

# Historic New Bridge Landing Annual Report

2021



Respectfully submitted to the Governor and Legislature of the State of New Jersey

Dear Governor Murphy and Legislators:

Pursuant to our responsibilities under Public Law 2009, chapter 45, the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission submits this annual report for 2021. 2021 was a challenging year for most as you are all aware and historic sites are no different. However, Historic New Bridge Landing had a fantastic year offering on site programming and, like many parks through the State, saw a large uptick in visitors throughout the year. The key to our success is consistently exciting and innovative programming that not only attracts new audiences, but repeat visitors as well. We also offer a unique green oasis just a few miles from Manhattan.

We succeed because we understand quality programming depends not only upon having an interesting and engaging story to tell, but also on coordinating the talents of highly motivated and well educated volunteers from a variety of professions, who generously share their enthusiasm with guests, and, most importantly, who create a pervasive culture of hospitality, respect for the lessons of our history and a commitment to stewardship over a significant American Revolutionary War battleground, which gave life to our nation.

The Bergen County Historical Society presently creates, funds and staffs all programming at Historic New Bridge Landing, both on its own property and on adjacent state parkland, including at the landmark Steuben House. The Historical Society, an all volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) historical association, founded in 1902, does not apply for or receive public operating support or other governmental grants, funding the maintenance of its own property at Historic New Bridge Landing and its various activities and operations through membership dues, donations, fundraising and event income.

The park commissioners not only represent local stakeholders— representation on the commission reflecting their respective land holdings within the park—, who know what is best for their communities, but they also provide private professional oversight without compensation from the state treasury. This is a win-win situation for all involved. We are thrilled that the Commission has received funds to begin to operate effectively and make long awaited repairs and updates to the site. Items lists have been created on where to best apply these funds to better facilitate the growth of Historic New Bridge Landing in a responsible manner. 2021 has seen those funds begin to be put to use and more projects are planned for the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

James Smith, Chairman,

Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission December 2021

Larry Bauer (Teaneck)

Richard Karp (Teaneck)

James Bellis Jr. (Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation)

Mary Donohue (River Edge), Vice-Chairwoman

Eric Pain, DEP Commissioner's Designee and Superintendent, Ringwood State Park

Deborah Powell (Bergen County Historical Society), Secretary

Michael Putrino (New Milford)

James Smith (Bergen County Historical Society), Chairman

Adam Strobel (County of Bergen)

John Heffernan (Alternate for the Blauvelt Demarest Foundation).

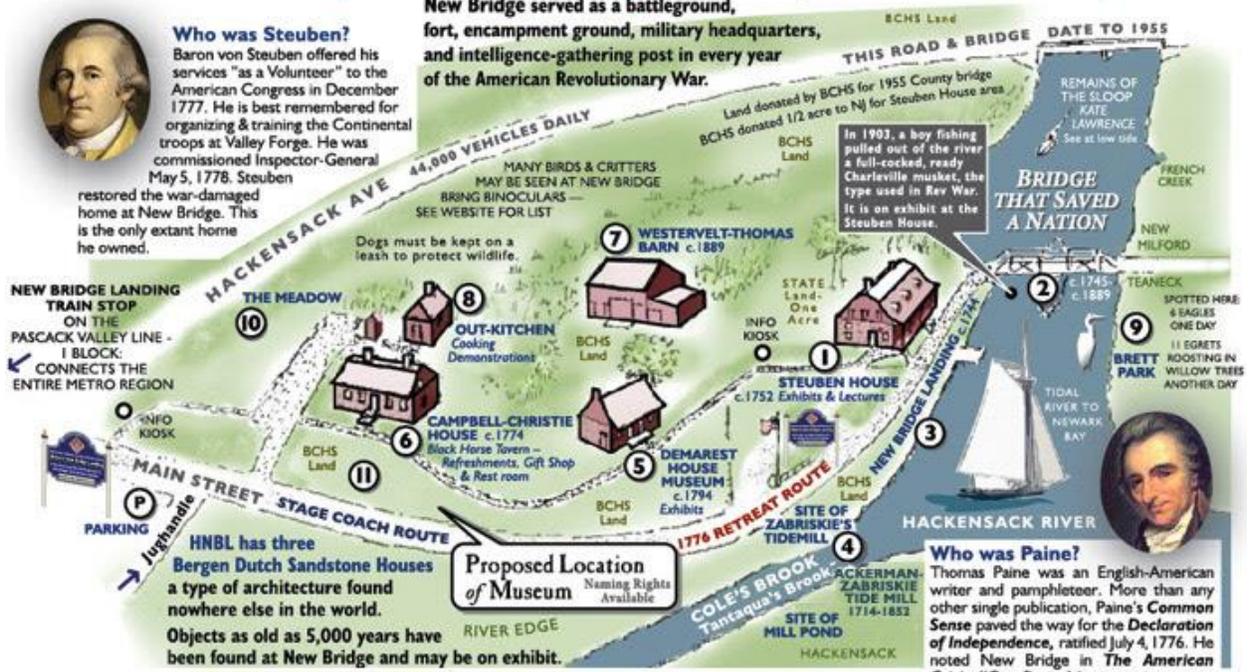
# Historic New Bridge Landing

## Headquarters of the Bergen County Historical Society



**Who was Steuben?**  
 Baron von Steuben offered his services "as a Volunteer" to the American Congress in December 1777. He is best remembered for organizing & training the Continental troops at Valley Forge. He was commissioned Inspector-General May 5, 1778. Steuben restored the war-damaged home at New Bridge. This is the only extant home he owned.

New Bridge served as a battleground, fort, encampment ground, military headquarters, and intelligence-gathering post in every year of the American Revolutionary War.

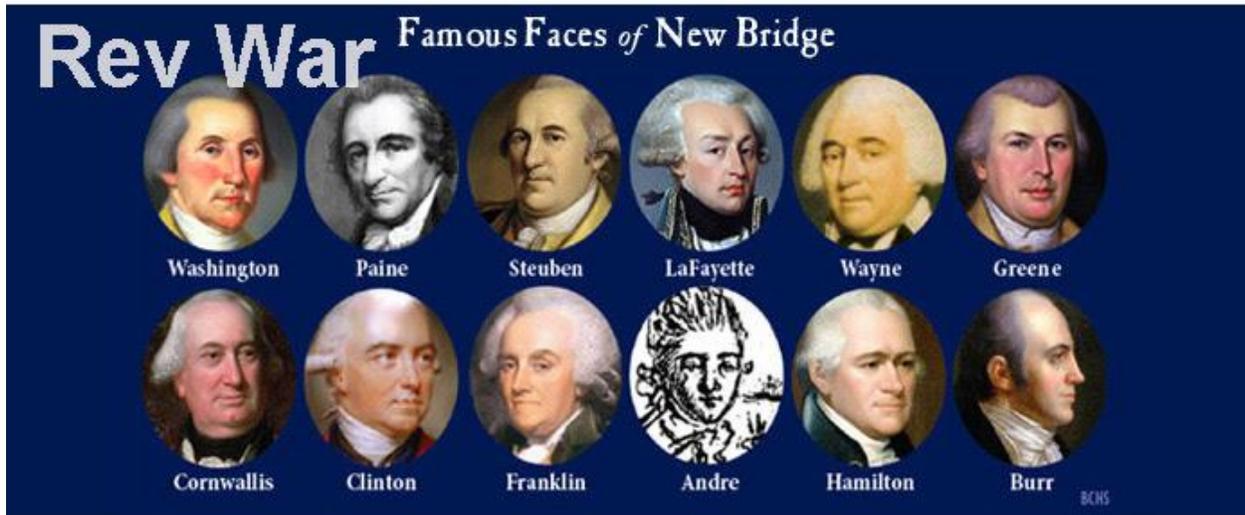


**Who was Paine?**  
 Thomas Paine was an English-American writer and pamphleteer. More than any other single publication, Paine's *Common Sense* paved the way for the Declaration of Independence, ratified July 4, 1776. He noted New Bridge in *The American Crisis*. "Our first object was to secure the bridge over the Hackensack, which laid up the river between the enemy and us..."

### Battleground in the American Revolution

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5 to tie together the stakeholders, (**Bergen County Historical Society, Blauvelt Demarest Foundation, Borough of River Edge, Borough of New Milford, Teaneck Township, County of Bergen, and the NJDEP**), to act in good faith, for the purpose of coordinating and implementing all federal, State, county, municipal, and private development policies and other activities relating to the historic preservation and recreational use of the property under the commission's jurisdiction.

And yes, all of these people and more were at New Bridge



### Audit and Financial Statement

EB Fence \$2400 Split rail fencing

Maio Contrstuction \$3875 Demo of Fence and installation of new bollards

Fossil Industries \$6237 Interpretive signage

\*Chrysalis \$5000 I-A Study

\*Richbrook Conservation \$6200 Paint Analysis

### Meeting schedule for 2021

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will meet at 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, N. J., 07661 at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month a, namely, January 6th. The entire calendar will be publically announced following the January meeting.

Under its General Management Plan, the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission seeks to preserve Historic New Bridge Landing for the purposes of public education and enjoyment by implementing a varied program of heritage interpretation. The setting of a museum village is

used to provide visitors of different age groups and levels of interest with an authentic historical experience. The Bergen County Historical Society presently provides all interpretation and programming at Historic New Bridge Landing, relying on volunteers and admissions (usually \$7 per adult and \$5 for children). Even when the state staffed the Steuben House, there was no operating budget for programming, the primary attraction at historic sites. Despite these limitations, the public enjoys a full schedule of quality programs. Events are well attended and programs play to capacity audiences.

## **Year in Review Photos –**

Despite the Covid – 19 pandemic, the Bergen County Historical Society, in conjunction with the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission Continued to provide programming for the public but also found ways to engage new audiences:



Thanks to funding of the HNBLPC, the entry way path was identified as an area in need of improvement. A new pathway was constructed and native trees planted to define the entry.

Advanced registration, masks, and social distancing were a few changes to our walking tours later in the summer. Still, they became a very popular event and showed peoples interest in local history.



# HISTORIC NEW BRIDGE LANDING PARKING LOT

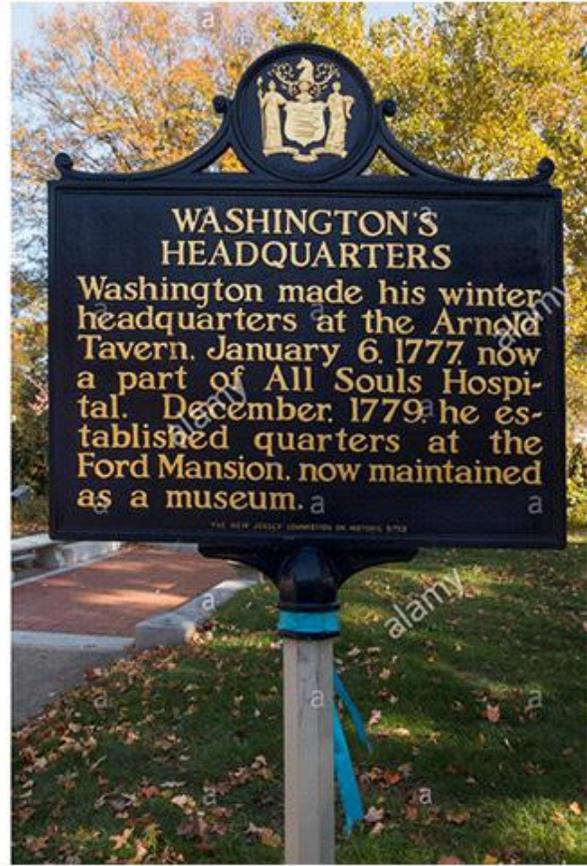


To further enhance the visitor experience, QR codes were placed throughout the site with an interactive scavenger hunt. Complete with video clips, this is an engaging, modern tool to engage with the many visitors to the site.



2021 also saw the return of Vintage Base Ball to the Meadow at Historic New Bridge Landing. Many participants often remark that Historic New Bridge Landing draws larger crowds than most other sites they play at. Here, County Executive Jim Tedesco, stands with the Enterprise Club of New Bridge, a team that existed in Bergen County during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.





Historic New Bridge Landing has long been recognized for its importance in the founding of our Country. On the left we see one of the original State Historic Site markers for the site and the right a restored marker in Morristown. Fewer than 12 still exist.



**In November, Retreat Weekend once again returned to the site. 245 years ago, Thomas Paine mentioned that this very crossing was Washington's first and most important object as his troops evacuated Fort Lee. Here we see the replacement wooden bollards and the removal of the chain link fence at the bridge. While both smaller projects, they GREATLY enhance the visitor experience in this core area.**





New interpretive signs were also placed throughout the site, thanks to funding to the HNBLPC. These signs play an important visual role to help tell the complex story at the site. This also saw the removal of older brown signs which turned out to be a negative and obstructed one's experience when visiting.



Designing and preparation continues on a new museum building which will provide much needed, modern museum space, ADA accessible bathrooms, and spacious outdoor meeting space. Your support is greatly appreciated in this project spearheaded by the Bergen County Historical Society. The Planning Board of River Edge approved the structure, DEP permitting is next.



## Meeting Minutes for 2021

**Meeting takes place on Zoom, Thursday, February 4, 2021, 7:00 pm**

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Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5. Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting takes place Thursday, February 4, 2021

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission Minutes from Thursday, January 7, 2021**

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:08 pm. He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). I actually did receive one response that the forum section of the BCHS website that someone made a comment that someone else was advertising something, the only email received.

### **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, Larry Bauer, Rich Karp, Michael Putrino, Adam Strobel, Mary Donohue and J. Heffernan.

### **II. Review of Minutes**

Tabled January 7, 2021 minutes to February 4, 2021.

Motion to approve: First by A. Strobel, Second, J.Heffernan, motion passed.

#### **IV. Chairman's Report:**

Good evening everyone,

I hope all is well as we embark on the new year. 2020 was a year like no other but one of the joys I have when working on the annual report, is seeing all the progress and events that did happen, despite the pandemic. From walking tours in controlled, safe groups with pre-registration, to the painting of the Steuben House and tidal flap, much was accomplished on multiple fronts. Special thanks to the County for clearing the dead trees along Hackensack Ave, a big improvement.

As we look forward to 2021, it is my hope we can continue to complete items on our project list with speed to the benefit of the site as a whole. We are only five years away from the events signaling the country's 250th anniversary, work we do now will mean the site will be ready when 2026 is here. Reviewing our 2018 expenditures, we appear to still have a surplus of close to 20,000. We can discuss later, but I do believe we could invest in the pocket park section in New Milford, site of the former saw shop. A simple path and bench could be placed within the fenced in area, with grass replaced with low native plantings. The Commission could also facilitate the removal of the fence at the Tide Mill site and even potentially a design plan. Finally, I am also happy to report that Historic New Bridge Landing is going to be featured this spring in 201 Magazine as a place to visit. This will further help to raise the profile of the site once again and provides a set of goals for us to move forward on multiple projects.

#### Meeting Dates

February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, January 6, 2022.

#### **IV. Calendar No report**

#### **V. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. Rich Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.** No reports.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino,** Commissioner New Milford, Representative.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.**

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.**

Report to HNBL, Campbell Christie House:

The Public Hearing on the 2020 Trust Fund recommendations was held on December 10, 2020. This public hearing contained the grant request of \$250,000 for the roof replacement, window and clapboard repair, and painting of exterior wood surfaces of the house.

Board of County Commissioners (formerly known as Board of Chosen Freeholders) will consider the grant recommendations for all awards at its meeting on March 3, 2021.

BC Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs will develop the project scope of work as well as the application to the NJ State Historic Preservation Office for project approval. Assessment of storm windows on second floor will be reviewed as well as the need for gutters at the rear of the building.

Lys-Sutton Property Trees:

In December the Bergen County Tree crew visited the property to inspect trees on the property, removed a tree, and trimmed others.

Road Signs:

Commissioners Putrino and Strobel talked last month on the placement of brown roadway wayfinding signs to HNBL in the Borough of New Milford. One location identified is River Road and River Edge Avenue; the second is Grant Avenue and The Boulevard. Commissioner Strobel has inquired with Bergen County sign shop for the fabrication and installation of the signs.

### **E. NJDEP, E.Pain**

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:

Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn  
Fill holes and seed

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Install pending

Fence collapse repair pending

Benches as recommended looked into it and on Contract Do we want to order?

Requested assistance with Hunter Research on 9/4

Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still waiting on third quote

Alarm System second floor 9/11, 9/12, 9/17, 9/18  
alarm serviced on 9/24 No recent false alarm activity  
Low battery issue Repaired

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

FY 18 projects identified to date

FY19 Budget submitted

FY20 TBD Requested to think big!

1) 1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Requested A/E from region/Trenton

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 No further contact try again in spring or

use alternate vendor

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. Second coat needed otherwise complete

6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave"

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. Quote received not cost effective

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial

contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted  
hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20  
process complete all bids received. Must use low bid  
Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve  
colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting  
next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another  
coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved  
2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Quote requested

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-  
\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other  
things taken care of while they are there if there are  
needs

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John  
Heffernan. Acting Commissioner BDF** Rep No  
report, J.Heffernan.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah  
Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

Our December 6 event at the site where we had the  
walk through the history of the holidays in story and  
song with Linda Russell was very well attended. I think  
we had about 60 people signed up. People really  
appreciated us opening the site and it ran like  
clockwork without even a rehearsal which is a  
testament to our volunteers and how well organized  
we are. It comes off very professional and spirited.  
We've been having a program with Linda Russell and  
company that this was the 37th year. So it's nice to be  
able to continue that tradition but also to help her out,  
as with her musical livelihood. And we also had

another Zoom event where she read to us, presented Christmas stories on December 22, and that was also about 60 people signed up for that. We have settled into Zoom meetings for these cold months. We did have a weekend recently, that was in the 50s so I wondered about discussing a pop up walking tours that I could schedule. When I see the weather is going to be warm for the following weekend D. Powell confirmed we're limited to 25 currently.

We have a schedule of events. We have this coming weekend on Sunday we have another zoom meeting so it's sort of not commission related but Marta Black is speaking on the Stamp Act, and through pictures, and Marta and David Black who donated these five 18th century satirical prints to us at the November event.

So I can put these in the calendar or next month we can have it in the minutes. So that possibly the January 17 walking tour in the afternoon. On March 21, walking tour. We have a spring cleanup scheduled for April 3, April 11th The Walking Tour, weather permitting of course, and then Chwame Gischuch, Under the Shad Moon, April 25, Steve Adams has agreed to come and I'm reaching out to other people. Pinkster is May 16. We have a Memorial Day Wreath laying in Hackensack. Lantern tour possibly July 2, and then vintage baseball is tentatively scheduled for July 10, which is a Saturday. Everything being so tentative with COVID and all that's as far as, as we got.

## **VII. New Business**

M.Putrino said he had a discussion with Adam about obtaining signs.

## **VIII. Old business**

**VIII. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There was nothing for public comment.

**IX. Adjournment**

Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:51 pm. First, J.Hefferernan Second, R.Karp Motion passed.

**X. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, January 7, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates

February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

**Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

**Thursday, February 4, 2021**

- I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement
- II. Attendance
- II. Review of Minutes
  - Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 3, 2020
- IV. Calendar
- V. Chairman’s Report VI. Continuing Business
  - A. Brett Park
  - B. New Milford C. River Edge
  - D. County of Bergen
    - Paint exterior of Christie House
    - Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition
    - Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many

problems, should we consider trex?

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

G. Bergen County Historical Society

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

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## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission Minutes from Thursday, February 4, 2021**

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:05 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments

or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, Larry Bauer, Michael Putrino, Mary Donohue, J. Heffernan  
Absent: Adam Strobel, Rich Karp

## **III. Review of Minutes**

December 3, 2020, were postponed, motion to approve; L. Bauer, Second, M. Donohue, motion passed. Review January 6, 2021 minutes, no changes. Motion to approve: First by M. Donohue, Second, M. Putrino, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening everyone and welcome to the February HNBLPC Meeting,  
In just a few days, the site and Bergen County saw more snow than probably it had all year last year. However, prior to the snow I had the opportunity to walk the park on successive weekends and see a variety of visitors both residents and animals alike. It truly is a great space amid all the hustle and bustle and speaks to the value of parks in our society, whether it be local, state or nationwide.

Prior to the snow, trees were planted along the pathway in the meadow. Eventually this will create a row of trees on either side, welcoming people back to history. This is also another great accomplishment as it follows the master plan set out by the Commission, planting trees along the fence to help screen out modern intrusions. The trees planted due to the funding for the Commission, along with previous plantings by the Society has seen nearly the entire length of Main St. planted with native species and room for only one or two more. Eric's State reps repaired fence

posts and the Society's volunteers also began replacing rails throughout the property. The Society plans to socially distance tackle vines this winter as a way to help ensure the long term success of the trees at the site.

In other news, Eric, myself and Deborah were able to have our initial meeting with Lan Associates to discuss the Hackensack Gateway and the potential re-imaging of that area. I was also informed today that the long awaited agreement between the Society and DEP for use of the parking lot for events as stipulated by the River Planning board has been signed by the DEP and mailed, with a PDF going to the Society's lawyer. The Commission will be apprised of further updates as they progress but this is an important milestone to complete and look forward to the next steps.

2021 Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **V. Calendar**

February 14, 2021 - Walking tour. Weather permitting

March 21, 2021

- Walking tour. Weather permitting

April 3, 2021 Spring Clean up

April 11th - Walking Tour weather permitting

April 25, 2021 - Chwame Gischuch, Under the Shad Moon, Steve Adams has agreed to talk on Plant fibres and flint knapping

May 16, 2021 - Pinkster

July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour

July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report. Chairman Smith asked if Commissioner Bauer could schedule a Brett Park clean up in April. L. Bauer thought is sounded good. Date to be decided by next meeting.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.**

Working with Adam and Bergen County on adding two (DOT approved) Historic New Bridge Landing signs placed at the New Milford border with River Edge and the New Milford border with Oradell.

Chairman Smith noted Retreat Route sign is going the wrong way near the New Bridge Inn. He also asked about the Old General Store. Commissioner Putrino said he thought a tenant was still there, he did not know if it had been bought.

Chairman Smith said it's one of the last structures at New Bridge and it's mentioned in the Master Plan and it's an undisturbed area. Putrino said he would check with the building department, if anything was going on.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.**

Mary Donohue asked about the snow removal at the flag pole, the town said they would plow it. She said she would call. Chairman Smith said he knew it was difficult clearing out snow with the amount of snow we got.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** Absent, no report.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent representative.**

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:

Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)

Shutter needs attention assigned to

maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage discussion held 1/19 next step is to seek exemption form NJDEP SPS sign policy

Replaced flags at Steuben House

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Install pending

Fence collapse partially repaired

Benches as recommended looked into it and on Contract Do we want to order?

Requested assistance with Hunter Research on 9/4

Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still waiting on third quote

Alarm System second floor 9/11, 9/12, 9/17, 9/18 alarm serviced on 9/24 No recent false alarm activity Low battery issue Repaired

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

FY 18 projects identified to date

FY19 Budget submitted

FY20 TBD Requested to think big!

1) 1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. Second coat needed otherwise complete

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8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. Quote received not cost effective

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Quote requested

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

### **G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We had a very interesting walking tour on January 17, 2021. The weather was borderline warm enough but 13 tourists from NYC signed up and paid plus others so we were a go - we were sold out to the Covid limit of 25 counting me. The 13 New Yorkers took the train to and from the New Bridge Landing train stop. This market has a lot of potential, the NYC market. Very foresighted renaming the train station to New Bridge Landing, Kevin Wright working with Mary Donohue got that renamed for the area, connecting the site to the historic site.

With everyone encouraging mass transportation it's discouraging this morning to see the walkway in front of the Steuben House unplowed as well as the 1889 bridge from the storm on February 1st. Pedestrians regularly use the bridge crossing to get to work, shopping and the train station. What can we do to get this cleared? I went in the Steuben House and Campbell-Christie House to survey the interiors and found no problems. I had to use my tall rubber boots to get in through the snow.

Can say we were sold out for the Zoom talk by Andrea Mosterman on Slavery in Dutch Reformed Churches in 18th C. New York, Jim Smith had put us in touch with the speaker and additionally we published "Part 1" online of primary records from our collections related to slavery, available to the public and researchers for free.

QR code scavenger hunt is progressing, and I plan on having it done by the end of February. We can install them and remove if it looks like we will get snow, that is if the snow coverage melts by then. They'll stand about 12" high. All together have 7 signs linking to videos. [correction: 12 signs]

Our social media reach is very interesting. I have 20 yrs where I work, the day job, and they are retro enough to honor employees so one of the things is offer of picking item out of a catalog and one of the things available is a trail cam so thinking it would be interesting to see if we can capture wild life at New Bridge.

Chairman Smith acknowledged discussion of tourists looking for area restaurants and how tourism brings income to the region.

## **VII. Old business**

L.Bauer, no report. He said he followed up with a company called Millennium. And they had actually worked on the one for Fort Lee. And in speaking with him, it seems like it's a yearly grant, and to try and get something in for this year the deadline is February 12 would be a little bit too soon probably wouldn't have all the information that's needed and I had sent you the questions that they had. And it looked like it was quite extensive. He mentioned they referenced other grants for organizations. Contact was Michael Weiss. And Chris Spragg was on the call he's Client Services.

Commissioner Putrino said Millennium is New Milford grants consultant as well. Said that we pay them quarterly, and they do not take a percentage of the grant. We have a Karen Spicer is our contact. We had a zoom meeting with Millennium about New Milford needs. And we went over everything we were looking at this year five years, 10 years out. They're very useful.

Chairman Smith when you look at Brett Park, and that the east side of the river. Kevin had worked with Teaneck to, to try to have some sort of ordinance to prevent metal detecting and and still people are metal detecting there's no signage, you can go on YouTube and find people metal detecting in that area of the park and, you know, and really just its future development. You know, I think it's important to try to tell that story of what could exist there and, and, and especially as we get closer I mean we're only five years from the 250. Teaneck plays a big role when you look at the Retreat, hopefully, you know this might be something that the Teaneck town managers and and other people were are behind you know i think that that was with Fort Lee it seemed like it was you know a lot of people were behind that as well that hopefully it's something that maybe we can get the discussion going then for next year, taking a look at the master plan for HNBL and and the information that's already there and using that to facilitate what the grant can be utilized for.

L.Bauer wants to involve all the towns.

D.Powell said she pointed out local restaurants to the tourists [ahead of time by email] She pointed out the first thing that has to happen is to cleared away Brett Park. That all that growth and clean, clean up that park you know it's in terrible shape with the, the condition of those trees. So you need a survey of the site, you know, and then somebody has to go in and, you know, start taking down the dead trees before, before something happens. And, you know, open it up, that you know, recapture that pathway that that the Greenway had located through there. That just seems like the first thing before you start looking at any other grants for the Lower Park.

Chairman Smith acknowledged February 12 is a very difficult turnaround for sure. You know I think then for for next year is, you know, that grant is something to consider, or should be something to consider and, you know, keeping the this discussion and dialogue going.

D.Powell, I think we need approval for per the Parking Lot agreement for our A-frame parking sign that says "Historic New Bridge Landing Parking" with an arrow pointing into the parking lot, We need approval for that per the agreement for the sign to be used at events.

Chairman Smith pointed out for events that sign is put out at the beginning of the event, in order to help to direct people to the parking space. Eventually, you know, Land associates could come up with a redesign. And we would have a clear defined entryway etcHe asked do we have a motion That the commission approves the Society for using a pop up directional sign for all events for parking at the parking lot located at the intersection of Main Street and Hackensack Avenue.

First: D.Powell, Second: J.Heffernan

Does anybody have any thoughts, comments or objections?

Chairman Smith shared screen of a sign under discussion. Motion passed.

L.Bauer: I just have a question. Out of curiosity, do anybody know what's going into the lot across the street. On New Bridge Road that used to be home to I guess it was Leonard Toyota, because recently I saw that there was a lot of activity on those two buildings.

D.Powell: I heard on the one building. I think closest to the gas station was going to be a sports bar. So, we didn't get any notice

about different use, you know, as adjoining property owner I would think we would get notice, if there was a building going on, like, change in footprint, or something.

M.Putrino: if they need a variance, or anything, then we would get noticed. But if something is going to be built, that's not enlarging the structure or changing anything, we probably wouldn't get nice, right.

**VIII. Public Comment.** Chairman Smith: There was nothing for public comment.

**IX. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 8:09 pm. First, M.Donohue Second, L.Bauer. Motion passed.

**X. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, March 4, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
Thursday, March 4, 2021

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 3, 2020

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

## VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

G. Bergen County Historical Society

## VII. New Business

## VIII. Old Business

## IX. Public Comment

## X. Adjournment

## XII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM at Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Thursday, March 4, 2021**

#### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:05 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, Larry Bauer, J. Heffernan, and Adam Strobel  
Absent: Michael Putrino, Rich Karp and Mary Donohue

## **III. Review of Minutes**

February 4, 2020, were reviewed, motion to approve; L. Bauer, Second, J. Heffernan, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening

I hope all is well! It's hard to imagine that it has been a year since our last meeting and just a few days after that meeting at the Steuben House everything changed. While we look at the last month and its relative quiet for in person events due to weather and Covid19, the Society continued to offer virtually programming and hope. Positive information and content was made available early on in the pandemic and has become a great addition to enhance the knowledge of local history and also expanded interest in Historic New Bridge both near and far.

Likewise, as the spring thaw arrives and grasses and trees spring to life, so to will the site with the new interpretive panels on hand, they will be a game changer to welcome visitors and help to tell the complex stories here at New Bridge. The Society's Buildings and Ground committee is already planning clean up days, the next being Saturday April 3rd and events are being planned to continue to abide by the State's guidelines. Between events and the upcoming projects list, 2021 should be a very busy year moving the site forward.

## **V. Calendar**

April 3, 2021 Spring Clean up  
April 17, Raindate 18 - Walking Tour with town of River Edge residents.  
April 25, 2021 - Chwame Gischuch, Under the Shad Moon, Steve Adams has agreed to talk on Plant fibers and flint knapping  
May 16, 2021 - Pinkster  
July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour  
July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball  
Oct 9, 2021 - Baronfest  
2021 Meeting Dates:  
February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report. L.Bauer mentioned a grant writer to work with.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report.

A.Strobel said the Bergen County Trust Fund award was adopted for the Campbell-Christie House. Scope of work to be provided.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendant representative.**

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:  
Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)  
Shutter needs attention assigned to  
maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill  
holes and seed

Interpretive signage discussion held 1/19 next step is to seek exemption from NJDEP SPS sign policy Awaiting documentation on specs for the sign we wish to install

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Effective 3/1 Events Indoor restricted to 10 people with COVID Plan and Protocol Outdoor 500

Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration

Bollards \$ consideration July

Rock July due to \$ issue

Topsoil July \$ issue

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Install pending

Fence collapse partially repaired

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

FY 18 projects identified to date

FY19 Budget submitted AGAIN on 3/3/21

FY20 TBD Requested to think big!

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Still no payment as of 3/4

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 2/9 email from Lan asking who to send proposal to. Advised send to BCHS

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete

sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs

- 5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. Second coat needed otherwise complete
- 6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16
- 7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis
- 8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete
- 9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start
- 10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10
- 11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED
- 12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete
- 13) Turn around \$6226 complete
- 14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. Quote received not cost effective
- 15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO

approved. Need to approve colors and award job!  
\$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved  
2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof COVID Concerns delaying response from Contractor. HPO application submitted/needed?

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still waiting on third quote

- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000
- Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back rooms \$25,000 Hunter Research contact after general overview of requested service explained
- Out kitchen roof \$25,000
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000
- Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell,**  
**Commissioner BCHS**

The QR Code Scavenger Hunt is ready to go up on the property. There is a 2-minute video about the location for each sign. Once the visitor completes the multiple choice form on the website we will email a certificate with their name included.

We are discussing putting a garden or field of rye or corn on BCHS property in front of the Demarest House Museum to tie into interpretation.

**VII. Old business**

**VIII. Public Comment.** Chairman Smith: There was nothing for public comment.

**IX. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:44 pm. First, A.Strobel Second, L.Bauer. Motion passed.

**X. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, March 4, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
Thursday, April 1, 2021

- I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement
- II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of March 4, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman’s Report

VI. Continuing Business

- A. Brett Park
- B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave
- gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways
  - E. DEP – Steuben House
  - F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation
  - G. Bergen County Historical Society
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment
- XII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM at Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com)

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Thursday, April 1, 2021:**

#### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:13 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

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He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot

attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, Larry Bauer, J. Heffernan, Michael Putrino and Rich Karp  
Absent: Mary Donohue and Adam Strobel

## **III. Review of Minutes**

March 6, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve with date change of the next meeting is April 1 by L. Bauer, Second, J.Heffernan, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening

I hope everyone is well. One point that I have discussed and I believe the Commission continues to act on, are projects that deal with first impressions. First impressions when visiting a historic site or a park go a long way. Whether its interacting with visitors or just what visitors experience when they are on the grounds. If someone sees a mask, a bottle, an appearance of being uncared for, this is what they will remember. For 2021, as the weather warms and visitations will surely pick up, let's continue to focus on the entities we are responsible for and make sure they are offering the best visit experience possible.

With the weather warming up, we can finally install the long awaited interpretative panels. These were in the works for a long time but they will finally add another level of interpretation to those who visit. Likewise, we will finally be able to get rid of the large brown signs at the core of the site, which ultimately cause sign pollution and detract from the visitor experience. I will let Deborah explain her latest project but I will share I had the opportunity to see a family engage with it in the last few days. Once more, not only did it further pique their interest but it was interesting to see a family from out of state, Illinois, that purposefully came to the site because of its history. Where did they go afterwards? What did they buy? Did they visit anywhere else? Answering those questions shows the benefits of historic sites and parks. Stay tuned for Deborah's report because it will

further shed light on this amazing project. Lastly I was recently contact about the 1A that was completed. Thanks to Deborah, it is now digitized on the Society's website under the Commission. It does offer interesting possibilities moving forward but truly, for those and other projects to mover forward, after we address what has been done so far, is the continued funding of the Commission on a yearly basis. If not, we will be where we were previously..

## **V. Calendar**

April 3, 2021 Spring Clean up, moved to April 10.

April 17, Raindate 18 - Deborah will be leading a walking Tour with town of River Edge residents.

April 25, 2021 - Chwame Gischuch, Under the Shad Moon, Steve Adams has agreed to talk on Plant fibers and flint knapping. The event was originally started by the late Kevin Wright.

May 16, 2021 - Pinkster

July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour

July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball

Oct 9, 2021 - Baronfest

2021 Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report.

Chairman Smith brought attention to a tree that had fallen down in lower Brett Park and made Commissioners Bauer and Karp aware so they could make the DPW aware it needs to be taken care of.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report. D.Powell said she had not heard from her, she tried contacting her.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report. Absent, no contact.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent representative.**

**4/1/2021**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage exemption granted. Sign redesigned (thanks Deborah) and about to be ordered! (The DEP logo was added)

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Effective 4/2 Events Indoor restricted to 35% capacity with COVID Plan and Protocol Outdoor 200 visitors allowed.

Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration

Bollards \$ consideration July

Rock July due to \$ issue

Topsoil July \$ issue

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Install pending

Fence collapse partially repaired

**Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

## **FY 18 projects identified to date**

**FY19 Budget submitted AGAIN on 3/3/21**

**FY20 TBD Requested to think big!**

- 1) 1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment **Still no payment as of 4/1**
- 2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. **4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week**
- 3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete
- 4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs
- 5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. **Second coat needed otherwise complete**
- 6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

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9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 **transport signs order next one**

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. **Quote received not cost effective**

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof **Met onsite with contractor 3/18**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still **met onsite 3/18 with Joe maio**

**22 Bollards requested quote 3/18, more quotes to come**

**23 Guardrail removal requested quote 3/18, more quotes to come**

- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000
- Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back rooms \$25,000 **Hunter Research contact after general overview of requested service explained**
- Out kitchen roof \$25,000 - Building constructed in 1990 so no historic review needed.
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000
- Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000
- Green Meadow \$11,871.47 had the low quote, high bid \$17,000. E.Pain confirmed included is the brick walkways up to the Campbell-Christie House, the side path to the gate in the tavern garden, and the path leading to the Outkitchen. Motion to approve Green Meadows to proceed with the low bid, First D.Powell, second Mike Putrino, motion passed.

Comments: D.Powell asked what can we do about the turn-around, it fills with water and cars bottom out. The police patrol here regularly and would be good to take care of before the winter months because of all of the ice, the plows don't like the dip. E.Pain said it needs to be redesigned, reconfigure the drainage, he said it's all state property. There was some talk of the County would do it. This may be what one of these engineering firms will have to take a look at. He volunteered to try and get the conversation started. He suggested getting mosquito commission involved. Mike Putrino suggested large stones. Pain suggested new Construction Management Specialists may help. D.Powell suggested a new period longer

shutter bolt for shutter on the south end of the Steuben House that keeps popping open, D.Powell volunteered to purchase, E.Pain said he would be able to have it installed.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.  
Chairman Smith said their support is always appreciated.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

RE: The new museum: "Even though we don't have a shovel in the ground we did meet the parking agreement requirements with the state requirements. The insurance endorsement was sent in January to the address in the agreement. I will share the images now. A parking plan is also required. I'll share the parking lot now showing the entrance and exit and traffic flow." She also shared COI and first page of policy. Chairman Smith pointed out Handicap spaces will also be next to the new museum building.

For the upcoming Chawme Gischuch Under the Shad Moon event we have plans for opening the Steuben House in a limited way as previously. We're preparing a new exhibit of the Wampum collection. The barn, out kitchen/bake oven will be open and the blacksmith will be demonstrating.

"I installed throughout the west side of HNBL, twelve 18" tall metal signs for the QR History Challenge Scavenger Hunt on March 27. They project only 12" above ground and do not contribute to visual sign pollution. I spent \$95 on this project. There is a 2-minute video about the location for each sign. Once the visitor completes the multiple choice form on the website we will email a certificate of completion with their name included. This enhances visitor experience and adds value to the publics visits to the site."

Carol Restivo has a meeting on the fire inspection on Tuesday April 6.

To promote HNBL, recently I have reached out to several organizations and have spoken to or am going to, including Federation of Women's group and Palisades Park Library and River Edge Library. River Edge asked for a walking tour of the site which is planned for April 17 with a rain date of 18th. County Commissioner Amoroso interviewed me for a podcast on March 19 about BCHS, HNBL and the new planned museum, that was very nice she reached out to BCHS. BCHS members joined me for my sixth walking tour since August, we had 37 registered online, very nice to get that kind of response. We have started meeting at the site for the weekly Museum Collection meetings 7-9 pm.

BCHS Trustee Patty Daurizio had a fantastic response to the Bergen County Women who have made a difference Facebook daily posts for Women's History Month. The first post received over 11,700 views.

We are discussing putting a garden or field of rye or corn on BCHS property in front of the Demarest House Museum to tie into interpretation.

Chairman Smith was enthusiastic about seeing a family using the QR code Scavenger Hunt, great job Deborah.

**VII. Old business** E.Pain said "I think the budget could probably be considered old business because we've been talking about it for quite a while. I'm in the process of confirming the remaining balance of the FYI, 18 money and still trying to work through the process of getting the FYI 19 money transferred it's my it's my understanding that we have about \$14,000 left which seems to be a discrepancy between me and procurement. I will keep everyone posted on how that plays out. It could simply, it could be something as simple as a number being omitted from a receipt or a purchase order or a payment voucher or something along those lines. I hope to have that salt, two, and then we're going to need

to get this, FYI guy team budget transferred to us soon if we want to, you know, move on some of these bigger projects, you know, couple, three, four or five grand here and there we can probably do another project or two small ones but for these larger projects we're going to need that next chunk of money, so that's going to be important. I will keep everyone posted on any progress on that."

D.Powell "Eric asked about the naturalization program a few meetings ago, and Carol Restivo, BCHS President did check it out a month ago and they were not scheduling anything yet. I wondered if there was any opportunities to invite anybody else within getting them familiar with the site it's always more impactful."

**VIII. New Business.** E.Pain: "I don't think I made mention of it and Olivia Glen is no longer the director. Robin Madden is now the new deputy director, and they have selected a new director of the Division of Parks and Forestry, we retained the same assistant director. He has a background and has a strong background in forestry. I'll have some more information or maybe a quick bio on him, at our next meeting. But I do believe operationally speaking Robin is going to continue to handle matters, probably related to the commission."

**IX. Public Comment.** Chairman Smith: There was nothing for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:44 pm. First, R.Karp Second, L.Bauer. Motion passed.

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, June 3, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
Thursday, May 6, 2021

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 1, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

G. Bergen County Historical Society

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM at Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

**Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing  
State Park Commission**

## **Minutes from Thursday, May 6, 2021:**

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:13 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

### **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, Larry Bauer, J. Heffernan, Michael Putrino and Adam Strobel

Absent: Mary Donohue and Rich Karp

Senator Loretta Weinberg, Debbie Francica, Gwenette Reese

Senator Loretta Weinberg: "I leave office in January of 2022, and I want to make sure that I leave historic Newbridge landing in good hands. Because, not that I expect to extricate myself, but I won't be in the position, I don't have a checkbook as large as the state of New Jersey does. So Deb, Gabby, who is my Chief of Staff in June, known as you've all had many interchanges with her will be leaving the office a few months ahead to a another position. And the reason we asked when to join us, is I'm hoping she will take over kind of the staff liaison position. I do have one more budget to have influence over, and in that budget we will certainly be putting funds in for Newbridge, what I was hoping was to kind of find out what you did with the providing you got out shrink up the money that we put in the budget sometimes. Sometimes it doesn't always work out that way. But what you actually did with the money. And what we can do to improve whatever you need done. And we thought, just in case anybody questions said that we will

know that the prior budget appropriation was spent well. And my second question is, where you are in developing the visitor center. You know when I first started out, Adam first started out and Gabin my great wonderful friend Kevin Wright, who with Bob Griffin took me through that site in some muddy dead. When things were a lot worse than they are today and there was an old junkyard in the front. So we've made, you know, some strides. So that's kind of the parameters of why I asked to speak to you."

### **III. Review of Minutes**

April 1, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve L. Bauer, Second, E.Pain, motion passed. A.Strobel abstained.

### **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

As always I hope you and your families are well and welcome to the May HNBLPC meeting. With the month of May upon us and signs of warmer weather, our item lists continue to be crossed off and ready to go in the que. I was able to coordinate with Eric and his staff for the delivery of the new interp panels, which will be installed in the next month. They truly are a game changer when it comes to site visitation and take the site to another level. We will also need to remove the brown signs at the bridge and river landing, which will also be a major upgrade. We also recently received the paint analysis back. Looking at the Steuben House now, the trim in every room of the house is green, yet it appears that while paint was removed in the WPA project of the 1930's, there was still enough to determine that the back kitchen areas should be updated with an orange iron oxide red and a room upstairs may be updated with a gray. Even these slight variations will dramatically alter how we interpret the Steuben House and tie into the backroom restorations, which Eric has been able to facilitate initial discussions with Hunter. I also had the opportunity to have a follow up site visit with LAN Associates. We started at the parking lot, which in the master plan is called the Hackensack Gateway. This is the first entrance and experience that people have on the west side of the park and improvements to that area will greatly improve the park experience. We also discussed, the potential of adding a visitor center/orientation center in this area and should be involved in the planning process, whether it be during a phase 1 renovation or phase 2. This has been discussed in

the past and I think would help to continue to serve important needs for the site from first experiences, visitor experience and office/storage space. We also continued to walk the site and they were observant of the turn around and former PSE&G site and were quick to point out that just removing the fence and putting up a split rail fence would go along way for the core area. Many of the projects are exciting not only for what they accomplish now, but how we are able to build upon them in the future with. Each project continues to move the site as a whole forward and would not be possible if it were not for the funding of HNBL, the discussions and planning of the Commission and the support from our local elected officials, most notably the Senator, who is with us tonight. We are greatly appreciative of your support of local history and future generations will further benefit from what is being done right now.

The site was alive with activity with an early April walking tour that I gave to our annual Under the Shad Moon event this past weekend, honoring and recognizing the contributions of Bergen County's first peoples. The Society also hosted numerous clean up events, including the dismantling of the kitchen garden, as preparations are under way for the new museum building. The Society will be going to the planning board in River Edge on May 12 and we look forward to a favorable outcome, but there is still much to do. Lastly, I also had the opportunity to attend a BCHS Blue Marker dedication at the New Hope Baptist Church in Hackensack NJ. The Society have over 160 markers throughout the county and has the largest marker program in the state of NJ, since there is no statewide program, the Society holds that distinction. And while this is an event that happened off site, it did give me pause to think about the importance of place and how these structure or sites help to define who we are. With each year comes increasing pressure on historic properties in the County but this only makes HNBL even more important, that people can publically visit historic structures and understand a sense of place. I know we are waiting on the company that does marker restoration to complete state paperwork, but it will be amazing to once again have a NJ historical marker at New Bridge, one of the few original surviving markers of an early state program, that showed that the people of Bergen and the State of NJ, 80 years ago, also recognized the historic importance of this place we call New Bridge.

## **V. Calendar**

May 16, 2021 - Pinkster

July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour

July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball

Oct 9, 2021 - Baronfest

2021 Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided. Larry Bauer brought up a grant to do a historic map for Teaneck, it's with grant writers to see if we qualify. Senator Weinberg asked who the grant was through. L.Bauer thought the County. He said involved several different people.

Chairman Smith asked about the down trees in Brett Park and if there was any progress. L. Bauer said he had hoped R.Karp would be there because he was checking into it. Chairman Smith asked that to please keep him apprised between now and the next HNBLPC meeting.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** Michael Putrino could not be here tonight but he did say that he did have nothing to report. Again we do appreciate all that New Milford does on the eastern side of the river just maintaining the streetscape, etc, on that side so thank you very much to New Milford, and always like to recognize them for their efforts. River Edge - again, Mary Donahue could not be here tonight

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report. Again, Mary could not be here tonight D.Powell advised she heard M.Donohue had Covid.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

Just briefly just this notation, have not progressed with the roofing replacement project for the Campbell Christie House and the other amenities. Other items that needs to be part of

that project. I'll continue to work with the In goal to get the scope of work together get approve can obviously provide a copy to you all as well. No progress on discussions with the property owner of land that we talked about at the last meeting, hopefully I'll have something for next meeting as well. But that's, that's the status of my report.

Chairman Smith said "That's part of what the county is working, a restoration of the Christie house that the roof, as well as, I guess, some other components of that which, they will be sharing plans with the Commission at a later date as well.

Senator Weinberg asked: Does the county underwrite the costs that? A. Strobel replied: Yes, the county has set aside, through our Open Space Trust Fund to Department of Parks Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs grant funding to cover the cost of the roof replacements and 18 in the other items as well. Chairman Smith thanked Adam.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendant Representative.**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House: 5/6/2021**

Good evening. I'll make this as brief as possible. There's a certain number of items, no progress on the small maintenance list. Due to staffing COVID and lack of regular Park funding interpretive signage, I'm happy to report DPO request for the increase was approved, and the next sign is going to be ordered to be placed in the Meadow. I have assigned the purchaser, the purchase order has been returned to them. And I believe Deborah is in the process of working out the art. D.Powell advised "they have the updated file."

Then they have all the pieces, and it's just a matter of them, making the sign and sending it to us, and now we know how to ship them down there easily and we'll be in good shape. Jim, you mentioned earlier the vendor is still waiting to register with the state. Do you want to present the FYI 18 budget and what we've accomplished, and another portion of the meeting?"

Chairman Smith advises him to proceed.

E.Pain, "I'll come back to the FYI-18 money. I don't have an update from land, other than there was a staffing change, I reached out, letting them know that they had committed to us that they were going to be sending you a proposal, and they said that there was a staffing change. So I think that may have had something to do with your meeting on site, and I think there'll be submitting that as they get an opportunity to the interpretive panels where were delivered to the site. Thank you for providing access I'm glad to have been able to deliver those. I was nervous holding on to them at my facility I wanted them, and where they belong. I met Joe Mayo on site for the out kitchen roof. I have one quotation that has been received, and my staff met on site, I believe, yesterday with another vendor that's very familiar with cedar shake roofing. So after that I will seek the third and final quote, hopefully we'll be able to move forward on that. The contract was awarded last month to Green Meadows, for the walkway at the Campbell-Christie House, we have requested the purchase order, and as soon as that is received, we will move forward on that project. I have received quotes for the replacement of the bollards, as well as the removal of the guardrail I have to seek additional quotes because they're both over the threshold. And today, as you mentioned earlier, I met with Hunter Research, and I had a brief but interesting conversation with them regarding the next steps, they recommend based on the complexity and the scope of everything is HNBL for joining, they are interested and recommend a site visit, they mentioned, due to the multi faceted requests, if you will, of archaeology and assessment inside, and maybe the assessment of the property, looking for outbuildings as well as archaeology in the vicinity of the black walnut. They recommended when they come, they would like to have an archaeologist as well as an architectural historical historian present. They did. They did ask who's doing the scope of work and is that something that we will be paid for and I said well, we can we can discuss that down the road. Let's get the site visit squared away, and we can move forward from there so it may it may come down to us having to pay them for a scope of work, or if we think we're proficient enough to do it ourselves, we could but I tend to think that a scope of work might be best written by them themselves.

And that's all I have to report. Oh, they also ask for any of the reports that may have been done already. Susan of Ringwood, is going to put some things together that she has and before we consider what we have is complete. I'll circle back to you and Deborah, and we will figure out if there's anything additional that might be good for Hunter Research to have. And with that, that concludes my report. But, as Senator Weinberg had asked one of her points was the appropriation that we received, and progress and what we have done with that, so I'll, I'll run down that list is briefly as possible, as everyone knows, we started out with \$100,000. That's very much appreciated, and we've been able to get a lot of big ticket items as well as some smaller very important things taken care of. It takes time. I wish I would be able to report that I have a zero balance. We currently have a balance of about \$18,000.

Sen Weinberg if he actually had the money.

E. Pain replied "It's the Department of State, released it to parks, and we vote on as a commission. We prioritize our projects and then we vote and approve projects to be handled. And then I do the bid solicitation. And I oversee.

Sen. Weinberg asked With just this trial is worried about money at the end of the fiscal year that even, you know, unless you will have it, that it's been used someplace else that's all.

E.Pain advised: I've been told this is a carry forward account. I mean they don't want me lagging behind, much more. But since this was FYI 18 And we're about to go into FYI 21 adequate bills are still getting paid I'm comfortable that this is in fact the carry forward account so if,

Sen. Weinberg advised "Just in case there's a problem you'll let us know."

E.Pain: "Absolutely. So we spent about \$82,000 up to this point, we have another project that's about to take place in for the, for about \$11,000, which will leave a small amount of money to take care of a few things between now and the time that the next appropriation is released. So, I can send you by email exactly accounting of everything we've done. If you

would like that, but for tonight's purposes I'm just briefly run down through the list that we have done.

We replaced a walkway at the Steuben House. We renovated the porch of the Steuben House, we purchased sandbag flood barriers for high water events. We did some landscaping with some trees. We did a study called A-1, a, it's Jim maybe better able to explain what exactly the 1-A is but it was an important study that basically linked past studies and research, and brought it brought it up to what we're currently doing now, and it's giving us some direction to look towards for future projects and things of that nature.

We did a rehabilitation on the center island which unfortunately I heard is been has been damaged. We purchased some lighting. We received restored a stone dust path. We've striped the parking lot the Pizzatown parking lot, so we can get better Park people during, during events, we purchased a traffic counter that gives us an idea of how much traffic is coming into the site, which is always good to know. And for future programming and for future funding requests. Exterior painting of the Steuben House was probably the largest item, and most necessarily most important but probably the most notable project that's been completed to date, and that was, that's quite simply not something that any of us would have been able to do without this opportunity so the Steuben House has a new coat of paint and it looks, looks very, very good. and we look forward to building upon that. Another important project was the paint analysis basically a company comes in and they analyze the paint in the house from the top coat, all the way down to the, to the first coat if they can. And it's, it's a complex study, but the results of the study came out very good. And I think it's going to give us some good information moving forward.

Sen.Weinberg: "So you get historic information from that?"

Chairman Smith: "Yes, actually was able to date, like on the side of the houses, there's the date stone that says 1752, and the paint analysis they were actually able to identify that some of the earliest paint actually can be traced to 1752, so it was nice to be able to sometimes unfortunately, like with historic houses people say, my house is the oldest house or it's from whatever, so it's nice to actually be able to make that connection, and so we restore those colors, we'll be able

to give that information like Eric said to Hunter, and then Hunter can then use that information when they're working on a plan to restore the house, and it'll look like, you know the people in the 18th century what what colors did they see what did they experience when they were in this property. And that's like what our goal and what we want to do there."

E.Pain: "No, I appreciate you, expanding upon some of the things that I may not be as well versed in as you are. And the last few things that we did, we have some repairs to the columns on the porch of the Steuben House. Some repairs to the porch itself at the Steuben House. And then the interpretive signage that we referenced that I referenced in my report. And all told, that, that is about \$82,000 that we spent so far, and I expect between now and July, that we will have exhausted the entire FYI 18 appropriation."

A.Strobel observed: Awesome. A lot of work, took a lot of time to get through that right?

E.Pain "it did and you know that the appropriation process, and the billing and tracking and reconciliation, you know, There's, there's a lot of moving parts. There are other responsibilities for, you know, procurement and fiscal and myself at the park. However, I think we did an okay job up to this point, but I think we flushed out some of the bugs, if you will, I think we're going to be on the same page, a little more for moving forward, and I think we'll be able to process the billing and get these projects turned around quicker, and the billing squared away much more expeditiously. I'm looking forward to that I'm not complaining, it's just, it has been a long, it's been a long process you know some of these vendors hadn't been paid for quite a while."

Chairman Smith: "Again, definitely appreciate Eric's efforts with everything. And I think a lot of these projects too they build upon. You know what, what we're doing so that the paint analysis will then be used with as I mentioned, for Hunter and meet that meeting with LAN Associates, and then their planning, they'll be able to lay out the plans for, you know, when we start discussing having that visitor center and as well as other parts of the site with the parking lot. We're looking at a green space parking lot to really think Duke Farms is the only parking lot that I can think of, locally, or in,

in the general area that has that kind of green thumbprint. So especially being at New Bridge in that area any way we can keep water on the site I think is a benefit. And so it'll be good educational tool, moving forward, you know, we look at green infrastructure that is also part of this plan that we've discussed with Lans as well so it's definitely a lot of moving parts but it's exciting for sure.

Sen. Weinberg: "I made to get you sent Debbie Francica, a list, I guess, And that's the plans for FYI 2019 and 2020 and that money is not spent?"

Chairman Smith: "It's not just, I guess some of the some of the projects actually came in under from what we budgeted so we were able to actually spend it under 2018."

Sen. Weinberg asked about the reference to dendrochronology.

D.Powell: "Dendrochronology confirmed dates, you know, when you do a boring of wood and they can compare it to other studies to date the rings, so that we could confirm what we think we know or maybe learn something new, could do the beams of the Steuben House. The Society looked at doing our 15 foot long dugout canoe, we ended up doing radiocarbon dating on that because there wasn't the depth of wood to get a boring to do, the study was actually something that Society accomplished last August, we had an archaeologist come in, and he took a sample and we narrowed the date of the dugout canoe, we didn't know how old it was and it's narrowed to 1670-1740, so it could be Native American or it could be early colonists that had built it. It was found in Hackensack in 1868. So it's very, very rare piece [artifact] and that's one of the things we wanted to feature in the new museum building because, like where do you put something that's 15 feet long?"

Sen.Weinberg asked "is the museum building separate from the visitor center?"

Chairman Smith advised "It would be separate."

D.Powell "We have pretty advanced plans. That's what that meeting on May 12 is we've, we've been planning a long time.

With, with that, you know, it's, it's going to have exhibit space on the ground floor, a kitchen today, Ada bathrooms very important we're under bathroom at the site, we only have one in the Campbell Christie house, and actually with a bath, and then went upstairs at the Steuben House. So that's it, you know, and if you're going to have people come you have to provide that you know and then, then the, the porch will be like a stage for ceremonies and maybe small theater productions upstairs will be museum collection storage, which is really desperately needed especially like museum quality space for the paintings and the textiles especially need even temperatures and so we're leaving these things for future generations.

Sen. Weinberg asked "Do you have any cost estimate on any of these larger plans?"

Chairman Smith "We're waiting to hear back from Lans Associates, like, being that there was that change over with people that I guess deals with a lot of that planning and engineering process for that component, not for the museum that was for the parking lot right yeah for the parking lot and also for other components within the site.

Sen. Weinberg asked for plans, estimate on what really need to make the site into what we want it to be. including a Visitor Center Museum and restrooms.

D.Powell: "One thing that was on my list was, I think you had Jim had it listed, was the wharf. I had started a year and a half ago, talking to the Army Corps of Engineers, and we met at the site, and you know I was concerned about the wharf area of the site which is so important to what happened at New Bridge, the people that built the house, trading, the mill site and the wharf and the house that made it a village, villages grew up around tide mills and the wharf. So they were shipping all the way to New York City and bringing goods back. When we look at Jan Zabriskie, Jr's 1793 inventory, he dies a young man, a newlywed, dies suddenly there's like 1000 yards of fabric listed in the inventory. So we know there was huge inventory made, which is on our website, so we know they were trading. The wharf is being eaten away, that held the dirt in is being eaten away. You know it's a tidal river but storms and so forth too. So, the

Army Corp were very interested in doing it, and it sort of got dropped. It's a matching grant, the Army Corps will come up with 65%, but you have to have a partner of the 35% obviously, million dollar projects are not going to be the historical society so the state would have to partner doing that. And I would love to revisit that. I'm not sure if Eric has any take on the state's point of view on that but I just, I'm really concerned the wharf is being washed away, day by day.

E.Pain: "I don't personally have the knowledge or the contacts, but it is a conversation I think we need to revisit. You and I should talk about it, remind me where we left off with it and see if there's something that we can do to get some analysis or some focus on that because I agree. Number one, it's a very important component of the site. And number two, every year that goes by every high water incident, every flood, it's taking a little bit more away.

### **Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage **Po Request Increase approved. Sign for Meadow ordered.** And I believe Deborah is in the process of working out the art. D.Powell said they now have the updated file all.

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Effective 4/2 Events Indoor restricted to 35% capacity with COVID Plan and Protocol Outdoor 200

**Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration**

**Bollards \$ consideration July**

**Rock July due to \$ issue**

**Topsoil July \$ issue**

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Installed

Fence collapse partially repaired

### **Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$18,000**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Still no payment as of 4/1

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week. Staff change at LAN now requesting site visit prior to proposal being submitted to BCHS

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. **Second coat needed otherwise complete**

6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

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21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still Contract awarded Green Meadows requesting PO

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- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000
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- Out kitchen roof \$25,000
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000

- Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**

**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

Chairman Smith acknowledged their support is always very much appreciated.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We continue to have walking tours and zoom lectures. In April the talk by Dr. Evelyn McDowell, a DAR member, focused on slavery on a founder of the college she teaches at who enslaved people, it's the fourth time we have had her speak since 2016. I gave 3 illustrated talks on HNBL in April, including the two libraries, I coordinated a walking tour with River Edge Public Library, unfortunately I sprained my foot, thank goodness Jim Smith sprang into action and was able to give the tour on April 17th to 45 visitors of the 62 who had signed up. We've been filled to capacity for all the walking tours, I've given 6-7 since August. Volunteers were demonstrating in the bake oven. While we had our Shad Moon event, Chawme Guisguch, a Native American event on May 2, same day Jim was able to represent BCHS for a dedication of a Blue BCHS Marker at New Hope Baptist Church. BCHS first began the marker program in 1966 and there are approximately 195 throughout the county. For Shad Moon we had 2 very knowledgeable speakers, primitive technologist Steve Adams showing plant fiber uses and a wampum historian Arthur Kirmss demonstrating wampum making. In the 1793 inventory I mentioned previously, over 27,000 pieces of wampum are listed. So apparently even as late as 1793 they were still using wampum as currency at New Bridge. I think Kevin would be pleased we are able to keep up this level of interpretation, it was very important. We also focused on children's activities, we had some great kids, little kids who were very knowledgeable too. We continue to see people interacting with the new 12 QR code scavenger hunt signs located discreetly throughout the site. I took some pictures of people using them kind of adds to the visitor experience. I created two minute videos for each sign.

To tie in with Pinkster, a celebration of Spring May 16th we have archaeologist Dr Meta Janowitz speaking May 27, by zoom on our Jersey Dutch collections. Our annual dinner was planned two years ago for the historic Stony Hill Inn and everyone knows that it's closing in August. Our dinner is June 10 and we have great grand daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Coline Jenkins speaking, Jenkins is a legislator, author and television producer in Connecticut. Discussion of the Stony Hill Inn closing and what protects historic houses including the Zabriskie-Cadmus-Kipp House in Teaneck. Chairman Smith added "I think is valuable, but also to like you know looking at 21st century models of preservation that, you know, maybe tax incentives for those private residences, to keep it historic might be more beneficial than the government."

Sen. Weinberg said "that's legislation that we should look into. I have. Give you my oft repeated lecture, which I've given to everybody from the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority on up or down, and people, you know, they sort of looked at me like, whoa, crazy, but it seems to me that Historic New Bridge Landing, should be a economic engine. We should be able to, you know people drive to see historic sites, and we have this wonderful village here with the requirement that it has certain improvements, and as I said I could pre COVID, envision bringing over tourists from New York. Come over to HNBL, and then they can go to Saks Fifth Avenue and buy clothes tax free. Whereas when they're in New York City, they have to pay that tax. So if we just, we have everything here. Certainly tours of our early stone houses, or we miss caps, at least, a six or eight of them right in Teaneck, so we just don't do anything to sell these as marketing tools that help underwrite the cost of keeping them I mean, yeah,

Chairman Smith: I can say, well yeah I think that's, you know, one of the things that's very interesting is, you know, when we look at, you know, going back to the original marker for the Steuben House, and, you know 1950s 1960s Even, you know 70s You know the Steuben House was the place to be for Bergen County for history. It was on calendars, it was on commemorative plates. It was in like, there's like a 1951 video that talks about Bergen County in the future. And one

of the places they mentioned is like the Steuben House. So I think it's your Loretta you're 100% right it's like re channeling that and and again it's like centrally located, you're right next to the mall, you're right next to a train station, you know, if you want to go to Teaneck it's right over the bridge or see your lane or you can go to, you know, then check out Teaneck Creek Conservancy, but like it's a place that has a great location that I think there's so much, you know, continue to be like potential that we can tap into, like you said,

Sen. Weinberg: "100%, you know, it took us about three years to get the south Hackensack Train Station remain named New Bridge who was literally. And I still remember I know Debbie's going to. When we finally got the sign up and got NJ Transit. Well, we can't call it historic New Bridge Landing because people will get New Bridge mixed up with New Brunswick. That's one of the kind of issues that were raised. And then we had, Governor Corzine come for the big unveiling of this sign. And we're all gathered there, outside the drape is removed from the side, and a train pulls in, and the conductor hollers out North Hackensack. Oh, my God. Couldn't somebody should have told the conductor that we're here renaming the station. I'll always remember that that moment, everybody went hysterical laughing.

Chairman Smith: it's so amazing that you know with that foresight and naming the station that it's really creating, it's creating a neighborhood in River Edge that, you know like, you have apartment complexes now being called shopping centers, I just saw another store opened up I think was like a dental office calling so I was like New Bridge dental or something.

So yeah so it's it's really like becoming like, you know, organically I know like that, you know that's a big thing now with like developments trying to come up with names and everything but like, yeah, this has happened organically for that area. It's really exciting.

Chairman Smith: We had a wedding in the fall and again everything we've done too is followed all the state guidelines for COVID and originally the wedding was going to be taking place at New Bridge Inn, and they were going to walk over

the bridge and have it, but there were restrictions. We were able to accommodate them outdoors safely our space so worked out anyway,

Sen. Weinberg said that's, that's my dream. Kevin Wright, and Bob Griffin, initially, planted in my brain, many years ago to see this site developed. And those of you represent different, like the county and the state, and, and the three towns. I would hope that you go back on a regular basis, and talk to your own communities. I think we could try to get a little more financial support from New Milford, River Edge and Teaneck toward developing this site, but it's kind of up to, Larry, you're the only town representative here I guess. Debbie and I have met almost every year with the your tourist, your office and tourism, that this is a great way for you Bergen County is a wonderful celebration of history. We're not just the boardwalk and the gambling casinos in Atlantic City. You know, or the sports or American dream if that ever gets off the ground.

Debbie Francica: "And I know that decorative has also spoken to you, Lortta about wanting to embrace that vision for this historic sites, and make them into a go to place with this, with the tourism, but then COVID hits and everything goes into backwards but maybe looking at that in the future because knowing that those little children's of those walking tours with Deborah and that you've got 45 people a week or so ago, that's very encouraging people are getting out and starting to visit sites again."

D.Powell: "I didn't mention in my report that, a woman who's actually going to come on our board now brought her to nephew and niece by train from Jersey City, to the site, and they grabbed McDonald's. So the kids wouldn't be hungry while they were touring the site, and they had a great time, I'll be putting their pictures on an email blast I reached 3000, people that have signed up for email blast, you know, so we do that and we have a large Facebook presence, but not only that, we had a teacher in Princeton who assigned it to her second graders, and so that family traveled from Princeton to visit, you know, a Native American programming, and three little girls, I mean they were so knowledgeable, just really

neat to see that. WE really feel like you're making a difference when you see how excited kids get, I can just say that people are coming, maybe because they want to do something educational with their kids, but then the adults get interested too - they don't expect it necessarily. The site is not a one and done, people keep coming back.

Sen. Weinberg: Well, my California grandchildren. Certainly remembered their visits here, your teenagers. I will certainly try. But I look, I will do my best. And I know that. Gwen is getting an appreciation for what goes on here, hopefully you'll take her on, walk through Gwen, at some point and see it for yourself if he will happen. But I think what's missing is some kind of an overall grand plan that we can take around and sell in its form something that you know the real goal. If you can somehow put that into, as I said the grand plan. Yesterday, you know, whenever whenever you can do that in the in the best way possible, as a marketing tools. This is what we want to see at Historic New Bridge landing. We have Green Acres spot the property, the train station is done. We're past the stage of the state putting down Pergo floors at the storeso hopefully we're at the stage where you know the state and the county have full respect for the necessity of bit of the history of this place. But if you can do that whenever you can do it. I think it's something that we go to the three towns with we go to a county supervisor. Commissioner, pardon me, county commissioner meeting, you know, to kind of show and start thinking about raising money here

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Wednesday June 9, 2021:**

#### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:08 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, J. Heffernan, Adam Strobel, Rich Karp and Mary Donohue  
Absent: Larry Bauer and Michael Putrino

## **III. Review of Minutes**

May 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by R.Karp, Second, J.Heffernan, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening everyone,  
With June here and looking back at where things were in June 2020, hope is definitely on the horizon as more locations begin to open up we hope this is a positive sign going forward. Yet one of the stories that I think is important to reiterate, the BCHS was able to provide safe and entertaining programming over the last year through different mediums and have been able to keep the site active, while unfortunately many sites remain closed.

The new interpretative panels have arrived on site and the installation process is being coordinated. The first brown sign to come down and be replaced on the Teaneck side of the river has been updated and it looks fantastic! We will have to have an official unveiling when they are all complete.

In a recent storm a large black walnut fell over the pathway through the park but many thanks to Eric and his staff for taking care of it. Thank you to Deborah, working with Senator W's office to open dialogue with Teaneck about maintenance of Lower Brett Park. The park was cut but with all the rain, I think everyone's grass is growing very quick again. We also await the survey of that section of the park so the Commission can support efforts with a good clean out.

I had the opportunity to meet with Eric and Hunter Research today to discuss the restoration and plan for the back rooms of the Von Steuben House. This is an exciting opportunity and look forward to their proposal. All surveys were also provided to LAN Associates so they could accurately work on their proposal. Teaneck contacted the Commission as they are developing a Heritage Tourism grant and have asked to list HNBL as the primary location of a historic site on the map. If there is no objection, and I would be happy to entertain a discussion, we can decide to support this project. Thank you.

## **V. Calendar**

July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour

July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball

Oct 9, 2021 - Baronfest

2021 Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – Rich Karp, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided. Chairman Smith noted a map Teaneck is working on. If awarded funding the township will display the map on their website and distributed it across Teaneck, in hopes of encouraging heritage tourism and attracting visitors to local businesses. So it seemed like a smart, or like a great idea to be able to be included in, for sure.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report. Chairman Smith: I didn't hear from Mary, but

just this idea of the map about, you know, connecting the source sites and places this shop in Teaneck, and it's funny because like with that site visit today with Eric in the apartment complex somebody put up a sign there riveredge must be doing it says shop local, and there's like a QR code they wanted, you know, just to scan. And so when you think about like shopping local like, what is the draw what encourages somebody to last longer. I think that really, you know, it's one of those added benefits we will get heritage tourism when people come to visit, you know, certain average landing or any historic site, where do they go once they leave, or before they get there, where do they go and hopefully it's for staying local to invest their money locally so it's just everybody benefits and wins, so I just thought that was interesting.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided or updates.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent Representative.**

**6/9/2021**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage **Sign ordered in transit**

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Effective 4/2 Events Indoor restricted to 35% capacity with COVID Plan and Protocol Outdoor 200

**Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration**

**Bollards \$ consideration July**

**Rock July due to \$ issue**

**Topsoil July \$ issue**

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Damage to Gate- Materials ordered and received now to coordinate repair. Will involve some digging to get old post out and new one in. Confident disturbance will be limited to the immediate vicinity of the already disturbed area/Roadway. Repair pending

Metal Signage complete once locations determined install will be coordinated. Delivered to SH Installed

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot

Shutter bolts and Dogs needed

Fence collapse partially repaired

### **Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$6281.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Paid! 5/23

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next

week. Site Visit 5/5/21 Surveys submitted to LAN to assist with proposal

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone  
dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs. Initial PO exhausted

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- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000
- Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

Good evening, everyone. I'm going go through the maintenance list the small project still no movement. More there's a number of projects, small projects in the hopper. Excuse me, it's a waiting on the change of the fiscal year, the new money. Some of the other things. The last sign has been ordered and I understand it's in transit, this is the one that we placed in the metal should be here within the next week or so, I believe, and we'll make arrangements to transport. No parking signage to be re installed at the former pizza town lot it seems as if some local or over the road truck drivers have taken it upon themselves to start parking there, and I don't want to point any fingers without being able to definitively say it, but I think somebody just took the sign down and took it with us. So we're going to get another sign or to put up and try and rectify that some sharp bolts and shutter dogs are needed. I think if, if a vendor is provided to me I can see if it's something that I can, can take care of. Otherwise we may have to find another funding source, vendor that I can work with the FYI 18 project list continues our balance. Once the purchase order is issued for the walkway project, our balance will be 60 \$281.11. And we're also in the process of having the FYI 19 appropriation. Released to us so we can continue on the projects that we have slated. I am pleased to announce that the, the One A study has finally been paid. I got confirmation from chrysalis, so there they have been

paid. Finally, on 523. It took quite a while, but we got it taken care of. As Jim mentioned earlier, site visits with LAN Associates, and then follow up that with surveys submitted to them, and we're looking forward to receiving their approval. The. There was discussion that there might have been a remaining balance on the bolts or landscaping purchase order. It was since determined that the services he provided did fully exhaust the PEO, so we're going to we're going to get a planting and landscaping plan together, and then I'll seek more quotes for additional plantings if that's something we as a commission determine the out kitchen roof I received my second quote, I need to get one more. I followed up with a another roofing company in Ridgewood, I for a second time I had not received anything back from them. I will keep trying. If in two weeks time I don't hear from them I will put in a result of no bid, and I'll move forward. We're about to assign the award the contract to the low bid, and we'll go from there. Purchase Order has been requested the amount of \$11,871.41 for the completion of the brick walkway at the Campbell Christi house, and the out kitchen. I have one quote for the bollards removal I have one quote from the guardrail I still need additional quotes, and I hope to have that those quotes back before the next meeting. And you mentioned a visit a site visit with a bunch of research was held today and I was very pleased to be able to meet with them and their level of expertise, their reputation is very good and it's exciting to be able to take some of these larger projects, Even though we're going to be starting at a relatively. We're going to be starting in a place where we're just excuse me just getting started, but the potential that we have to meet with them, as well as land some of these larger projects is exciting and furthering the site, and our mission at the site so I'm looking forward to working with them. That's, that's all I have for this evening.

Chairman Smith: Thank you very much, Eric. Are there any questions or comments for questions. I know last year we into that we're actually was in 2019, some of your maintenance crew did like kind of a clear out about like 10 feet around the property of the Steuben House and then like COVID I know what like staffing everything was an issue last year. Do you think this summer we could do that again to try to work on, kind of pushing back some of those high weeds. Yeah, on the fringe of a Steuben House.

E.Pain: Yes we can, we'll basically do the same thing that we did last time and maybe, maybe, maybe reclaim a little bit more and then hopefully in the fall, follow up, maybe get some of the underbrush and the deadfall out of air. And little by little, open that up and maybe reclaim some of the some of the property, the way it's intended.

D.Powell: We had talked about, you know. Well, the flagpole area and then it would be a continuing problem which it is. And we had wondered if we should get, I don't know if you mentioned this about the landscaping people, whether you, you said you expended the money I don't know if you're referencing this but whether we could, you know, they put that little metal barrier, which got wrecked but not wrecked in the right places to help the water spread. So if we, if we basically broke, where it's keeping the water from going to the storm drain. And also, if we dug a channel basically two channels from either side to the storm drain, so that the puddling would maybe put in those river rocks, you know, line it. You know, so there's, so there's a channel there and dig it deep enough that it could get to the, the storm drain. It probably needs to be regraded, at some point but I think it would help drain anyway drain it to some degree. We have volunteers who could do this or you want to go through using your people.

E. Pain: The metal band, the current condition of it I think is such that we're just going to have to remove it. I don't know that it's going to be able to be put back in place. Unfortunately, this is what it's once it's out of the out of the, the channel and it's been in compromise the way it is, I don't know that I'll ever really be able to be put back in place appropriately so we may have to just remove it. I think a channel would drain the water but I do. I do wonder if there's any permissions permits associated with it because yes the that the grade of the whole area itself is higher than where the water lies. I do think a channel would be wouldn't be helpful just whether or not there's any permissions permits. Along those lines that I would need to do.

D.Powell: Did the guy have to do it each permitting to do that work. You had mentioned about mosquito control has some weight, and it's really is an issue this time of year, you know,

E.Pain: I thought that might be an outside the box and run approach to having another agency. All of our feet to the fire and trying to get something done about it. Let me consult with my regional Construction Management Specialist. See, CMS, and we'll, we'll try and see what he thinks, as to whether we could do this in house or whether we have to get a little more formal with it.

D.Powell: We saw a chipmunk go in the north door. And I assume he knows how to climb that barrier inside the door so you know I didn't. Haven't looked for evidence of them in the house but or heard them but we don't really want that. No, I could report on the car counter. It's pretty impressive. So I have a count from April 2020 to April 2021, and they were allowing for the number of clicks and to and fro, There were 29,436 vehicles that came to the site. And I had asked Eric again, for the equation, and he advised me a few days ago that it was three people per vehicle weekdays and four on the weekends. So even using a conservative number of three times 29,436 Put this. I feel like that puts us well over 100,000 visitors to the site because it wasn't counting the parking lot number or pedestrians, we're not counting the pedestrians that walk through the site. That's trains. In some other number. Anyway, we know people are parking at the parking lot and coming into the site that way because we encourage that for, for walking tours, so. So I'm saying that we have well over 100,000 people visiting the site and that's during a lockdown here too.

Chairman Smith: Very good, thank you very much Deborah P. for sharing that as well and thank you Eric for your submitting your report. Moving on, John Paul about ThermaRest foundation nothings report thank you very much, John just pointing out that you know, obviously the Sinese grateful for the blue belt dermis tamarix Foundation, about DeMars foundations as support. Moving on to Bergen County Historical Society Deborah. So we had a busy month, I met with Gwen Reese at Senator Weinberg's office may 14 and gave her a tour of the site which you'd requested. The same day I met with archaeologist Dr. Mehta Janowitz in preparation for a zoom talk on the redware pottery and Delft Dutch Delft pottery and tiles in the society's collections. The Zoom talk had over 50 people and was very informative. Interesting. The following day I gave a tour of the site to the

DA er and ended with an outdoor picnic in the tavern garden at the Campbell Christi house. We had a successful event for Pinkster on May 16 with the site open the site, the weather held out till the end of the day, we always seem to get rain at that event on May 27 Senator Weinberg's office asked me to meet with Gwen Reese and Debbie friend Chica and representatives from Teaneck including Dean cousins Kaczynski Kitt, cuz zinzi township manager and Trayvon Romeo Assistant Superintendent Park Public Works explain the problems in the park, and we left it, that they would do, doing a survey of the park. I advised we BCHS. I'm sorry historic new original ending State Park Commission had appropriated \$15,000 from our budget for work at the park, but we needed team and X involvement in cleaning it up, I noted the two interpretive panels. We had completed for the park. And, as Jim said one is up. We ended the tour with our annual replaying. We ended the month with our annual wreath laying and general, you know, pours gray site at the church on the green in Hackensack, the BCHS annual dinner awards and elections takes place, June 10 Tomorrow at the Stoney Hill Inn, which is, I understand going out of business. And I think that's I think that's all I have any questions for me, Jimmy, you have something to do not at this time. All right, moving on to old distance or continuing business is there anything that anybody needs to bring up before old business or continuing business.

E. Pain: I wanted to mention the balance with the confusion in the purchase order that was increased for the interpretive signage. I believe there is about \$1,200 extra dollars on a purchase order. That's good for use with Fossil Industries, if there is additional materials signage, supplies, things of that nature that are needed, we can procure those, if not I can request a reduction of the purchase order and that money would go back into free balance. Something to think about just continuing thought on that. If anyone wants to weigh in on it, what what is the criteria with when it would have to be submitted or. I honestly says this is what's considered a carry forward account. And the sooner we spend it, since it does date back that FYI 18, the better, but I don't, we're not at risk of losing it if we leave it there.

Because we could do. We had plans for another interpretive sign at the end of the meadow, and then one for the tide mill

site, and they knew Ackermans Brisky Tide Mill site parking lot. We could put up a sign in there. So, they would probably run. Maybe that might be \$2,000. How much was it. Yeah,

I think that's probably right at the \$1,200 probably not going to be enough to be able to might be able enough to do one, and we are short screws I don't know they, I think you saw my email asking for the numbers. I sent two emails, amount of screws, we are short, and they didn't offer any explanation or anything but she fixed 14 screws, their security screws. To us, to me, and, but so that's enough to do one sign. It's not enough to do the other two signs we have, so I'm not sure exactly how many I'm short, but I can get that number for you. But I don't know what the whole thing is with counting screws, as well and if we do seek the design of another sign and we find out it's not enough, we can, we can just cancel the remaining purchase order and request a new one. So, whoa, whoa, hold on to it for now if we find it's enough to pay for a new sign we can go that route and if not, I'll just reduce it. And we'll, we'll seek quotes for for another one on the signage theme.

D.Powell: I'm sorry if you address this previously, but we have extra signs of our rules, which are pretty simple rules are there plans to add them to the Brett Parkside because it says no bag that fishing, and no digging, which I'm worried about over there because that is not noted, I do not believe anywhere and on Teaneck so

Chairman Smith: I definitely think that's something that we need to circle back on because, I mean it's, it's a topic that we had. I mean, we've been talking about this for a while now that in the one section when you come to the park and Teaneck, we have a kiosk where we're going to put the new panel, and then on the other side is just all the different signs, and then it says everything you can do, but doesn't have anything about metal detecting or anything in the park. So maybe, you know, we need to circle back to that and I was wondering if we could put it on the kiosk at the same time.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

Chairman Smith acknowledged their support is always very much appreciated.

### **G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We had a busy month. I met with Gwen Reese, aide from Sen Weinberg's office on May 14 and gave her a tour of the site the same day I met with archaeologist Dr Meta Janowitz in preparation of a Zoom talk on red ware pottery and Dutch Delft pottery and tiles. The Zoom talk had 50 people and was very informative.

The following day I gave a tour of the site to the DAR and ended with outdoor picnic in the tavern garden at the Campbell-Christie House. We had a successful event for Pinkster on May 16 with the site open. The weather held out until the end of the day.

On May 27th, Senator Weinberg's office asked me to meet with Gwen Reese and Debbie Francica and reps from Teaneck including Dean Kazinci, Township Manager and Travon Romeo, Asst. Supt. Public Works. I explained the problems in the park and we left it they would be doing a survey of the park. I advised that the HNBLSPC had appropriated \$15,000 from our budget for work on the park but we needed Teaneck's involvement in cleaning it up. I noted the two interpretive panels we had completed for the park (See photos above.)

We ended the month with our annual wreath laying at General Enoch Poor's gravesite at the Church on the Green in Hackensack. The BCHS annual dinner, awards and elections takes place June 10 at the Stony Hill Inn in Hackensack.

## **VII. Old business**

E.Pain brought up additional funds remaining in account with Fossil Industries, \$1,200. Discussion on additional sign(s).

## **VIII. New Business.**

None.

## **IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: I received an email at 5:23 pm from Gideon Karlik in Teaneck "Hi Jim I've spoken to the individual, the National Park Service is in charge of coordinating battlefield grants. He stated that those grants would be available for phase one B studies, and the additional phase studies. The next application is due in November of 2022 grants. We should cooperate to get a grant for all staff members landing, including Brett Park. I think that's information being that Teaneck has grant writer, that you shouldn't for that information to the grant writer, to have that person look to ascertain that potential grant for that area.

If we were to do one tomorrow we could do it with the distancing and the mass, considering at the state building, I think, I think by August, we're going to have not free rein completely, but it's something I'll seek a determination or some further guidance on between now and, hopefully, a week or so I should be able to know whether or not. July would be a possibility it related to that.

J.Heffernan: Can we have like by September you think your lectures in the Steuben House. I certainly hope so. Yeah, I do. Yeah, I think, I think we're close right now we're kind of allowing pass through if you will, events where someone comes in at one building, or one bill at one one door passes through, and exits out another. And I think we're approaching a time where we're going to be able to, to come and gather in the buildings again soon. By September, I think that's a good, good guess.

R.Karp: Has everybody been vaccinated?

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:36 pm. First, A.Strobel. Second, R.Karp. Motion passed.

## **XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park

Commission will be held online at 7 PM, July 1, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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## **AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, July 1, 2021.** Open Public Meetings Act Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 9, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

G. Bergen County Historical Society

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at August 5, 2021, 7 PM at Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call

where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Wednesday July 1, 2021:**

#### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:05 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

#### **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, J. Heffernan, Adam Strobel, Larry Bauer, and Mary Donohue  
Absent: Rich Karp and Michael Putrino

#### **III. Review of Minutes**

June 3, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by J. Heffernan, Second, M. Donohue, L. Bauer motion passed.

#### **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening everyone to our July meeting,

While the heat has relented, it has not prevented continued activity at HNBL. Regular visitors continue to visit the site and the Society's Buildings and Grounds Committee has continued its activities to enhance the grounds. I am also happy to report that the interpretative panels for the East side of the Park (the kiosk and bridge in Brett Park) are up and they look absolutely stunning. It truly is amazing to see how far the area on the east side has come, which helps to enhance the park as a whole. The installation crew is finalizing plans to complete the install the west side of the park, including the recently delivered sign for the entrance kiosk in the meadow. (He reflected on the difference in 1980s photos to now with the improvement of the area.)

July kicks off an exciting month with our new traditional July 2<sup>nd</sup> lantern tour tomorrow night, vintage base ball, July 10<sup>th</sup> and a walking tour later in the month. More summer time tours are scheduled for August.

Finally I am also happy to announce that the River Edge planning board has approved the Society's plan for a museum building. It has been a long road but it is exciting that this hurdle has been cleared. The planning board has asked that a fence be placed in the parking lot, in the County's right away off Main St., to prevent people from the parking lot from crossing in the jug handle. Ultimately, as a site, we want people crossing at the traffic light crosswalk so this works. The next step will ultimately be permitting, which we'll see how that goes, it's definitely an amazing time for the site to get to that next level, especially as we're getting closer and closer to 250th anniversary, and we'll be hopefully, you know, shaping up the site to be a key cog in a 250 celebration and definitely the center of it. So that is my report for tonight.

#### **V. Calendar**

July 2, 2021 - Lantern tour  
July 10, 2021 - Vintage Baseball  
July 31, 2021 - Scout Tour  
August 22 - Summertime Tour

September 19 - Harvest Homecoming

Oct 16, 2021 - Baronfest

2021 Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5,  
September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6,  
2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – L. Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided.

I did see that you spoke with Dean and do btw. Chairman Smith said, Yes, Deborah actually had chance to meet with Dean and the DPW.

Brett Park was cut. And then, it rains for what was it hot, so the grass actually grew again. So, it could definitely use probably another cut just so again like now that you know even the kiosk is up in that part, just to be able to make it walkable again, the idea and that tree is still down that fell down. We're one of the old interpretive panels in Lower Brett. So that needs to be still addressed as I was reached out. Thank you. Thank you. Any other comments or questions?, D.Powell: I did hear from Senator Weinberg's office today and the town, apparently agreed to do, and pay for the survey of the park which is was the first step we were looking for. So we're on the road for that.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report. Yes, just to point out again, was appreciated Milford street actually runs all the way to Rec Park right so Teaneck actually this property starts to get to the property. So, you know, always appreciate and Milford when I worked there. I did reach out to Mike because one thing that we had talked about previously was the idea of banners on the New Milford side and the river Ridge side along Main Street. And I was actually thinking, and I'm thinking about seeing this in Bergen County as well as in other towns throughout New Jersey, which might be more simple to have American flags, and it would make sense that, you know, that, to have along Main Street in or on site on Oak Ridge Road, old Newbridge road that you could have flags up from Memorial Day to to the Fourth of July, and then also in November from Veterans Day to retreat weekend.

Right and that would kind of highlight Mainstreet as this important component as part of the new American Revolution and the important story here, honor those that have served in the past, etc. It will be kind of a, almost like a landing strip, if you will, of this slide, So, it's something I reached out to Mike about. So we could pilot it maybe on the New Milford side with their new lampposts that they have on that side and maybe that works in New Milford and refresh, we'll see that. Hopefully it's a project we can get off the ground for retreat weekend.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River**

**Edge.** No report. M.Donohue: I don't have any news, but I'm wondering if you need any help with a tree with a fallen tree. Can the town, help." Chairman Smith said there is a pile of brush, branches by the Vintage Baseball field that need to be removed.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.**

No report provided. "Very briefly, I do not have any update on the exterior renovations of the Campbell Christie house from from Elaine gold, but I'll continue to prompt her to see if she can dedicate time towards that. I know the county's tree crew a month or so ago or more had removed the trees at the Sutton property. I don't know if there's any other trees that our concern at that location or not, that's my presentation. Chairman Smith: "Thank you very much, Adam. Yes the damaged trees are down trees on that property were resolved. Spray. So I think we're all set. Thank you, anybody, any questions for him."

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendant Representative.**

**6/9/2021**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage **Last sign delivered to Steuben House 7/1/21**

Steuben Marker - Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Depressions in yard - Spring \$ consideration

Bollards \$ consideration July

Rock July due to \$ issue

Topsoil July \$ issue

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Gate repair pending

Fence in Meadow pending

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle pending

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot

Shutter bolts and Dogs needed

**Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$6281.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Paid! 5/23

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state

a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week. Site Visit 5/5/21 Surveys submitted to LAN to assist with proposal

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs. Initial PO exhausted

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. **Second coat needed otherwise complete**

6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 Signs

delivered last sign ordered Meadow sign in transit. **Delivered to SH 7/1**

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. **Quote received not cost effective**

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Met onsite with contractor 3/18 2 quotes received as of 6/9/21 need one more. **3 quotes received K. Bernadic low bid**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21. walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still Contract awarded Green Meadows requesting **PO 11871.47 requested waiting on update**

And the last item I have to share is that I received the approved purchase order for the walkway to the Campbell Christie house today. So, it's been a little bit of a delay on some of these items, last couple months but I'm pleased to be able to report some

progress on that. Excellent news, to say the least, to hear those projects coming to fruition for sure. You know while we do that right now so we don't, since you started for Eric, right, we can approve the outkitchen roof. Right. What was the name on that Carol Bernadic Construction, answered a bid of \$12,852 for the removal of cedar shingles, replacement of cedar shingles, an installation of proper slashing and debris removal again total \$4,863.

Chairman Smith asked "Do we have a motion to approve the bid for Carol Bernadic, total \$12,852, , L.Bauer, first, M.Donohue, seconded. All those in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion passed."

22. Bollards and Guardrail removal Quote received seeking additional bids **low bid Maio \$3500**. Chairman Smith asked if motion to approve: J.Heffernan first, L.Bauer, seconded. All those in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion passed.

- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000
- Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back rooms \$25,000 Hunter Research meeting held 5/6 follow-up site visit conducted 6/9/21
- Out kitchen roof \$25,000
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000
- Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

John Heffernan asked if any news on opening the Steuben House inside the building. E.Pain: "Yeah, I mean I'm actually starting to see other other groups, other volunteer organizations dying to have meetings on site on site meetings inside state buildings or stills acquiring masks, but six foot distancing. It's also something that it's been continuing the distance to continuing to practice. However, I've seen a relaxation in the mass, provided that the people in attendance are 16 apart, and that they're vaccinated. So I don't know I think we could move the August meeting back in person, unless we're waiting for an official word, with no masks in no distancing, but we can discuss that. But for right now anything inside the state going to have masks." Discussion on public meetings and when Park Commission would meet in person.

D.Powell brought up the snow plow contract and asked if the

whole pathway could be done by one contractor under the Park Commission including the County owned bridge. She pointed out it's really part of the transportation system, people getting to the train stop and she felt bad for seeing people having to navigate through the unshoveled snow just because they don't have a car. E.Pain agreed, said he would approach subject again.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell,**  
**Commissioner BCHS**

The museum committee is planning on meeting in the Campbell-Christie House to work on collections. The building and grounds committee worked on smoothing out the dirt where the tavern garden was for the upcoming Vintage Baseball Game.

I was able to coordinate the BCHS volunteers including trustee Mike Ginch with the install of the two interpretive signs on the east side of the bridge. Ww're waiting for their availability for the two signs to go on the riverbank. It was determined that BCHS would mount the Entrance interpretive sign at the Meadow kiosk. She asked if the outkitchen roofer could tuck in a missing shingle into the kiosk.

## **VII. Old business**

None.

## **VIII. New Business.**

Chairman Smith: I just, I'm waiting on confirmation but I do know that the in that it does look like funding will continue in the next budget rounds for the commission. And so, I'm just waiting to hear that finalization on that, so it's, but I've heard very positive comments on that. So once I have that finalized and authorized I will let everybody on that. So but I think that, You know, when when we look at, like just the continued funding just one thing that I think is very key is, you know,

when we look at a lot of the projects. You know we're kind of like building up to this, you know, up to these certain points and you look at the last meeting. Now Eric myself. As soon as they're meeting with Hunter and looking at the rehabilitation of the Steuben House and developing that plan in place and and getting all the paperwork to LAN associates to look at the site, and to come up with a plan like to move forward on on that, you know, a lot of it is like this kind of planning, but it's these plans and, and these steps that need to be taken, I guess you have to crawl before you can run so to speak. So I think that was definitely a positive and it will go on to find that we've had in the past, and that we're trying to do what we're going to do in the future so, so stay tuned on that pressure.

**IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:36 pm. First, J.Heffernan. Second, M.Donohue. Motion passed.

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, July 1, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, August 5, 2021.** Open Public Meetings Act Statement  
II. Attendance  
II. Review of Minutes  
Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 1, 2021

- IV. Calendar
- V. Chairman's Report
- VI. Continuing Business
  - A. Brett Park
  - B. New Milford
  - C. River Edge
  - D. County of Bergen
- Paint exterior of Christie House
- Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition
- Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)
- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave
- gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways
- E. DEP – Steuben House
- F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation
- G. Bergen County Historical Society
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment
- XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at September 2, 2021, 7 PM or unless otherwise determined. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **Minutes from Wednesday August 5, 2021:**

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:08 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, J. Heffernan, Larry Bauer  
Absent: Mary Donohue, Rich Karp, Michael Putrino and Adam Strobel. Chairman Smith said R.Karp emailed that he would not be attending.

## **III. Review of Minutes**

July 1, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by L. Bauer,  
Second, J. Heffernan, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Smith:

Good evening everyone,

I hope everyone is well as we have entered August. The past month saw the return of **vintage baseball**, along with group tours to local scouts and the public led by Deborah. The Society continues to follow all guide lines concerning Covid19. People continue to be amazed that so much local history is right in their backyards and it is fantastic to be part of something that has a positive impact on so many people when they visit the park.

I want to thank New Milford for clearing the weeds along New Bridge road leading up to the swing bridge. The approach to the bridge looks great. I also want to recognize Teaneck for clearing the downed tree in Brett Park that was previously discussed, it is much improved.

At the previous meeting I mentioned HNBLPC would receive funding in the 2022 budget. I am happy report that the Commission received 1.2 million dollars, with 500,000 earmarked for the Von Steuben House and 700,000 earmarked toward the

entrance and entrance area. This is truly a remarkable moment for the park as we have been laying the framework for to implement this. Meetings have occurred or will be occurring with Hunter Research for the VSH and documents have been provided to LAN Associates so they can come up with a design to present to this Commission. Again, do its location and unique multi-layered story, Historic New Bridge Landing is once again getting the recognition and funding as a premier site in Bergen County.

So where do we go from here? We must continue to work together to the mutual benefit of all parties involved. Each community benefits and each community can do their part. This year we begin the 245<sup>th</sup> cycle of 1776, we have five years. November of this year is a great benchmark as we look to the future.

## **V. Calendar**

August 22 - Summertime Tour

September 19 - Harvest Homecoming

Oct 16, 2021 - Baronfest

2021 HNBLSPC Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – L. Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided.

No report. Chairman Smith noted that there's a lot of excitement for the 250 test run, this year is the 245th. Retreat from Fort Lee to New Bridge is planned.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report. Charirman Smith thanked New Milford for clean up efforts.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent  
Representative.**

**8/5/2021**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to  
maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes  
and seed

Interpretive signage Last sign delivered to Steuben House  
7/1/21

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ

Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration

Bollards \$ consideration July

Rock July due to \$ issue

Topsoil July \$ issue

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Gate repair pending

Fence in Meadow pending

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle pending

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot

Shutter bolts and Dogs needed

## **Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$6281.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1) 1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Paid! 5/23

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week. Site Visit 5/5/21 Surveys submitted to LAN to assist with proposal

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs. Initial PO exhausted

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. **Second coat needed otherwise complete**

6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 Signs delivered last sign ordered Meadow sign in transit. Delivered to SH 7/1

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. **Quote received not cost effective**

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved  
2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Met onsite with contractor 3/18 2 quotes  
received as of 6/9/21 need one more. **3 quotes received K.  
Bernadic low bid**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-  
\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things  
taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in  
the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third  
still Contract awarded Green Meadows  
requesting **PO 11871.47 requested waiting on update**

22 Bollards and Guardrail removal Quote received seeking  
additional bids **low bid Maio \$3500**

\* Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property -  
\$30,000

\* Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000

\* Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back  
rooms \$25,000 Hunter Research meeting held 5/6  
follow-up site visit conducted 6/9/21

\* Out kitchen roof \$25,000

\* Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and  
caps as needed \$5,000

\* Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

Eric Pain reported that we are waiting for 2019 release of  
funding, the Department of State is asking for detailed record  
and proof of payment.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.**  
**Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report, J.Heffernan.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell,**  
**Commissioner BCHS**

It was a challenge finding the time to write the ask for the appropriation for the site, but it was amazing to receive it. We had scouts from River Edge, Troop 229. It was great to see children well informed, for example they knew who the American Revolution was fought by and the name of the river at the site. They had not prepped for visit but reportedly studied in school.

Vintage Baseball game was a great success, Jim Tedesco, Bergen County County Executive, threw the first pitch for us. We had over 200 visitors for the event. Chairman Smith said that planning is underway for removal of the chain link fence and a new fence for the PSEG lot. D. Powell asked if the Park Commission could remove the poison ivy from the tree at the end of the landing by PSEG lot [Zabriskie-Tide Mill.] E. Pain thought possibly. Chairman Smith also added that the front porch of the Campbell-Christie House needs repair, the wood failed, broke through in the porch pad. Volunteers put down a 2x3 ft board to cover it as a temporary fix.

## **VII. Old business**

Chairman Smith would like to get the State of New Jersey sign for the site restored and see about getting the vendor Sewah to be an authorized vendor. Only a few sites have one of these signs, for example the Ford Mansion in Morristown still does [pictured.]

## **VIII. New Business.**

Chairman Smith advised we had a Financial accounting query. E. Pain said a sign for the Entrance parking lot that notes the ordinance about that parking is only for HNBL is installed. He suggested getting, documenting with photos of the vehicles and license plates.

Discussion followed.

E. Pain reported that Mark Texel [assistant director] suggested a subcommittee for the new appropriation. Chairman Smith was agreeable to it.

## **IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing to report for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:39 pm. First, L.Bauer. Second, J.Heffernan. Motion passed.

## **XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, September 2, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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## **AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, Sept 2, 2021.** Open Public Meetings Act Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 5, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

- F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation
- G. Bergen County Historical Society
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment
- XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at September 2, 2021, 7 PM or unless otherwise determined. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Thursday Sept 2, 2021:**

#### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:01 pm. Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission was established in 1995 by New Jersey State law N.J.S.A. 13:15B-1-5.

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, J. Heffernan, Mary Donohue, Rich Karp and Adam Strobel

Absent: Larry Bauer, Michael Putrino. Chairman Smith said L.Bauer emailed that he would not be attending..

## **III. Review of Minutes**

August , 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by M.Donohue, Second, R.Karp, motion passed.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

## **V. Calendar**

Oct 16, 2021 - Baronfest, 4 Breweries participating

October 24, 2021 - Historical Society Tour from South Jersey, boxed lunch.

November 20-21, 2021 - Retreat Weekend

December - Christmas event

2021 HNBLSPC Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – R.Karp, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided.

No report. R.Karp said They can't keep up with maintaining parks, they've asked if the maintenance budget could be included for whatever is necessary to maintain a lower Brett Park.

Chairman Smith: Yeah I think that's something that we'll have to go back and look at the budget because we already have items budgeted for every year that we are, you know, the money has been accounted for and to plan for. And well, you know, we have discussed maintenance programs or spot programs to help, whether it's county, or society property versus private or state or Teaneck which is public. You know you're looking at that would be a major chunk of change. In order to maintain that landscaping. And I think that's a lot of money, it's a lot of responsibility for that. I don't know what

any other people's thoughts on that as well but I just think that you're looking at the money that was intended for the purpose of programming, and to benefit the site as a whole, that a large part of that budget would get eaten up in Teaneck, and I don't think that would go for the intention of what that funding was for.

R.Karp advised Teaneck is maintaining upper Brett Park. Teaneck had got some very big problems. They're looking to close down parts of fire stations. They've got three people that handle all the work of tree maintenance lawns etc etc. For the entire town, and there's just a reality of that not being able to get to it.

E.Pain advised: We can we can seek a quote, I'll bet it's five grand to a place where it's presentable it's probably four to 600 a week. I mean, no idea what the week can get a quote, but I'm kind of in agreement with Jim, I think that's gonna be quite a lot of money, and probably not what we were thinking about using it for, but we could, we could solicit quotes.

D.Powell: I think the last we left it that the town Teaneck had said they would do a survey of the property.

R.Karp did not know, he said did not think we would get anywhere.

Chairman Smith: I think definitely well the survey, I mean, that's still no matter what we decide that would be, that's the first thing that we still need because, because we need to know, financially, the area that you're putting it out to bid to begin with. But I think it I think it also opens up a whole can of worms. As I mentioned previously, not only with responsibility are and what the money was originally intended for and you go over utilizing the money for that but I will definitely have to wait or just continue to discuss that for sure.

D.Powell: Yeah, I mean we did talk about the commission, and I volunteered at that, that at that meeting I had with the town manager and the parks people that we did volunteer to put aside some of our budget [HNBLSPC] for Brett park, but it's just, you know, for the commission to take on the whole thing. It seems like a lot.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** M. Donohue asked if there were any problems with last night's storm that the River Edge might be able to help commission with. D. Powell: Well, I did call the mayor and he returned my call. And he said that there was a water release. And so that explained why it was higher, when it should have been lower, about 12:30 pm today. It was higher than it was at 10 o'clock, when the tide was already going out by then. So anyway, I understood him to say they had all the gates open. I asked if the fire department could come and pump out the three buildings. He suggested about that I call the police station and ask. And, you know, based on conditions at the site if the tide is out, low enough to pump water so there's some place for it to go, but right now they're the houses are totally surrounded by water. So, at least they were at 12:30 pm. High Tide it is seven o'clock tonight. So, so I was gonna call and see where, where we where we get. So, you know I could make myself available Carol offered to be available to help open up the buildings if need be. So, um, so that was very nice, Mary, Tom Papaleo's offer of help. Mary Donohue said she would call him to thank him for his offer of help. Chairman Smith: Thank you very much, Mary and Deborah thank you as well for that information. I think that is, is key to know that information, I think it helps to put the story together. You know, it's, it's definitely, it's definitely a challenge and I understand there's that challenge when you look at like a resource like water, but I guess we'll find out more as the details emerge maybe for the next on plus to the I guess the sheer volume was, was pretty hard to deal with. Yeah, this is about as high as we get, comparable to other high very high storms. The unknown factor is how much water we had in the Steuben House front rooms. Discussion comparing amount of rain between last week's storm and Hurricane Ida and impact on the site. Unknown how much water was in the Steuben House.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

A. Strobel, he reported the County responded to request to

repair of porch floor. Discussion to bring up collections in attic for the roof repair, Chairman Smith thanked Adam and advised it could be discussed, and definitely appreciated.

D.Powell: "it seems like there's more flooding issues at the corner there at the light, and I wondered if that's gained the attention at all of the County. You know the roads been closed, different storms lately. I don't know if it's coming out of Coles Brook or from the apartments somehow. I walked the site a lot this morning and took a lot of photos, it was very flooded this morning. I reported that earlier that talking to the mayor they did do a release from the reservoir.

Sometime between 10 and 12, this morning. The buildings are totally surrounded by water. The meadow was fully covered by water, the intersection is had about five different cars that were dead, even a cargo van had died in the road at the jug handle, trying to get through the water."

D.Powell "I have noticed that Main Street has had to be closed a few times this summer. So I just wondered if you knew of anything going on, is there a study going on or what."

A.Strobel "Not that I'm aware of, like, I can inquire, but I don't know if there's any type of study that probably if there's stormwater and there's backup. I don't know if some of the catch basins are not cleared. Maybe that's, that's an issue, maybe that's something that needs to be done so I can require with our DPW operations folks to see if they've cleared catch basins recently."

D.Powell "Yeah, I didn't know where, where it's coming from. I mean, some change in the landscape, like you said some environmental reason. I think Jim is asked for those catch basins in the interior of the site to be cleaned, right, Jim?"

Chairman Smith: "Yes, and River Edge has done that in the past. Oh, yeah. But I didn't know if there was something going on over on by Coles Brook more or some or over by the train station or like wire where is this water coming from."

A.Strobel had not noticed it but D.Powell pointed out cones and barriers were up before Vintage Baseball.

Chairman Smith: It's definitely, you know, I think, good to keep it on our radar for sure and I think that when we look at it, maybe this is a part of a bigger discussion, regionally, that we see that just like with the development and just looking at that and that impact and I think that hopefully comes into what we hope to do with Lans Associates with our plan, potential plan with the parking lot, to make it a more

environmentally friendly design and have a more positive impact on the environment, as opposed to paving over everything and just, you know that old school 20th century idea of pave over everything and put it into storm drains, so hopefully that is something that we can continue to look at or others are going to look at as well.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendant Representative.**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage Last sign delivered to Steuben House 7/1/21

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ **Provided information to Chairman Smith**

**Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration**

**Rock July due to \$ issue**

**Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn**

Gate repair pending **Complete**

Fence in Meadow Complete?

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle **Complete**

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot **Complete**

**Shutter bolts and Dogs needed**

**Trenton asking for subcommittee to discuss new appropriation 1.2 Million**

Poison Ivy near former PSE&G needs addressed

Requested quote for new trees

Hunter Research Meeting 8/9. Want to loop in J. Smith before proposal is submitted

Former Pizza Town Lot parking referred to SPP again

LAN Associates proposal received did not review yet

### **Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$2406.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Paid! 5/23

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- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000

- Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back rooms \$25,000 Hunter Research meeting held 5/6 follow-up site visit conducted 6/9/21
- Out kitchen roof \$25,000
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000

Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

Discussion: Chairman Smith thanked E.Pain and staff for work on Hurricane Ida and working on the gate and other projects.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** No report provided:

The Blauvelt Demarest Foundation is through Jim Bellis has generously agreed to increase their maintenance mowing responsibilities site, they're going to be mowing the area between Main Street, and Mill site fence, and they're also going to clean out the weeds and growth in within the fence and maintain that on a fairly regular basis. And they're also going to clear the phragmites and other weeds back from around the barn a little bit more to give it more of a fire break. The company that they use is Ground Pro. Chairman Smith asked if connect with forestry and the fire service to walk the site for recommendations, E.Pain agreed. D.Powell noted the basement in the Demarest House likely needs work cleaning it out after this storm. J.Heffernan said he would check the house out.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We had a nice day on August 29. We had a soft opening on the Hackensack Valley chair exhibit. For the Sept 19th event we'll have a chair craftsman demonstrating chair rushing, the seats were crafted from the cattail reed from the local wetlands. The style of chair was popular with the Bergen-Dutch into the 19th century, examples appear in Dutch painting from the 1600s.

Friends over at the NPS Paterson Falls listed us, advertised our events. Baronfest has 4 Breweries participating, we have a bigger beer garden to accommodate Covid. Mott's Artillery

with cannon. November 20 & 21 event is under development, Reenactors who are walking from Fort Lee to New Bridge. December, due to Covid, instead of sit down concerts have a walk through like we did last year.

Chairman Smith: "I just wanted to again thank Deborah for being, you know, a great stalwart for the site. Even going down today to check on the site, going down yesterday to check on yesterday afternoon, early evening to check on the site as well. And you know, having those lines of communication open with Eric and his staff too are much appreciated. You know, everything that you do for not only the society, but also for Historic New Bridge Landing as well."

## **VII. Old business**

Chairman Smith would like to get the State of New Jersey sign for the site restored and see about getting the vendor Sewah to be an authorized vendor. One of 24 within the state.

Lans plan was provided for review, tabled until the next meeting for authorizing. Chairman noted "it's a multifaceted proposal that would look at redesigning the entryway to the park, which includes the parking lot. It would also potentially look at other components of a park. It also mentions developing a master plan taking what is written in the master plan and putting that onto paper as well as developing a plan for future development of the site as well. A.Strobel made a motion to table it to the next meeting. He asked if a representative from Lans could be available. Seconded by M. Donohue. Motion passed.

D.Powell asked about the snow shoveling through the site can be taken care of by the commission. E.Pain thought maybe their contractor [Green Meadows] could bill him separately for the County bridge and BCHS property additionally so commuters could cross safely. He will get a quote.

A.Strobel did not have a time frame for the roof. Chairman Smith said we have not had any communication from Elaine Gold.

A.Strobel Yes, because nothing's nothing's in place to write to give, there was I'm going to be providing it to you and then facilitating that discussion as we're talking.

D.Powell: Well, but not as I've expressed before you know it

would be most advantageous if we had a place to move things because things get broken when they're moved, you know, and it's disorganizing for the organization. Just moving and finding things again. Chairman Smith acknowledged that's something we have to investigate. A.Strobel: I know it's a an item for the society to figure out and spend the right time and effort for just care and consideration that needs to be done so I'm not minimizing, anything that you got to move this stuff down the steps and ran to a new location. So I'm not insensitive to needing to plan that out." D.Powell said "it's not the first time we've had to do it for a volunteer organization."

### **VIII. New Business.**

Chairman Smith advised we had a Financial accounting query. E. Pain said a sign for the Entrance parking lot that notes the ordinance about that parking is only for HNBL is installed. He suggested getting, documenting with photos of the vehicles, trucks and license plates.

Discussion followed.

E. Pain reported that Mark Texel [assistant director] suggested a subcommittee for the new appropriation. Chairman Smith was agreeable to it.

### **IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing to report for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 7:55 pm. First, R.Karp. Second, M.Donohue. Motion passed.

### **XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, September 2, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6,

June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, Oct 7, 2021.** Open Public Meetings Act Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of Sept 2, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-Repair / replace front porch (with it having so many problems, should we consider trex?)

- cut down two dead trees on County right of way on Hackensack Ave

-gutters for rear of house? -Signage on local highways

E. DEP – Steuben House

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

G. Bergen County Historical Society

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

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# Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

## Minutes from Thursday October 7, 2021:

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:03 pm

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record as well as the site kiosk", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

### **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, John Heffernan, Larry Bauer, and Adam Strobel

Absent: Mary Donohue, Rich Karp, Michael Putrino. Chairman Smith said R.Karp emailed that he would not be attending.

### **III. Review of Minutes**

Sept 2, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by J.Heffernan, Second, E.Pain, motion passed

### **IV. Chairman's Report**

Good evening everyone and welcome to the October Commission Meeting,

The Bergen County Historical Society continues to keep events going during Covid at HNBL much to the delight of the many visitors and volunteers alike, all within Covid guidelines. As the

weather cools, more events are planned from the return of Baronfest to the 245<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Retreat Weekend, where war will be brought to the grounds at Historic New Bridge Landing and where they will linger for the rest of the conflict.

Today we will also review LAN Associates proposal for their scope of work as well as the proposal from Hunter Research. Both are transformational and both set the tone for the future of the park. From better understanding restoring the Zabriskie Von Steuben House to address issues surrounding the turn around, redesigning the entry way/parking lot to name a few. Both are long lasting legacy projects that will provide a benefit for years to come. The record breaking rains of the past summer have shown how it is important for everyone to be thinking about ways to manage storm water run off. While a green parking lot will not solve all of the water issues, it will be a conversation piece and hopefully encourage others in and around Bergen County to rethink how storm water is handled and the long term effects that water management can have not only in their own communities but the impact on surrounding communities. There are so many bigger topics that could be addressed from water release and lowering to sediment removal or dredging a silted in river that is having a negative impact on the 18<sup>th</sup> century wharf, as Deborah has previously mentioned.

The Financial Committee of the Commission met to discuss the finances, funding and projects. We will discuss this later on as topics that could potentially be funded and re-adjust past funding proposals/plans. Ultimately, we have an important finish line to aim for that is just five years away, the 250<sup>th</sup>. Collectively, these could be areas that your own entities could bring back and help out, whether its to improve the streetscape in the surrounding neighborhoods, to ensuring parks are maintaining and welcome for all guests, to ensuring appropriate signage and exploring cross marketing opportunities.

## **V. Calendar**

Oct 16, 2021 - Baronfest, 3 Breweries participating

October 24, 2021 - Historical Society Tour from South Jersey, boxed lunch.

November 20-21, 2021 - Retreat Weekend, excited to remember the 245 and upcoming 250<sup>th</sup>.

December - Christmas event

2021 HNBLSPC Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – L.Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck.** No report provided.

No report. Chairman Smith noted that the Retreat Weekend paperwork is being finalized. He noted that there does appear to be a tick problem from when he walked there. He said it goes to lack of maintenance and continue discussion on clean up of property.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** No report.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No report. Discussion whether Hurricane Ida debris was removed by River Edge. BCHS had a site clean up, post storm.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

Strobel reported no additional flooding at intersection, just had extra rainfall. No update on roof for Campbell-Christie House. Chairman Smith reported that leaking pipe that was repaired by the County. He suggested regular meeting on needs. Strobel noted it came up at a County meeting about maintaining systems. Henning suggesting a County fire alarm install from a management system. D.Powell noted she went in the day after our Harvest Homecoming event to put paintings in storage upstairs and heard water running. It was actually the main waterline under the pantry/bathroom area that was spraying water all over the basement area there. Carol Restivo [and Joe Restivo] were kind enough to follow up.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent Representative.**

## **DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

### **Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage Last sign delivered to Steuben House 7/1/21

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ **Provided information to Chairman Smith**

**Depressions in yard-Spring \$ consideration**

**Rock July due to \$ issue**

**Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn**

Gate repair pending **Complete**

Fence in Meadow Complete?

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle **Complete**

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot **Complete**

**Shutter bolts and Dogs needed**

**Trenton asking for subcommittee to discuss new appropriation 1.2 Million**

**Poison Ivy near former PSE&G needs addressed**

**Requested quote for new trees**

**Hunter Research Meeting 8/9. Want to loop in J. Smith before proposal is submitted**

**Former Pizza Town Lot parking referred to SPP again**

**LAN Associates proposal received did not review yet**

**Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$2406.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 TBD**

**FY21 TBD**

1)1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$5000 work is underway Emailed 11/8 no response called and left message 3/3/2020 no response Draft Assessment received 7/2 Complete? Billing submitted 11/21 investigating status of payment Paid! 5/23

2) Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000 The Commission is seeking proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week. Site Visit 5/5/21 Surveys submitted to LAN to assist with proposal

3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

4) Plant Trees along the meadow fence line Complete sort of...any trees that don't make it are guaranteed. Watering and bags covered by RSP. Additional trees to be planted from original PO additional trees to be requested along Main St. \$7100? 3 trees owed 2 to be planted near path other to be determined in future 2 Red Maples Being planted next week or the following site visit with Boltzer 10/7 Still waiting email sent 10/28 and 11/4 1/22 boltzer planted 5 trees. Will monitor and determine future needs. Initial PO exhausted

5) Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3275 stairs complete needs paint and treads removed. **Second coat needed otherwise complete**

6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 Signs delivered last sign ordered Meadow sign in transit. Delivered to SH 7/1

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. **Quote received not cost effective**

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted

11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Met onsite with contractor 3/18 2 quotes received as of 6/9/21 need one more. 3 quotes received K. Bernadic low bid. **Waiting on new \$ to proceed**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still Contract awarded Green Meadows requesting PO 11871.47 **PO received waiting on materials**

22 Bollards and Guardrail removal Quote received seeking additional bids low bid Maio \$3875. Po **Received notified contractor 8/22**

- Landscaping /Maintenance entire HNBL Property - \$30,000
- Interpretive Panels HNBL - \$10,000
- Steuben House Assessment and Restoration of back rooms \$25,000 Hunter Research meeting held 5/6 follow-up site visit conducted 6/9/21
- Out kitchen roof \$25,000
- Chimney evaluation of Steuben House restoration and caps as needed \$5,000

Red Brick Path Campbell Christie House \$5,000

Discussion: Chairman Smith thanked E.Pain and staff for work on Hurricane Ida and working on the gate and other projects.

Discussion: Strobel asked about pathway in front of the Campbell-Christie. E.Pain reminded the commission it is brick walk planned [voted on and approved by the Commission] for the walk in front to the front door. Strobel questioned if it should go to SHPO approval. E.Pain said he did not remember. D.Powell pointed out the house was moved there and right now it is loose gravel and very difficult to shovel. "For visitor experience we need to fix it. We have brick at the Steuben House." Strobel pointed out even with Boy Scout project and he asked if outside floodway, whether it is an impervious surface. E.Pain said we could investigate. D.Powell pointed out this has been on the list to do for years, it's unfair to bring up now. Chairman Smith you can make the argument that bricks are impervious in a sense that or that they do allow water to get in between, not mortared together and it's not like pavement. He questioned since it is outside the house whether it was under purview of SHPO. E.Pain said he would reach out to his contacts at SHPO to check.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.  
Acting Commissioner BDF Rep**

"I would like to thank Jim Bellis, Blauvelt Demarest Foundation for stepping up and covering the additional costs and mowing the grass between Main Street and the mills, typical side fence, clearing growth inside the fence and clearing a wider firebreak around the boy. Also thanks for further maintenance of these additional areas. Also, I thought should be given to adding some clean fields to the cleared area around the barn to better maintain it and keep it clear and further outgrowth. And I didn't put this in my report but I checked out the Demarest House basement. And it looks like it's fine for the time being but I'll keep an eye on it. And that's it."

Chairman Smith, thank you very much John. We are definitely very appreciative of all the Demarest Foundation for getting the tide mill site cleaned up. As in the past anything we have planned whether permitting is required.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell,  
Commissioner BCHS**

"So I can say I sent out some fundraising letters and brochures to the two mayor's New Milford, and River Edge, and they, Mike, Mayor Putrino mayor, Milford responded very enthusiastic. So I'm looking for, like I said with letters of support to go with the package from, from our officials, particularly to look for corporate support so if you have, sometimes it's just getting your foot in the door, it's, it's hard to get people's attention unless you know somebody. So if anybody has any suggestions that would be welcome. I could share the brochure and the letter, if you're interested. Harvest Homecoming went very well, we had over 125 people, and that was even with competing events going on the same day in the county. I'm going to keep this short because I have a bad head cold, but I just can note that it will be five years, next week, that Kevin [Wright] died on October 13, 2016. I see him mentioned in Hunters Report as a resource, and of course everything we really do, he's laid out, he's been talking about for many years. So my hope that some of these funds that we received from New Jersey, and the efforts of Senator Weinberg and other officials will bring to fruition, including the new museum." - (which is of course the society.) Strobel asked if there was other funding made available. Chairman Smith noted 1.2 million and the \$100,000 annual for the Park Commission. Strobel asked who was in contact about the funding. E.Pain said "I'm going to email the regional superintendent and the assistant director, and I'm going to ask them to talk to Treasury who will then talk to the Department of State, who will then hopefully find all that information back down to me, and figure out how this transfer or appropriation is completed." Strobel asked if there was a plan of action. Chairman Smith said we'll discuss in new business.

## **VII. Old business**

Chairman Smith asked if there were any changes or questions on the Lans report. He explained he reached out to Lans over changes. He reminded the commissioners it they're going to develop a master plan of improvements that may be implemented at the site, or in the future, so like a step by step, level of improvements. Explore permitting options and improvements to the functionality of the drainage ditch that runs through the northern portion of the store conversion planning, which kind of ties in with what John said, explore

the feasibility of using a gravel path or parking at the PSE&G lot. Explore the feasibility and making improvements to the existing stormwater drainage system at the east end of Main Street, and also make improvements to the Campbell-Christie House, Pizza Town lot, which is part of that entryway and then defining that that entryway. Could explore whether solar canopy would work for that location.

Discussion on presentation from Lans. Chairman Smith noted a presentation and Park Commission involvement, step by step, is called for in the proposal.

A.Strobel said "I didn't unfortunately I didn't look at it [the Lans plan shared prior to last meeting] as extensively as the last time so I apologize for that. But again as I said, you know, I think it was, it was, it was wide ranging, which was good. I think we probably need to narrow, what exactly are we asking them to do for us.

Chairman Smith "So it's really like a two part, we've been talking about some of these issues for years now and when you look at like the Pizza Town lot has was purchased and no improvements were ever done with it. So now let's come up with a plan to develop that property and to make it part of the park and make it part of the entry point.

The 250th report, and I'm not sure if Cynthia's office shared with you with the different site assessments and they looked at other county sites, and one of the issues that brought up was signage and parking signage and, which is kind of interesting because when you look at site I think there's like 67 parking spots, which actually makes it probably one of the bigger parking lots for a historic site. So, but it's just a matter of how do you get people, then from that parking lot to cross the street, right and to make it like appealing so I just kind of reorient how I think when, when the parking lot was removed for the Steuben House, it was trying to reorient the site, which it definitely did. But now we can finish that process. And we talked about that issue with like the flagpole turnaround or we talked about the issue, looking at the wetlands and drainage, etc. and now having professionals that can look at those issues, look at the permitting issues and begin to formulate, concepts and plans to eventually address those issues as well down the road.

We have ideas for where the pizza town property, obviously the society has done work in in advancing a museum which I know there's been discussions of how to provide parking for the museum building.

D.Powell agreed, the water is a really big issue with the way it's entering the house and it's threatening the prime interest of the site is the Steuben House, the wharf and the tide mill; the core area that was identified in the master plan. And I feel very strongly about the way the water comes up through that ditch, it creeps up to the back of the Steuben House. That's not good for that building in 1752 house. So, that's what we should be protecting. First, my opinion.

Chairman Smith asked the commissioners should just make a motion to accept the proposal as presented, First, A. Strobel, Second, L.Bauer, motion passed.

Lans Associates report: [https://e6f54ff6-50d9-458e-b0dd-e5d124b0bf41.filesusr.com/ugd/6adfb1\\_26e491f465a74cd792796c30fdcffa53.pdf](https://e6f54ff6-50d9-458e-b0dd-e5d124b0bf41.filesusr.com/ugd/6adfb1_26e491f465a74cd792796c30fdcffa53.pdf)

Chairman Smith "I also forwarded the proposal from Hunter Research. Their proposal for the Steuben House." He asked has everybody had a chance to walk through the proposal or to need more time on it.

He gave a thumbnail executive summary what the what the scope of the contract is for sure.

"It's looking at both archaeology and historical restoration for for the house, some of the scope of service, it's a documentary review and field prep, that's going to occur. Architectural investigation and analysis of the real rooms. These are the back of the houses, they would have been where servants etc would have utilized. Kevin [Wright] have pointed out to me 18th century paint, and sure enough paint analysis proved what Kevin said, you know, identifying the colors back there. It's also going to report dendrochronology analysis as well. Potential indoor archaeology investigations. To get a better understanding of the floor the different elevations and functions of the brewery, as well as food preparation storage habitations, backed by enslaved persons or servants, potential artifacts and other cultural materials in

the background and out outdoor archaeology would occur in different parts with outdoor archaeology, as well as magnetic survey to look at footprints for the old wind or the wings that used to be on the houses, as well as trenching. There's also an opportunity for public involvement and public archaeology. It would include laboratory analysis report preparation project administration and meetings, including meetings with the Commission, SHPO, including a workshop. Past projects that they've worked on include the Steuben House, The Appletree House in Jersey City way in Trent house in Trenton, Ford Mansion, Grover Cleveland birthplace. And they did provide also additional like drawings about the store and the kitchen, where the archaeology will take place as well as biographies on every company that was part of Hunter research a part of this team. Yes, it comes in at \$79,195. D.Powell "I think they also included ground penetrating radar of the surrounding area looking for barns and outbuildings." Chairman Smith asked for a motion to accept the proposal, First by A. Strobel, Second by J. Heffernan, motion passed.

Hunter Research report: [https://e6f54ff6-50d9-458e-b0dd-e5d124b0bf41.filesusr.com/ugd/6adfb1\\_34b3c2915a584534869724dc53878e65.pdf](https://e6f54ff6-50d9-458e-b0dd-e5d124b0bf41.filesusr.com/ugd/6adfb1_34b3c2915a584534869724dc53878e65.pdf)

E.Pain: I have two items that are not anywhere near as exciting as the two things we just discussed. One of which is that the damage that was that occurred in the stone dust path, and the fence posts. I'm in the process of documenting all those things getting quotes for materials and labor and such. It'll all be submitted to FEMA, if it meets that threshold. And, in an effort to try and prepare the site for Baronsfest event. I've asked the contractor to at least repair the worst section of the stone does path damage. If I'm not able to get them down to the site prior to the event, I'm just going to have my guys come, remove the week guard, and try to, you know, spruce up the path as best we can, before the event. I'm afraid I'm not going to be able to have any thing done with the fence rails, prior to it. So, if there's anything you think that we could do my staff, that is, before the event, to make it look more presentable. Let me know and we'll certainly try and work on that. I should be in contact with you, early next week, as to what is going to happen with the path itself. If I end up having to pay for it and not seek FEMA reimbursement for the event, or you know for the repairs to

the path before the event that's so be it. I want to try and put our best foot forward for this upcoming event. And the second item I had was regarding shoveling of the snow from the entire walkway, I got a quote from green meadows, they're all, they're our snowplow contractors that we've been able to use based on their quotes coming in as low bid. It's, it's kind of a difficult breakdown.

Discussion on snow removal from paths and high costs for hand shoveling pathway.

**VIII. New Business.**

**IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing to report for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Chairman Smith: be safe be well and thank you very much for coming today. Thank you. Motion to adjourn 8:34 pm. First, L.Bauer. Second, A.Strobel. Motion passed.

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, November 7, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

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## **Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission**

### **Minutes from Thursday November 4, 2021:**

## **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:01 pm

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He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record as well as the site kiosk", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19.

Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, John Heffernan, Adam Strobel, Michael Putrino, Mary Donohue  
Absent: Rich Karp, Larry Bauer.

## **III. Review of Minutes**

Oct 7, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by J.Heffernan, Second, E.Pain, motion passed. Michael Putrino abstained.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Good evening everyone,

It is hard to imagine we are in November and are almost into a new year. Despite Covid, events have continued to be safely and successfully run. It really is quite an accomplishment and a testament of the BCHS for making it happen. I am happy to report the replacement of the wooden bollards on the west side of the bridge and the removal of the metal fence as one approaches the bridge. This long talked about goal was finally accomplished, thank you Eric for seeing this through! One cannot underestimate the importance of this, instantly, the view as one approaches the bridge is that of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The final interp panels will be installed soon. This is also a major step of what we hope to accomplish by reducing intrusions and improving upon the visitor experience.

When we look at the visitor experience, I also noticed since our last meeting, much debris in the lower section of Brett Park, due to Ida, I am assuming. I did reach out to the Teaneck reps to address with the local dpw and I know we have stressed it, but all of these things matter to help improve upon the visitor experience.

As we approach the 245<sup>th</sup> of Retreat Weekend, the story of the Revolution and its most pivotal moment up to that point occurs right here at New Bridge. If the remaining troops, Washington and Green do not make it the new bridge, they cannot live to fight another day and democracy as we know it, could have ended right there. Yet HNBL's story does not end there, it only just begins. As we cycle through this 245<sup>th</sup> period it is important that we take stock and address needs as the 250<sup>th</sup> is close at hand. So very thinking ahead, the Historical Society has already begun looking at important events that occurred at New Bridge during the Revolutionary War to think about for the 250<sup>th</sup>. So there are definitely events that will cycle through through the 245<sup>th</sup>. Again, just to get an idea of what we need to do. So for instance, do we need to reach out to New Milford to have "no parking" signs put up so people aren't parking on Old New Bridge road prior to an event? Or do we need to make sure certain areas are cut prior to the certain events or what we might need to do so. It's all learning experience and on you know events to make them better as we prepare for such a big event in our country's history.

## **V. Calendar**

November 20-21, 2021 - Retreat Weekend, excited to remember the 245 and upcoming 250<sup>th</sup>. It's should be quite exciting because at 6:30 in the morning, troops will depart Fort Lee and make their way through Leonia, Englewood, Bergenfield, New Milford and Teaneck, to get to New Bridge so it's quite an amazing story. And then the event will kick off at 10:30 am make its way across the bridge. And then there's also a virtual lecture occurring as well in November 10.

December - Christmas event

2021 HNBLSPC Meeting Dates:

February 4, March 4, April t, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

## **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – L.Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck and R.Karp absent.** No report provided. L.Bauer advised he had a conflict.

Chairman Smith noted there was debris in the park and that it be picked up before the Nov 10 event.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** "Deborah did contact me about a letter of support, and I'm certainly going to be submitting one which is good news." He asked if there was anything else you need for the event let me know whether it's you know, blocking parking or something just let me know ahead of time and he would take care of that.

He added that the Glory Day Church in New Milford was on River Road has closed and part of the closing was there was amount of money that congregation members (his family were members" were allowed to submit and if it gets approved, they will be able to send money to certain organizations. So it's in the approval phase, but my mother submitted for \$12,000 to go to Bergen County Historical Society." "I am hoping that that goes through and I'm going to hand deliver a chat to once that's approved, so keep your fingers crossed." Chairman Smith, Mary Donohue and D.Powell all were thankful in anticipation of the donation to the new museum. Chairman Smith asked if there could be temporary No Parking signs from Bridge to the Sanzari's for the 21st, 8-12 pm. Mayor Putrino said he would take care of it.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No news.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

"Okay, so progress and little bit of an update on the Campbell-Christie house. As you may recall. We've been working to develop plans for the painting and roof repair of the Rankine I should say placement of the cedar shake roofs. I talked to the parks director asking if we could try to move this along. One of his suggested items was to go out and look

for historic preservation firm or firm that has done historic preservation projects to provide the needed engineering services are related to the work for the roof replacements and minor repairs. So we are working with a proposal from firm known Clark, Kean and Ins, they're out of Trenton they have a vast for proposal for them to help us put the plans together preliminary designs final design help with the bidding and the construction oversight for for the project itself. It also includes two other historic sites owned by the county for other capital improvements that are needed. So with that we're trying to move this along with engagements of a professional firm to to help get to our projects, so probably in December's professional service proposal will be before the commissioners, for county commissioners for a contract and then shortly thereafter, the firm will be engaged to do the work that's necessary. Obviously I'll be a conduit in communicating the society maybe I should say and obviously bring bring some presentations and discussions from from the firm Clark Kaden Ins to the board to keep everybody updated as to work that's going to be done. So that's a major, major step forward. I unfortunately, had been repeating myself and I still didn't have any traction on the project. But with hiring of the firm, they'll be able to dedicate their time and resources to this in order to move this forward. I think that's the only item on last month's meeting that I needed to follow up on but if there was please please let me know." Only item he had. Chairman Smith "Well, thank you very much. We look forward to seeing the proposal and discussing it here at the commission." D.Powell (zoom host) video & sound froze.

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent Representative.**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**11/4/21**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage Complete

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ Provided information to Chairman Smith

Depressions in yard-Wet conditions throughout year did not allow an opportunity?

Rock July due to \$ issue

Planting Design Will assign to R. Flynn

Gate repair pending Complete

Fence in Meadow needs repaired again IDA

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle Complete

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot Complete

Shutter bolts and Dogs needed

Trenton asking for subcommittee to discuss new appropriation 1.2 Million Initiated Need to schedule next meeting

Poison Ivy near former PSE&G needs addressed Determined removal of tree is best course of action

Requested quote for new trees Received waiting on new \$

Hunter Research Meeting 8/9. Proposal received

Former Pizza Town Lot parking referred to SPP Enforcement is being taken. Tractor and trailer towed

LAN Associates proposal Review required

IDA Storm damage assessment, FEMA declaration underway repairs in the process. Stone Dust path cost TBD, 29 rails 4 posts damaged (\$816.50), Basement clean-out \$5000.00?

Batteries Delivered

Door Dam installed did not work in basement. Front room doors a better application for it.

**Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.**

**FY 18 projects identified to date. Balance \$6.11**

**FY19 Budget submitted In process of receiving fy19 Appropriation**

**FY20 Unknown/Lapsed TBD**

**FY21 TBD working with DOS for the full 100K**

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3) Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2875 complete

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6) \*Paint analysis of Von Steuben House PO requested 7/25 \$12,400 APPROVED work to begin week of 3/9! Samples collected basement to attic 3/9-11 and analysis ongoing. Another site visit conducted 7/1 Additional visits conducted 9/14-16

7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 Signs delivered last sign ordered Meadow sign in transit. Delivered to SH 7/1

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. [Quote received not cost effective](#)

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted

11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Met onsite with contractor 3/18 2 quotes received as of 6/9/21 need one more. 3 quotes received K. Bernadic low bid. **Waiting on new \$ to proceed Need to go to second vendor**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still Contract awarded Green Meadows requesting PO 11871.47 **Po received waiting on materials potential HPO approval required?**

22 Bollards and Guardrail removal Quote received seeking additional bids low bid Maio \$3875. Po **Completed**

23. **\$2400 worth of posts and rails ordered, received and some installed by RSP Staff**

E.Pain noted regarding the parking in the pizza town lot. There was a tractor and trailer in there. I don't remember exactly when it was but I was informed by Park Police that they towed both the tractor and trailer. They actually had it removed. I think that's quite a message. And hopefully that spreads through the community. You could lose your truck in your rig. [parking illegally]

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** Nothing to report.

## **G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We had a very successful event for Baronfest with a great attendance, many people and families in great spirits and interested in American history and the historic site.

We did cancel the Oct 30 event with All Hallow's Eve due to 80% rain that turned out to a nice sunny day.

As we move to proceeding with the planned museum building we've discussed briefly about having the Park Commission funds pay for the permitting for DEP permits. Are there any comments or advice on proceeding with that proposal?"

A.Strobel questioned it and Chairman Smith moved it to new business.

D.Powell "We met with an experienced construction executive who is interested in the project so we have some momentum."

### **VII. Old business**

Chairman Smith said he reached out to SHPO and was not able to get through to anyone but left messages. He noted that SHPO had approved a new brick walkway to the Steuben House in 2012 as well as subsequent repairs to it. He did not think it would be an issue. He continued "Again, when we look at the area of the County brought in a lot of fill in 1977. I know this firsthand just by doing some digging for the camp kitchen and finding some of that fill and what was in it. So you know it's not really disturbing anything archaeologically because of the depth. And historically, we've specified real bricks and they're not paver stones. So that is keeping in tradition with the real bricks that are over at the Steuben House, that SHPO had already already previously approved. However, the process continues reaching out." D. Powell observed "it's a shame to hold up project." E.Pain said the contractor is waiting on obtaining materials. Chairman Smith said he would follow up with phone call and wanted to work with the office to resolve it.

D.Powell "I am not in favor a favor of expediting the Campbell-Christie House roof. I've said that previously. You know, we're in the middle of fundraising and we're planning for this new museum building, we may be able to break ground next spring. You know, I don't want to be distracted with two moves; move for the roof and then move again,

move things out to this new building. So, you know, there's a lot going on, and I am not sure why you, you felt like expediting it Adam."

A.Strobel "the commissioners will prove that much of what my notion of expediting is focused on the notion of the work that needs to be done from the whatever design and procurement process that needs to be done. These are things that are obviously required to do it's we all know it's not just a asphalt, shingled building, but there's a whole process where the design and specifications that need to be done. So this is all professional work that needs to be done. So, trying to expedite going through that process meeting put putting resources to this rather than to sitting in trying to find county staff so in the past last time we did this project, John Terreiri, who was the county architect in the plan specs. He is not available he's actually out on sick leave for extended period of time, is his services are not going to be available to us, though he would need to go out or firm to do that work. That has to be done in order to get plans specifications together to hire a contractor. I don't have a timeline when this work would be done again. The firm would be retained or awarded contracts and December contract will take some some 30 days to get into place. And then we can learn from them what's their schedule or for the professional service work that needs to be done? I am not aware of you are great breaking ground with the museum building next year. So I would like to understand what your schedule is for that and we obviously need to work together to figure out how to work this work. So it is not disruptive or at least disruptive and productive."

Chairman Smith "the roof replacement, it's part of it as part of a bigger project now. I mean, we've brought up over two years ago, holes in the in the siding or or the trim fall off or rotting on the 1970s bathroom edition, the back edition and so I thought that was like part of the process although I've never heard from Elaine Gold on anything, how the society feels this like kind of an issue regarding the house or potentially so hopefully that you know what you're saying it sounds like that all that stuff will be in compasses. So that would require professionals to sit down and etc.

D.Powell: I actually had photos to share on on that because it's really getting bad at the exterior things that are simple

repairs now are morphing into like replacing a whole sill of a window because it's left been left to rot. So, you know, I agree the exterior needs some work. That that should be done probably immediately.

A.Strobel questioned if he understood D.Powell to say breaking ground next spring. She advised we have permitting with the DEP to go through but potentially could. Chairman Smith advised we could probably have a timeline in January. D. Powell said she felt the new Museum has priority. A. Strobel " you know the county has to take care of the Campbell Christie House and roof we've been talking about this for several months. So I I hear I hear the notion of that the both projects are very high priority but I can't advise you that we would necessarily stop our project that needs to be done. Because the museum is about to be constructed. I don't know what that time is giving very, very optimistic projections of what your scheduled is." Chairman Smith advised he didn't bring up the roof. You know when you look at cedar roof shingles there's supposed to be an expected lifespan and I mean I didn't notice any issues with that but they got almost a cedar shingle expert but definitely turned into seemed to hold much larger. But I still think again that we can we can work together to coordinate." D.Powell "I have to interject is still about the roof because I'm not even sure it should be cedar because there there is a silverfish problem with the house and it's directly related to the wood shingle roof, the cedar shingle roof. So, you know that has to be considered by you know and that that would have come out during a meeting if we had been had a discussion about doing the roof." Chairman Smith "I think they're experts are going to be involved hopefully that that can be a conversation that can have at all conversations can be heard or kind of potentially to deal with those. But I think that is a conversation to be had."

### **VIII. New Business.**

Chairman Smith: "I know one thing that our subcommittee is going to be meeting between now and the next December commission meeting to discuss the Park Commission funding

and projects, but I'd be happy to entertain like Deborah brought up discussions are thoughts on the commission funding of potentially funding DEP wetland permitting for the project."

A. Strobel "So you'll be coming back with a proposal in the December meeting. Correct or if there's a if there's a question or comment now. I would be happy to take that back to the subcommittee between now and December that it can be discussed at that point because, in fact I'd rather do that now as there is unless you need it to think about it. And wait because it'd be nice to talk that out at that meeting. A.Strobel "You've indicated a desire to do something you haven't presented anything as to what is concretely being asked of the commission. So there's nothing really that I can give any legitimate reaction to. I know local land use state DEP land use permit applications are quite steep. So I understand and presume your notion is to have the state pay that so the society doesn't have to absorb that cost. Is that is that way your what your thinking is? Chairman Smith "I think that was potentially an idea that being that when you look at the costs in a way to help support the project, the Commission can help support the project by help helping with some of those, some of those that type of cost."

Chairman Smith "I'd be happy to find out what the exact cost is. Which makes sense. Yeah, it's a fair point is to have that cost out there."

M.Putrino "I think what Adam was leading to is well is there is there a way we're going to ask the state to see if they're going to encumber any of these costs" "it's part of the New Bridge Landing which are still not on state property. I think we should still ask them if they'll waive it."

Chairman Smith "Mike, that's a very fair point. And that's something that I've kind of tossed around a lot that, that while it's non state property, it has its identified as a state entity, and I understand that it's both private and public. But when you look at some of these conditions, etc. But maybe it should be more considering that a statement."

E.Pain "under my state money from Ringwood state park that I'm allocated is able to be spent on the pizza town lot, the

meadow the Steuben Houses and the landing across the bridge. The appropriation money is able to be spent on any property within the Historic New Bridge Landing. It does sound tricky, but that that appropriation money is eligible spent throughout the the entire historic area.

A.Strobel asked if "Money can be can be applied to county assets; the swing bridge and the Campbell-Christie house."

E.Pain "The state appropriation money could conceivably be used for the rehabilitation or care of the swing bridge and the Campbell Christie House do assets of the county things that can be brought up at the subcommittee meeting and take into Trenton I haven't I haven't delved into something as far as a specific county asset yet. Most of the projects we've been discussing have been landscaping or grounds related, but certainly a question we can look into."

Chairman Smith said "it is something early on that we had discussed, it may have been in March of 2020 when Eric discussed painting the [Steuben] house and it was like a race to who would paint his house first and I guess Eric won, but you know we did discuss setting aside money to paint the Campbell-Christie House until there was a proposal was put forward by the county that they were going to invest the money in just right. But but we originally had it and if we go back to our original proposals, in the budget, it was maybe 2019 or 2020 budget it was there was allocations to towards the Campbell-Christie house. So absolutely that could be used. I mean, previous master plans or discussions have called for different work on the swing bridge as well."

M.Putrino: So I think there's definitely possibilities and I'm partial to Campbell-Christie house because it's from New Milford". D.Powell observed "The County did promise to maintain the bridge, that was part of their agreement when the 1955 bridge was installed."

Discussion about the funding to the Park Commission. E.Pain "The State Department needs to have a proof of payment which then can be submitted back to me and I can submit to Treasury in one package. So every expense of the original \$100,000 from FY 18 needs, you know the purchase order invoice and the proof of payment and then I present that to Treasury in one package and they say okay, you successfully

spent down this money we can now release the next round of funding. So that's that's where we're at right now."

**IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing to report for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Motion to adjourn 7:54 pm.  
First, M.Donohue. Second, M.Putrino. Motion passed.  
Chairman Smith wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and "if you happen to be in the neighborhood stop by for the Retreat event and thank you very much for your time tonight and hopefully in December."

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, December 2, 2021 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

Meeting Dates for 2021: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 3, January 6, 2022

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, December 2, 2021.** Open Public Meetings Act  
Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of Nov 4, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

- C. River Edge
- D. County of Bergen
  - Paint exterior of Christie House
  - Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition
  - Repair / replace front porch. Porch floor patched.
  - cut down two dead trees on County right of away on Hackensack Ave. Done.
  - gutters for rear of house?
  - Signage on local highways; Rt 4, Rt 17
- E. DEP – Steuben House
- F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation
- G. Bergen County Historical Society
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment
- XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at November 4, 2021, 7 PM or unless otherwise determined. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

## **Minutes from Thursday, December 2, 2021:**

### **I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Chairman Smith's read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:01 pm

Due to the health concerns related to COVID-19, the public cannot attend this meeting that is being conducted remotely. Comments or questions can be submitted prior to the meeting. Please include your full name and address to [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

He asked that reports be sent in. Stated "This meeting has been advertised in the newspaper of record as well as the site kiosk", thanked D. Powell for the minutes. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith

emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid 19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com). Discussion on meeting in person.

## **II. Attendance:**

James Smith, Eric Pain, Deborah Powell, John Heffernan, Michael Putrino, Larry Bauer

Absent: Rich Karp, Adam Strobel, Mary Donohue

## **III. Review of Minutes**

December 2, 2021, were reviewed, motion to approve by Michael Putrino, Second, E.Pain, motion passed. John H. advised he did not receive the minutes. D.Powell sent them to him during the meeting.

## **IV. Chairman's Report**

Good evening everyone,

It is hard to imagine that December is upon us! It has been a challenging year but through it all, Historic New Bridge Landing continued to shine. This past month we are able to successful host outside, the 245<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Retreat Weekend. The event went well, all guidelines were followed and everyone, from the reenactors to the visitors both young and old came away happy. The site really shined with the removal of the chain link fence, guard rails, and brown signs that we previously mentioned. I want to thank New Milford for making sure the street was cleaned and no parking signs were placed. I was also able to reach out to Teaneck and Brett Park was also cut prior to the event. The Society's property, as well as the State's all looked immaculate and there was no difference when walking the grounds. These type of appearances matter and will encourage many to keep coming back. Coordination and communication were key to the event's success. Unfortunately, we were not able to have an official unveiling prior to the event, again, a rogue vehicle hit the center post of a fence rail near the gate. While State Workers were tied up, luckily, volunteers were able to remove the broken center post and replace it with a new one prior to the event. There is still one center post that the State can install in the meadow near the entrance.

I was given a contact by Eric at SHPO concerning the question on the brick walkway at the Campbell-Christie House and have reached out. When I have further details, I will bring them up. The Financial Committee was unable to meet in November but we hope to meet December. We can then review the proposed expenditures list at the January meeting, discuss and move forward on any and all projects.

From my family, to yours, happy holidays!

## **Bridge fence improvements by DEP Park Service in time for the event, photo taken on Retreat Weekend**

### **V. Calendar**

December 17- 38th year of Christmas event  
Pop up walking tours outside due to Covid in winter months

### **VI. Continuing Business**

**A. Teaneck – L.Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck. R.Karp absent.** No report provided.

D.Powell advised there is no signage about "no metal detecting" in Brett Park and asked if we could put the park brown signs could be installed in 2 or 3 locations.

Chairman Smith said the signs in Brett Park look very cluttered. D.Powell lamented that there are Facebook archeological groups that are going around digging everywhere.

E.Pain asked if Is there any value to doing analysis of the signs that are currently there and coming up with a plan of what we think or we can coordinate with that jurisdiction on that property saying this is currently what's there, that we think it should be this and also include the "no metal detecting" signs. Chairman Smith said he thought that was a great idea. "It's part of the idea when we had the new kiosk put in, to consolidate in a wooden type of structure

and have it a nicer appearance. L.Bauer and Chairman Smith agreed to meet.

D.Powell also advised I did notice a post about some a wooden bridge, decking put in Brett Park in low spots. I don't know if anybody else saw that." She asked if we had any recommendations on that from the Commission." "I'd like to be able to do that too. Like we talked about through the Meadow in the low spot. She shared a photo.

Chairman Smith said that brings up a good point, there needs to be more coordination. There was a clean up in Brett Park just before Retreat weekend but the garbage was left there so it was the first thing reenactors coming from across the Northeast saw. I think people's hearts are in the right place. And I'm not trying to downplay that, but it's all about that coordination; if whoever was doing the cleanup, if it would have been brought to the commission or brought to the Teaneck representatives on the commission.

**B. New Milford – Mayor Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford.** "Next year is New Milford's 100 anniversary of Incorporation and the 100 anniversary committee was wondering if possibly one night next year we could set up something where we get a tour of the Campbell-Christie House since that is a new type of property originally was from New Milford. We could help fundraise for New Bridge Landing, we could just work together and figure it out. And I did submit my letter of support for the new museum project. Chairman Smith said he would forward to the event committee. D.Powell thanked him for the letter of support and reported she had already sent some out. J. Heffernan asked if they would also like to see the Demarest House Museum since that is also from New Milford.

**C. River Edge – Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.** No news.

**D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Commissioner, and Bergen County Division of Open Space.** No report provided.

D.Powell reported that she received a report from A.Strobel

after the meeting, I didn't realize it was a report, I thought it was a proposal. So I could read it, it's a paragraph but he basically stated that the award of the professional service proposal contract would be would need to be approved by the county. The Board of County Commissioners anticipated to be December. He doesn't give a date, just December 2021. So you know we like you had pointed out at the last meeting, we have not seen any proposal to us. And if they're going to commit money I just worried about the legality of it, I don't want to put the County in a bind.

Chairman Smith: "Definitely think that there's discussion with the Commission beforehand, but there's also a commission with the society just because, obviously, the way the Commission works and also to the Society having use of the structure and and knowing how it works. You know, I think that all this conversation should definitely come into play before it goes any further for sure." He thanked Deborah.

D.Powell asked "I just wondered if we should have a resolution, I don't know what this what this means really.

E.Pain asked if we should keep it in continuing business or business or something like that? Formal Resolution isn't required at least to keep the topic on the agenda. Chairman Smith agreed..

**E. NJDEP, Eric Pain, Park Superintendent Representative.**

**DEP REPORT - Steuben House:**

**12/2/2021**

**Small Maintenance Projects List (No Movement on list)**

Shutter needs attention assigned to maintenance/Dormer/French Drain/Steuben Lawn Fill holes and seed

Interpretive signage Complete

**New interpretive sign about events in a timeline at New Bridge Landing during the American Revolution. Managed by DEP Park Service, created & installed by BCHS volunteers.**

**New interpretive sign about the bridge, ship landing, trading post-wharf and tide mill. Managed by DEP Park Service, created & installed by BCHS volunteers.**

**Visitors reading one of the new interpretive signs.**

Steuben Marker- Waiting on vendor to register with SONJ **Provided information to Chairman Smith**

**Depressions in yard-Wet conditions throughout year did not allow an opportunity?**

**Rock On going**

**Planting Design TBD**

Gate repair pending Complete

Fence in Meadow **needs repaired again IDA**

Removal of metal band damaged by large vehicle Complete

No parking signage to be reinstalled at former Pizza Town Lot Complete

Shutter bolts and Dogs needed

Trenton asking for subcommittee to discuss new appropriation 1.2 Million Initiated **Need to schedule next meeting**

Poison Ivy near former PSE&G needs addressed Determined removal of tree is best course of action

Requested quote for new trees Received waiting on new \$

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Door Dam installed did not work in basement. Front room doors a better application for it.

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proposals for design, I think once they can offer a detailed scope of work, something tangible, it'll be easier to move forward in getting state a/e involved. Initial meeting with A/E Lan Associates on 1/20 information being submitted for next steps. 4/1 as per LAN proposal to be shared with BCHS next week. Site Visit 5/5/21 Surveys submitted to LAN to assist with proposal

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7) Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$3000-\$5000 Awaiting results of the Paint analysis

8) Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$600.70 Complete

9) Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush-RSP Maintenance completed first "wave" Some brush and dead tree removal conducted on 1/20 more needed but a good start

10) Interpretive Panels \$4140 Additional information required. Design and content PO request being processed?! Getting closer? Process order for non state property signs now. Would involve revised estimate and new po request Received PO order submitted Hardware shipped 1/28 was to be delivered 2/2 nothing yet complete order received 2/10 Signs delivered last sign ordered Meadow sign in transit. Delivered to SH 7/1

11) Fence Rails and posts \$2680 DELIVERED

12) Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$611.59 Complete

13) Turn around \$6226 complete

14) Stone dust path exterior of meadow LMR submitted. **Quote received not cost effective**

15) Exterior Pain Steuben House Evaluating contractors soliciting quotes Met with initial contractor 10/9 soliciting additional bids submitted hpo application. Pb120 submitted 11/20. 1/2/20 process complete all bids received. Must use low bid Maio Construction. PO approved. Need to approve colors and award job! \$28975 Work should be starting next week. Complete. Back staircase needs another coat or 2

16) Car Counter Received \$1034.56

17) Meadow Stone Dust Path Restoration PO Approved 2008.57 waiting on contractor Completed

18 Pizza Town Lot Parkrite \$835.00

19. Outkitchen Roof Met onsite with contractor 3/18 2 quotes received as of 6/9/21 need one more. 3 quotes received K. Bernadic low bid. **Waiting on new \$ to proceed Need to go to second vendor**

20. Tree removal seeking estimate probably \$1875-\$2200. For a day of work might try to get some other things taken care of while they are there if there are needs

21 walkway install Campbell Christie House Walkway quote in the process of receiving 2 quotes received waiting on third still Contract awarded Green Meadows requesting PO 11871.47 **Po received waiting on materials potential HPO approval required?**

22 Bollards and Guardrail removal Quote received seeking additional bids low bid Maio \$3875. Po Completed

23. \$2400 worth of posts and rails ordered, received and some installed by RSP Staff

Chairman Smith mentioned the floors warping somewhat. E.Pain said he was seeking recommendations from his staff. D.Powell said it was unwarping some since the storm IDA. Water did not actually come in the house.

**F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. Acting Commissioner BDF Rep** Nothing to report.

**G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS**

We had another successful event at HNBL, this month for Retreat weekend. The event featured American reenactors marching from Fort Lee to New Bridge portraying events of Nov 20, 1776 (that Thomas Paine wrote about.) Reenactors arriving Sunday approximately 10:00 am, Nov 21. On Sunday we also featured a skirmish that happened Nov 21, 1776 when American attempted to defend the bridge but the British drove them across bridge. I uploaded some video of it to youtube that I shot from the second story window of the Steuben House. We had 9 enlargements of period maps showing New Bridge and BCHS Rev War collections including the 1783 portraits of Washington & Greene and activities for children, we had lots of families.

The new interpretive signs were a big hit at the event. Two volunteers, Scott Sybel & Michael Ginch were able to install 3 of them and two others by Michael Ginch.

We finally received a resolution from the town of River Edge

on the new building. She advised she could share it. Chairman Smith suggested could be entered into the record. Our engineer is proceeding with the permitting with the DEP. She shared the document in Zoom. The costs adds up to \$26,000 and change and costs \$5,000 payment for the engineer. He thought it may go as fast as 6 months. D.Powell said she had second thoughts about asking the Park Commission to pay for DEP permitting and getting held up, especially with the pressure from the County. Maybe break ground next summer. Per suggestions, D.Powell said she would write a letter to the state to see if fee could be waved or abbreviated. [Funds are being raised by donations] D.Powell brought up another letter, from last May, a letter from the our engineer to, the Bergen County Board of Utilities, the engineer was waiting for a response so I was hoping you know, to be able to address it with Adam today but I can forward it to him. She shared the letter. He mention needing a response from the BC Board of Utilities for the DEP. Chairman Smith advised this is how the Commission is supposed to function and help resolve issues. "I see no issue reaching out to Adam, hopefully he can facilitate the discussion with somebody, maybe they were away."

We're in discussions with a project manager on putting together a timeline and plans on the new BCHS museum building.

For December events we had planned last fall to do what we did last year in considering the Covid situation and are having outdoor Story & Songs with Linda Russell through the site beginning at the Steuben House with viewable dancers inside but the public outside and ending at the Campbell-Christie House. It's our 38th year and a holiday tradition for people, and estimates we'll have 80 people making reservations. We also have a Zoom Winter Solstice Christmas readings with Linda on the 17th. It's difficult to plan especially with the indoor activities in the winter but we're planning on doing Pop Up walking tours when the weather is predicted to be warm enough. That could involve opening a building. We've been requiring people to wear masks inside through out situation and limiting group sizes to facilitate distancing.

"I can report that that we had actually over 30,000 reach on our Facebook page for last month. 16,000 of that was alone was a video of the reenactment [from the Steuben House dormer window], people respond to visuals. So you know, it's

pretty exciting times for the Historical Society. I'm looking forward to this next year with the new museum building."

**The British are coming.  
November 21, 1776 - November 21, 2021 Reenactment  
of the Retreat from Fort Lee to New Bridge.**

**Visitors came dressed for the Rev War event, November 21, 2021.**

**BCHS Rev War collections / artifacts on exhibit. New donation, portrait said to be Major Baron von Steuben painted shortly before he died.**

## **VII. Old business**

Discussion on protecting the Steuben House porch column from water dripping from roof. Chairman Smith said the idea was to put down landscape fabric to create a barrier between the historical fabric of the soil and then put like a kind of a larger stone so that when the water hits it, it's not going to puddle us quickly and it's going to dissipate and it's kind of it dissipates the water spread this would be the idea behind it. E.Pain discussed investigating the French Drains and conduits behind the Steuben House where water puddles, possibly with cameras.

## **VIII. New Business.**

E.Pain said we need to pick a time for next Financial Meeting. Chairman Smith acknowledged he would follow up. D.Powell asked if we have to go before SHPO on the new museum. E.Pain advised " I'm not sure is that true for the new museum building not being as a state property but that can be asked if and when Jim finally makes contact. Maybe that could you

know if they ask it could be quickly shown so they see what we're doing and the proximity."

**IX. Public Comment.**

Chairman Smith: There is nothing to report for public comment.

**X. Adjournment** Motion to adjourn 7:51 pm.  
First, J.Heffernan. Second, L.Bauer. Motion passed. Chairman Smith wished everyone happy holidays.

**XI. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at 7 PM, January 6, 2022 due to the virus shutdown. The meeting takes place via conference call. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).

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**AGENDA**

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission  
**Thursday, January 6, 2022.** Open Public Meetings Act  
Statement

II. Attendance

II. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of Dec 2, 2021

IV. Calendar

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park

B. New Milford

C. River Edge

D. County of Bergen

-Paint exterior of Christie House

-Repair rotting window sill on Christie House addition

-gutters for rear of house?

- Signage on local highways; Rt 4, Rt 17

E. DEP – Steuben House

- F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation
- G. Bergen County Historical Society
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment
- XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held online at February 3, 2022 7 PM or unless otherwise determined. Due to the virus shutdown the meeting took place via conference call where Chairman Smith emailed the invite. Details concerns related to Covid-19. Unfortunately, the public cannot attend this meeting. It is being conducted remotely comments or questions were to be submitted prior to the meeting to the address, [hnbipc@gmail.com](mailto:hnbipc@gmail.com).