mr. Lindsay seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Multi-Phase – Ms. Ng recused herself from discussions and voting on all multi-phase projects. Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the two multiphase capital level II grants as recommended by the committee. Mr. Perks seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Special Initiatives – Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the special initiatives as recommended by the committee. Ms. Salvatore seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Ms. Ng congratulated the successful applicants and reminded members of the public to reach out to staff with questions or concerns.

Recommendations for Discover NJ History License Plate Funding

Ms. Kelly reported that the 2021 Discover NJ History License Plate Fund schedule will operate as usual. More details will be provided after the December Board meeting. Ms. Kelly reviewed the applications under the License Plate grant program. The Trust received seven applications and the Committee is recommending funding for two projects. The Committee recommends grants of \$5,000 to the Roebling Museum and \$3,500 to the Princeton Battlefield Society. Ms. Kelly motioned to accept the license plate grants as recommended by the Committee. Mr. Perks seconded. The motion passed unopposed. Ms. Guzzo and Ms. Kelly reported on plans to expand Journey Through Jersey's presence and increase available content. Additional details will be provided in the future.

Ms. Kelly announced that she will remain on the Grants & Loans Committee, but that Ms. Foster will serve as chair moving forward.

Reporting of the Easements and Acquisitions Standing Committee

Mr. Ceponis reported that staff conducted two sites visits for potential perpetual easements. The first site, the Williams-Sickles House in Colts Neck Township, Monmouth County, consists of an 18th-century house and an early 19th-century barn. The second location is the gardener's cottage (also called the secretary's house) at Point Breeze, the former Joseph Bonaparte estate in Bordentown City, Burlington County. The cottage is the last extant building. The D&R Greenway, an environmental organization, is partnering with Green Acres and other entities to expand open space on the site. The D&R Greenway

approached the Trust regarding potentially purchasing an easement on the extant building. Additional details on both items will be presented to the easement committee and to the full board at the December meeting.

At this time, Dr. Marcopul returned to the meeting and completed the DEP report.

Report of the Combined Strategic Planning and Legislation and Policy Standing Committees

Ms. Guzzo noted that there are very few legislative updates. She noted that October was typically the month that the board focused on strategic planning. If the board would like to meet for a strategic planning session, she stated this would likely need to happen virtually. Ms. Ng said that the executive committee will discuss this and prepare for a discussion at the December meeting.

Report of the Education and Outreach

Ms. Salvatore provided a report. She discussed the committee's focus many years ago to update the heritage tourism master plan. Each committee member claimed one of the five heritage tourism initiatives in the report and determine the level of readiness for many organizations. Much of this was conducted in preparation for Journey Through Jersey. Ms. Salvatore stated that she had reached out to the NJ Division of Travel & Tourism and stated that she will pursue a partnership with that office in the form of, at least, a link to Journey Through Jersey on their website. She referenced the Division's cooperative marketing grants for which many heritage tourism organizations apply. Ms. Salvatore noted that she has reached out to the New Jersey Council on Social Studies, which she believes is under the auspices of the Department of Education. Ms. Salvatore reiterated the potential of Journey Through Jersey as a New Jersey history education tool. With the staff's approval, she would like to pursue an alliance with the Council to promote history education.

Fiscal Oversight

No report.

Unfinished Business

Annual Retreat/Strategic Plan Implementation

Per previous discussion, the executive committee will meet and plan for a larger discussion at the December board meeting.

New Business

Appointment of Nominating Committee

Ms. Guzzo stated that the chair must select two Board members or request volunteers to sit on the nominating committee. Ms. Kelly, Ms. Salvatore and Mr. Perks volunteered.

Public Comment

Allen Kratz, a member of the public and a pending board member, applauded Dr. Marcopul on the flood resiliency webinars and encouraged all to listen. Mr. Kratz announced that the National Park Service is updating the flood guidelines for historic preservation in high-risk areas. The Hoboken Free Public Library, which received Trust, federal and city funding to dry flood-proof the building, will be featured in the document. Mr. Kratz thanked the Trust for their contribution.

Ms. Foster noted that, for many years, the Board's goal was to distribute \$10 million in grant funding. With this milestone reached, she encouraged the Board to focus efforts on further increasing Trust funding. Ms. Foster explained that there were many deserving applications received in the 2020 grant round that could not be funded at this time due to a lack of funds.

Ms. Salvatore commented on the remarkable progress the Board has made in the last decade.

Donna Macalle, a member of the public representing the Lake Hopatcong Foundation, thanked the Board and staff for featuring the Lake Hopatcong Railroad Station on the cover of the Trust's 2019 Annual Report.

Mr. Perks expressed his appreciation to the staff. Ms. Ng reiterated Mr. Perks' statement and offered the Board's support.

Adjournment

There being no additional business, Ms. Ng made a motion at 11:28 to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Salvatore.

Next Meeting Date & Location:

December 9, 2020

Location TBD

Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund Grant Recommendations

Note: the project names are as listed on the National Register of Historic Places and may not reflect the current or common name of the property. Projects are listed in each category alphabetically by county.

Historic Site Management Grants (up to \$50,000)

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
Palisades Parks Conservancy	Palisades Interstate Park	Fort Lee Borough	Bergen	\$50,000
The Radburn Association	Radburn	Fair Lawn Borough	Bergen	\$42,255
Woman's Club of Englewood	Brinckerhoff Carriage House	Englewood City	Bergen	\$39,600
Newton Monthly Meeting	Newton Friends Meetinghouse	Camden City	Camden	\$21,390
Siloam Cemetery Association	Siloam Cemetery Historic District	Vineland City	Cumberland	\$30,000
Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society	Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society Building	Vineland City	Cumberland	\$20,790
Montclair History Center	Israel Crane House	Montclair Township	Essex	\$45,150
Borough of High Bridge	Solitude House	High Bridge Borough	Hunterdon	\$25,500
Trent House Association	William Trent House	Trenton City	Mercer	\$42,360
Mercer County Park Commission	Pleasant Valley Historic District	Hopewell Township	Mercer	\$46,937
City of Trenton	Mercer Cemetery	Trenton City	Mercer	\$50,000
First Presbyterian Church of Trenton	First Presbyterian Church	Trenton City	Mercer	\$44,482
Borough of Jamesburg	Ensley-Mount-Buckalew House	Jamesburg Borough	Middlesex	\$48,750
Borough of Metuchen	Middlesex Avenue / Woodwild Park Historic District	Metuchen Borough	Middlesex	\$15,000
SLTCC Landmark Friends, Inc.	Seabright Lawn Tennis and Cricket Club	Rumson Borough	Monmouth	\$17,738

Museum of Early Trades and Crafts	Madison Public Library and the James Building	Madison Borough	Morris	\$50,000
Morris Museum	Twin Oaks (Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen Residence)	Morristown Town	Morris	\$30,180
Ayres/Knuth Farm Foundation, Inc.	Ayres' Farm (Ayres Knuth Farmstead)	Denville Township	Morris	\$29,738
Borough of Mendham	Phoenix House	Mendham Borough	Morris	\$12,000
City of Paterson	Great Falls / S.U.M. Historic District (ATP Site)	Paterson City	Passaic	\$50,000
Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum	Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church	Montgomery Township	Somerset	\$50,000
NJ State Park Service	Six Mile Run Historic District	Franklin Township	Somerset	\$23,531
Jerusalem Lodge No. 26 F & AM	Plainfield Masonic Temple	Plainfield City	Union	\$45,000

Historic Site Management Grants for Heritage Tourism (up to \$50,000)

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
City of Camden	Camden City Hall	Camden City	Camden	\$50,000
Rutgers University	Queen's Campus	New Brunswick City	Middlesex	\$22,275
Navesink Maritime Heritage Association	Grover House	Middletown Township	Monmouth	\$22,291
County of Passaic	Dey Mansion	Wayne Township	Passaic	\$19,443

Level I Capital Preservation Grants (\$50,000 – \$150,000)

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
NJ State Park Service	Absecon Lighthouse	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$88,560
Borough of Fieldsboro	White Hill Mansion	Fieldsboro Borough	Burlington	\$24,000
Cape May MAC	Emlen Physick Estate	Cape May City	Cape May	\$81,620

Llewellyn Park Preservation Foundation, Inc.	Llewellyn Park Historic District	West Orange Township	Essex	\$150,000
Morris County Park Commission	Speedwell Village	Morristown Town	Morris	\$115,000

Level II Capital Preservation Grants (\$150,001 - \$750,000)

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
Save Lucy Committee, Inc.	Lucy, the Margate Elephant	Margate City	Atlantic	\$673,668
County of Burlington	Burlington County Prison	Mt. Holly Township	Burlington	\$526,500
Home Port Alliance for the USS New Jersey, Inc.	USS New Jersey	Camden City	Camden	\$500,000
Newark Performing Arts Corp.	Salaam Temple (Symphony Hall)	Newark City	Essex	\$750,000
Borough of Hopewell	Hopewell Railroad Station	Hopewell Borough	Mercer	\$249,907
Lake Hopatcong Foundation	Landing Railroad Station	Roxbury Township	Morris	\$254,879
Roxbury Historic Trust, Inc.	King Store and Homestead	Roxbury Township	Morris	\$177,127
Town of Boonton	Stone Arch Bridge	Boonton Town	Morris	\$320,000
Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders	Mary Etta Cox House	Barneget Township	Ocean	\$750,000
NJ State Park Service	Ringwood Manor	Ringwood Borough	Passaic	\$550,000
New Jersey Community Development Corporation	First Presbyterian Church of Paterson	Paterson City	Passaic	\$750,000
City of Clifton	US Animal Quarantine Station	Clifton City	Passaic	\$300,750
Stand Up For Salem	Broadway Historic District (J. C. Penney)	Salem City	Salem	\$630,000
Township of Warren	Mount Bethel Baptist Meeting House	Warren Township	Somerset	\$218,495
Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Frazee House Inc.	Elizabeth and Gershom Frazee House	Scotch Plains Township	Union	\$337,161
Musconetcong Watershed Association	Hoffman Grist Mill	Franklin Township	Warren	\$525,000

Multi-Phase Capital Level II Preservation Grants (\$500,000 - \$750,000)

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
Save Ellis Island Inc.	Statue of Liberty National Monument, Ellis Island and Liberty Island	Jersey City	Hudson	\$560,422
Monmouth University	Shadow Lawn	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth	\$750,000

Special Initiatives

Applicant	Project Name	Municipality	Property County	Recommended Award
County of Passaic	Passaic County Regrant Program	Paterson	Passaic	\$500,000
New Jersey Historic Trust	Discover New Jersey License Plate Program	Trenton	Mercer	\$50,000