

Historic New Bridge Landing Annual Report

2018



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 2018. 2018 has been another banner year for Historic New Bridge Landing. The key to our success is consistently exciting and innovative programming that not only attracts new audiences, but repeat visitors as well.

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.

We continue to believe the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission is a potential model for a more effective and efficient operation of state assets as well as a more economical expenditure of state funds. 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 for the first time, the Commission has received funds to begin to operate effectively. 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..

We further believe there is great potential to strengthen the regional economy through heritage tourism, if only we could overcome the backwardness in funding this virtually unrecognized and untapped opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

James Smith, Chairman,

Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

The Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission December 2018

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)

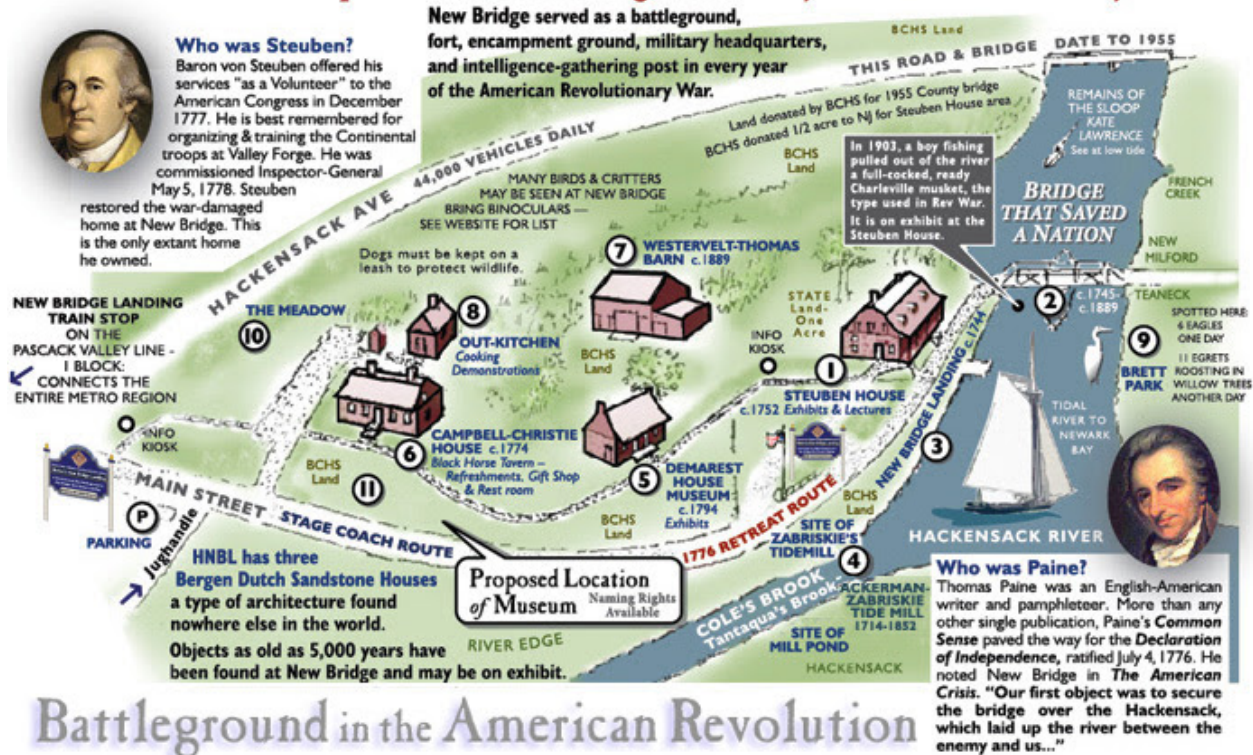
James Smith (Bergen County Historical Society), Chairman

Adam Strobel (County of Bergen)

John Heffernan (Alternate for the Blauvelt Demarest Foundation).

Historic New Bridge Landing

Headquarters of the Bergen County Historical Society



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.

2018 Pictorial Year in Review (Snapshots of Events at Historic New Bridge Landing)





Dr. Evelyn McDowell, Ph.D.
will present a program on the
creation of a new lineage
society for Descendants of
enslaved people in
colonial America
and the USA.

Thursday,
February 15, 2018
7:30 PM
Lecture & Refreshments
in the Steuben House.
1209 Main Street,
River Edge, NJ.

A portrait of Dr. Evelyn McDowell, Ph.D., a Black woman with curly hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark jacket.





March to the Vote



**Linda
Russell**

**Sen
Weinberg**

**Asw
Schepisi**

**BCHS
Deb Powell**



Exhibits









Baronfest



Lectures





Concerts



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



Audit and Financial Statement

An appropriation of 100,000 for the FY 2018 was released to the Commission in June of 2018. A list of projects has been submitted that benefits the entire site as whole. As each project comes online and is funded, it will be shared within the monthly minutes. We continue to work with all parties so that the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission can receive funding that can be administered locally for the benefit of all entities at Historic New Bridge Landing.

Meeting schedule for 2018

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 3. The entire calendar will be publically announced following the January meeting.

2018 Events at Historic New Bridge Landing

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 \$12 per adult and \$7 for students). 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.

Minutes of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission

January Meeting snowed out

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Thursday, February 1, 2018

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:07 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, Adam Strobel, Mike Putrino, John Heffernan for Blauvelt Demarest Foundation

Excused: Mary Donohue. No contact from Larry Bauer
Richard Karp was in attendance.

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 7, 2017. Motion to approve A.Strobel, Second; E. Pain.
One abstention – Mike Putrino

IV. Calendar

[http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackC
ard2018.2.pdf](http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf)

V. Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to the March meeting of the HNBLPC.

New Member: **Mike Putrino** – New Milford

John Oddie stepped down from Teaneck a few months ago due to family reasons. Teaneck will be filling the open position and Richard Karp has stepped forward to take the position. It will require approval from the Teaneck Council.

Eagle Scout Project – new sign in Brett Park for interpretation and organizing the signage that currently exists.



Knox Box- The County Fire Marshall has asked that a knox box be placed on the house in case accessed was needed for a fire. Examples of knox boxes were brought in and I have a copy tonight. If there are no objections, we would move that this would be approved for the Christie House only.

We do not have an update on the floors of the Steuben House as unfortunately, the paperwork has not been filled out by the person who the contract was awarded to and we were told there is a spending freeze, the state has no money.

Moving forward, we continue to advocate for funding for the HNBPLC, the restoration of the Steuben House and improvements to Historic New BridgeLanding as a whole.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VI.

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. No report submitted, absent. Richard Karp reported he met with the Teaneck Council regarding future appointment to be Teaneck representative to the HNBLSPC commission. They had a discussion on Brett Park and moving historic houses there as well as archaeology. He noted a new exhibit on the Greenway at the library.

B. New Milford – Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. No report submitted. He thanked the Park Commission for welcoming him back. He noted in May he gave an impromptu tour at New Bridge to high school students from Utah, and felt connected to site and glad to be on the commission again. He asked if Retreat Signs were missing. Chairman Smith said we were contacted by scouts and the County is helping with reproducing. He said we are trying to conform to NPS standards. He asked if M.Putrino thought any should be added to be advised. A resident saw the public meeting notice in the paper and attended meeting.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge. No report submitted. M. Donohue she did ask the towns to vacuum out the River Edge drains.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space. No report submitted.

1. A. Strobel said he reached out to General Services about the Campbell-Christie House bathroom sink and he asked for a contact to schedule work.

2. A. Strobel reported that Christos he's continuing to talk to engineer at Boswell and what permits would be needed.

3. Lock/Knox Box. A.Strobel passed around an example of a box and spec sheet and photo of one at Garretson. Chairman Smith questioned whether it could be recessed. Discussion whether box would have keys to all buildings. D.Powell noted we would have to have security cameras installed. Chairman Smith said he thought BCHS should talk to insurance representative. D. Powell asked if the tenant or owner is contacted at the time and if only for fire alarm or security breach.

4. Chairman Smith asked about stream work - mitigation project in New Milford. M.Putrino said they had a very long project where flooding people's houses Hersheld Creek, they spent \$600,000. Chairman Smith referenced flooding issues at New Bridge and what New Milford did to stabilize their property. D.Powell pointed out French Creek, New Milford (across from the Steuben House) had something similar, large rocks line a creek all the way to the New Bridge Inn. C.1940 photo showing lawn north of the Steuben House that has been become poorly drained with the 1954 bridge.

5. D.Powell moving on to the Campbell-Christie House said the house gets quite cold, that the museum collection committee works upstairs every Monday night, whether it make a difference if interior storm windows were installed and would help keep costs down in this extreme weather and whether there should be an annual check of the heating system. Ties into survey Chairman Smith mentioned of the house. A.Strobel said it could be added to list when they come about the sink.

6. Strobel brought up fire extinguishers. D. Powell brought up that we have a fire extinguisher check done for the site in January and they were brought up to date. We had a \$300 security & fire check report generated. We have 3 other buildings we maintain, have extinguishers.

7. D.Powell brought up the back door is the handicap access to the building and the large slate walk has shifted and creates an uneven gap - path to get in building and needs to be adjusted so a wheelchair would have access. She noted until we get the new museum built, it is the only handicap bathroom on the site.

E. DEP – Steuben House Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park. Submitted a report email:

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:

Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendor. The Park Commission agreed to wait for the vendor availability.

Snow Plowing

Green Meadows continues to provide snow removal services. Stone dust path to be removed from contract once current purchase order is exhausted. While onsite I did notice tire marks on the grass. I questioned the plowing company and the manager was adamant that his crew was not driving on the grass or path? D. Powell said it may have been volunteers moving items between houses and musician moving instruments in the house for performances.

Stone Dust Pathway through site

E.Pain acknowledged he has a spending freeze until July 1, 2018 and wondering how he would have the shoveling and plowing done. D.Powell observed they did shovel up to the bridge but did not shovel the bridge last 2 snow storms. For M. Putrino's update she related how she was pushing for that to be cleared because it is so important for the historic site and for commuters from New Milford and Teaneck to get to the train station. Chairman Smith was thankful the snow plowers on New Milford side cleared it appropriately on that side.

Tree Survey Spring of 2018

Painting prepared to move forward with the identification of paint color and painting of interior rooms at Steuben House. Should discuss selection of colors and priority of rooms.

Historic Marker-Funding and Vendor TBD

Miscellaneous Projects

Phone line now working. Outgoing message not operational.

Guard rail issue: The rail is near the bridge on the state side but serves no purpose with the road closed. He consulted DOT. They felt the guard rail could be removed but advised the chain link fence was needed to keep pedestrians from walking down. E.Pain thought he would be able to have it done.

E.Pain advised the Steuben House extinguishers were updated this month.

Chairman Smith asked how we would go about exploring putting in a walk, a loop north of the Steuben House. E.Pain suggested going through a Land Management Review, generate a GIS technology report, he could review and submit to Fish & Wildlife for review. Smith was curious about the vegetation could be reviewed.

Discussion:

VII. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan representing BDF. No report other than the house being open for events.

No report

VIII. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS Representative.

We had a successful Christmas concert season (Dec 16 & 17), we sold out all seats.

Eaglefest, HNBL - Where Eagles Fly, January 14 was also very popular, we partnered with the BC Audubon Society for that event. Brigit's Day brought out visitors including a person interested in donating five Bergen County coverlets and others sharing personal collection photos to build up knowledge on this Bergen County art form. We exhibited 15 coverlets for the event. We purchased more stands so they could be displayed. I gave a talk where I framed what we know about them to articles Kevin Wright wrote for a 1983 folk art catalog, *The Tree of Life* and 1983 exhibit which were based on our collections as well as borrowing privately owned artifacts. The 1983 Tree of Life exhibit and publication were ground breaking both for the state historic sites and the Society at the time. Can note we only came here at the end of 1981 and this is one of the things Kevin was able to accomplish in less than 2 years.

In December, I was delighted to receive the \$1,000 check for a grant I applied for from the Delaware Valley Historic Sampler Guild back in August. The grant is to conserve and frame a pair of exceptional 1740s needlework. I have on the iPad if anyone wants to see.

We have a busy season coming up. Please see our event card for event listing and info. Sen. Weinberg and Asw. Holly Schepisi have agreed speak and to kick off a series of programming on women's history leading up to 2020 when women obtained the vote.

Board member Bev Hashimoto met with fire extinguisher for site updates in January.

I spoke to our FEMA representative re: addressing and being proactive on future floods at New Bridge both protecting the buildings and the collections. He indicated from their perspective because the state did not put in a claim it was not be documented. He suggested it could go to our congressperson. It seems to me we would have some leg to stand on since the flood maps have been updated based on impact info. Looking for feedback from PC.

The FEMA people have been great to work with, everything needs to be documented, it's been going on since Sunday when collections were stored off site near the Passaic River. D. Powell acknowledged being worried about water damage to the Steuben House (previous meeting mentioned water coming from the inlet created from the 1954 bridge construction) and the need for small fixes to larger ones. Discussion continued on coming up with a plan.

D.Powell reported on receiving the Letter of Intent on from the DEP, Division of Land Use Fresh Water Wetland Intent, issued on June 23, 2017, Resource Classification to a 50 foot buffer zone where we have sited the building. It needs to go before the River Edge Planning Board.

IX. New Business

D.Powell shared the affidavit of the notice the meeting dates were posted in the North Jersey/Record newspaper. A resident saw it in the paper and was in attendance. The BCHS picks up the cost of publishing it.

She added no one here here receiving a pension or compensation for being a representative on the Park Commission.

Chairman Smith reported on beneficial projects he's worked on with groups including The Children of the American Revolution raised \$5,000 for the new museum, scout groups building a wood tool shed, wooden log benches for seating, the bridge stockade fencing removed on the New Milford side and replacing with correct fencing as appears in early photographs. A new project by an eagle scout is for Brett Park. The plan is to put up a kiosk where positive messaging could also be included alongside the rules of the park in the new kiosk. Hopefully at the next meeting we will have more information on the progress.

2018 meeting dates:

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7, Jul 11 (2nd Wednesday due to July 4 Holiday week), Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 3, 2019.

X. Public Comment

No comment.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. First, J.Heffernan; Second, A.Strobel, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Minutes:

Thursday, March 1, 2018

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:07 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, Adam Strobel, Mike Putrino, Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino

Excused: Mary Donohue. John Heffernan

Parks Director Mark Texel, Tomas Leonardo, David Leonardo, Bev Hashimoto, Bob Roth were in attendance.

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 1, 2018. Motion to approve A.Strobel, Second; E. Pain.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

V. Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to our March HNBLPC meeting,

I start off the meeting on a somber note, having to inform everyone of the passing of HNBLPC original member, Jim Bellis. Jim was someone who was passionate about this site and in recent years funded the restoration of the Blauvelt Demarest House as well as the 2015 restoration of the Westervelt -Thomas Barn. He will be missed and we send our condolences to his family.

Moving forward, I would like to welcome Richard Karp to the Commission on behalf of Teaneck. Rich, who has been a citizen fixture at meetings here, will fill the role vacated by John Oddie and has been approved by Teaneck for this position. The information for Richard's approval has been sent to Senator Weinberg's office, along with Mike Putrino's for approval by the Governor's office.

I want to thank Eric Pain for his continued dialogue and positive approach. I feel the coordination and communication has been extremely helpful and we are thankful for that. I would also like to report that much progress has been made on the release of funds for Historic New Bridge Landing as a whole. There will be a focus on projects that help

the initial visitor experience, historic preservation and conservation as well as plans for Historic New Bridge Landing moving forward, so when future plans are secured, funding can quickly be applied.

As a Commission, every entity plays an important role and having active members is important to our goals. Ultimately, when we think of Historic New Bridge Landing, we need to envision it as a hub to the surrounding community. It is the location with parking, open spaces, multiple buildings and a multi-layer story. From this hub, the stories radiate out to different historic sites and destinations like a spoke. In the 18th and 19th century, all roads lead to New Bridge and I like to think the same applies today. With the completion of the museum building, we will have the final component that makes this place move forward and that are proper restrooms. The American Alliance of Museums states that museums in NJ pump 1.11 billion dollars in the NJ economy, provide over 14 thousand jobs and 89% of people, regardless of political persuasion, believe that museums provide important economic impacts back to their communities. When looking at it that way, it's hard to imagine why anyone would not support what is planned.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman

Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

Initial scout report on the kiosk for Brett Park, Teaneck. Tomas Leonardo Troop 24 and Jr at Bergen Academy, showed possible designs to use, making it 2 sided, 4 feet wide with a map of the park on one side and information about the site on second sign for Teaneck's park rules and to make them more visually appealing. He asked what permits are needed and to move the signs. Chairman Smith said the idea was to identify with Historic New Bridge Landing and familiarize visitors what the park has. Teaneck would need to approve the sign and our representatives should be able to help facilitate that. Tomas asked what company was used to produce the kiosk by the Steuben House and D. Powell advised the state built the sign frame but she created the image and sent a file to print on a very tough material to Fossil Graphics. The roof on the frame protects the sign from the elements too. [BCHS paid for the sign board production]. Tomas advised he would fundraise to produce it. He would be working on it this spring – summer, he had through his senior year to complete. M. Putrino advised Teaneck would have to give permission, you have to make sure you're not violating their sign ordinance. DPW may want to do the installation. Chairman Smith deferred to the Teaneck representatives and Tomas would be coming back with a formal presentation. The scout leader said they need a letter for the scout project that it is feasible and start the planning. He asked who would be the beneficiary and contact. Chairman Smith said he would be happy to be the contact and have a letter at the next meeting. He mentioned the impact we can have because he recognized Tomas from 6 years ago because they are both Red Bull fans, and his photo was in the crowd in a walking tour Kevin Wright was giving. Scout document: http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/Kiosk_Leonardo_20180403_20501894.pdf

VI.

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. No reports submitted. L. Bauer said he was interested in handicap accessibility. Richard Karp was approved by the town to be a ParkCommission Representative for Teaneck. He said there has been a discussion about moving threatened buildings to Brett Park and another thought he had was giving the park to Historic New BridgeLanding State Park. He acknowledged the Greenway Trail goes through, some soccer games, and a small parking lot. Chairman Smith one of the things to identify resources like the trees, there's a lot of potential but need to identify historic structures, an African American Revolutionary soldier may be buried there and Native American remains. D.Powell said the master plan covers this including a memorial to Native Americans and Tantaqua. She said she didn't think moving buildings is and definitely needs archaeology to be done. The idea of moving buildings to another location is not favored any longer like the Campbell-Christie House, it has lost its identity, it was built as a tavern and blacksmith at an intersection on road to the church. Every time a building is threatened "lets move it to NewBridge" but it doesn't fit in with was here and it is a huge commitment, I'm here almost every night with a meeting trying to make this fly, programming, how to take care of it, how to advertise it, how to pay for it. Chairman Smith said to keep the conversion going and to send the master plan to new members.

[reports, minutes, plans are on the

website: <http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/Pages/HNBLPC.html>]

B. New Milford – Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. No report submitted. M.Putrino said he spoke with the fire marshall for New Milford and River Edge, Alan Silverman, how a lockbox works. They install it and key is on truck and company calls in and releases it. The council applied for a streetscape grant a few years ago from borough hall to New Bridge. He said they were hoping for a letter of support and would let the HNBLSPC know when it is needed. Motion to support recommending a New Milford streetscape grant application Borough Hall to New Bridge Road, Larry Bauer first, Rich Karp second. No discussion. Chairman Smith commended Mike and said he wished River Edge would do the same and connect the shopping district that they named after New BridgeLanding.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge. No report submitted.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space. No report submitted.

1. A. Strobel said he didn't think there was a meeting on the bathroom sink. Chariman Smith confirmed they set up a meeting for 3:30 pm Monday and no one showed up. Chairman Smith did follow up with an email and got an acknowledgement today about rescheduling. D. Powell asked if he had to take off work for the no-show and he said he did not but it was inconvenient like for anyone, and not get a notification and have to send a follow up email. A.Strobel brought up them not having a key it an issue, "if we had a key they wouldn't have to spend time coordinating". Chairman Smith asked A. Strobel to relay

back “I want to move forward and have seen the positive moving forward and I think people are still harboring issues and I do not receive a salary for this and we all want to see this work and have a positive relationship and make sure there is nothing punitive happening here and this gets resolved. The BCHS needs to be involved because they are aware of where the leak is and other problems.”

2. A. Strobel said Christos put in another call to Boswell and A. Strobel called today and asked what the status is, that the County Executive is very interested, and Boswell rep said he would investigate. A. Strobel said he should have called sooner so he would have an answer in time for the meeting.

3. **Lock/Knox Box.** Chairman Smith advised it was brought up to the BCHS board and they did not have an issue with it. A. Strobel said they wanted input on how it get affixed and where it goes and what is appropriate. He would set that in motion.

4. Chairman Smith followed up with the **1955 ditch** that has not been cleaned out. It runs around the state property and it ends between the Christie House and the Demarest House by the road. It is so filled up with debris that water goes to path of least resistance and behind the Demarest House and then to the Steuben House. Discussed whether a permit was needed if just maintenance. A. Strobel said it could be determined.

5. **House survey.** D. Powell moving on to the Campbell-Christie House said the house gets quite cold, that the museum collection committee works upstairs every Monday night, whether it make a difference if interior storm windows were installed and would help keep costs down in this extreme weather and whether there should be an annual check of the heating system. Ties into survey Chairman Smith mentioned of the house. A. Strobel said it could be added to list when they come about the sink. No update.

6. **County Park Plans.** D. Powell said she saw in the paper some initiatives by the County Executive coming year and the Park master plan and that we [Park Commission] were not involved, I went to one meeting as a private citizen, the PC was not involved in giving any kind of input so asked should we invite them to come to the next PC meeting and do you have plans you can share. A. Strobel said it is a project in his office and a project with Rutgers. We're heading to draft document and said they are sensitive to stakeholders and reach out to as many people as possible. He said his office is probably past having a meeting with HNBLSPC. He asked what info were we looking for. D. Powell asked if it included New Bridge, if it did include HNBL shouldn't we know or have input? A. Strobel said report references New Bridge and County's asset. And that it's more of a big picture direction, policy direction and new opportunities. A. Strobel asked what do you want it to say. D. Powell she was asking, she didn't know the answer because she hasn't seen anything. DEP Park Director Mark Texel interjected and explained because HNBLSPC has its own master plan it doesn't fall under the County Park Plan. D. Powell acknowledged past plans for a pathway running right into the historic core area were seen as a big negative but a path from FDU could run up Commerce Way [other side of Coles Brook] and possibly loop to the Green Way path. A. Strobel said there is discussion of a new linear park but the plan doesn't say it is going through New Bridge Landing.

D.Powell said hopefully you're proud of HNBLSP and you view it as an asset. A.Strobel said they spent time on how to characterize unique parks with no assets in the County. He said he would send out a draft.

E. DEP – Steuben House Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:

Floor Refinishing: Reaching out to another contractor, Sourman Contracting. He's trying as does not want to wait forever.

Snow Plowing. E.Pain hopes it is done for the year.

Stone Dust Pathway: No update

Tree Survey Spring of 2018. He expects to be able to schedule it this spring. We do have two ash trees. Chairman Smith suggested trying to treat it. D.Powell asked if want to replant a black walnut for the one that was taken down. Chairman Smith deferred to doing archaeology first. Mark Texel asked it was a specimen tree and D.Powell noted the K.Wright had found a black walnut was planted near these ancient Dutch houses and are associated with weddings.

Painting prepared to move forward with painting the meeting room and the far room [main large room]. E.Pain asked what color to select. There is a Milner report 1977 that Chairman Smith tracked down. He also arranged for a paint expert in conjunction with the Countdown to 350 Series and taxes on paint. There is new technology that makes the Milner tests perhaps outdated and that we should do new testing. He also noted other areas of research like the root cellar.

Historic Marker-Funding and Vendor TBD whether they can do paperwork. Chairman Smith said that the BCHS can fund putting up the state marker, the big issue is to determine where it can go. There's one at Ford Mansion and one at a Light House. Our marker really tells the story of the house accurately as a Revolutionary Battlefield which the story has gotten somewhat lost. Parks Director Mark Textel asked if Steuben was ever at the house. D.Powell related besides him being required to keep a bed and servant at the house, a famous documented story where Jan Zabriskie invited him to a party at New Bridge and Zabriskie later sent Steuben the bill and Capt North in a letter is bitterly complaining what a scoundrel and the audacity for passing the expense to Steuben. And there's that Steuben restored the war damaged house and it is pretty much the house you see today, the house he restored.

Miscellaneous Projects

Phone line now working. Outgoing message not operational. No update.

Guard rail issue: The rail is near the bridge on the state side but serves no purpose with the road closed. E.Pain said he would be able to have it done either in house or contracted out.

Chairman Smith had asked about in a walk, a loop north of the Steuben House. E.Pain started looking at a Land Management Review, internal review for the department and identifies it for historic, archaeology and environmental sensitivities. The Lidar technology by Division of Information Bureau of Geographic Systems and he is checking dates to see about him coming to meeting.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – No report

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

Can mention that we receive many research requests, for example on genealogy and the artifacts in BCHS collections. The museum collection committee meets every Monday night and last Monday we moved items upstairs in the Steuben House in anticipation of the nor'easter. We had the George Washington Centennials Quilt on exhibit for the Birthday event. Jim Smith gave an interesting presentation to the School of Interpretation on the Tax Acts leading up to the American Revolution. The School trains our volunteers so they are prepared for tours at the site.

Washington's Birthday was damp with the rain that morning but we still had a great turnout and children responded to the Washington scavenger hunt and a hat project.

Dr. Evelyn McDowell spoke to full house on a new group formed; African American on the Middle Passage at the February lecture program. BCHS continues to explore ways to reach new audiences.

We just reprinted 5,000 site brochures.

D.Powell passed around 2 copies of the plans from the engineer for the new museum building. D.Powell gave A.Strobel a copy per his request.

The new museum building is proceeding with foundation, sewer and sprinklers. Chairman Smith added really trying to make the building LEED certified to help deal with runoff, insulation panels inbetween beams. LED lighting throughout building. He pointed out the bathrooms are being designed so they could be open without the whole building being open. The decking platform stage with handicap ramping. D.Powell described it

being elevated on helical piers so it really is low impact. 11 ft elevation. Chairman Smith pointed out it will be leveled with landscaping. We're to schedule a planning board meeting. A.Strobel asked about funding and operating costs. They are unknown at this point. Chairman Smith went on to say it's a barn that gets reconstructed on site.

D.Powell added we received a check for reimbursement almost \$60,000 from FEMA [Collections were stored off-site in Passaic County because of work in the Steuben House & Campbell-Christie House when Hurricane Sandy hit]. Chairman Smith said FEMA has been fantastic. D.Powell added they have been very straight arrow, you have to document everything but that's what you want when public funds are being spent. We are making progress.

IX. New Business

Director of Parks and Forestry Mark Texel appreciated being able to come to tonight's meeting. He acknowledged getting to meet the new acting DEP Commissioner and that she is a big history fan and a strong advocate and feels will be positive and approachable and head winds behind projects. Rich Boornazian remains assistant commissioner.

He advised the Park Commission had been given appropriation of \$100,000 from Department of State budget and they began last fall to determine how to disperse funds to the Park Commission. Issues with them being able to disperse to the DEP. Months passed. Senator Weinberg is a big sponsor, supporter and pressing it to move forward. What's been drafted is an intergovernmental 3-way document which he had just gotten that day. The document gives power to transfer funds from Department of State to DEP to Park Commission. The DEP would be the agent to get the funds to Park Commission. He indicated they were anxious to get it signed quickly within the next couple of weeks. Chairman Smith would be signing it, someone in DEP and probably Bill Shawn from Department of State. There's another document, grant agreement, a project list. There's two ways the money could come, the Park Commission set up a bank account with a treasurer and signature authority, takes more time and should get going quickly, and the other is the DEP is the agent and the funds are in a dedicated account and pay for projects. Robin Madden said it would be the fastest and that the grant language is flexible. The money could be used, for example, to pay someone hourly, paint analysis, marker but not to buy land. The other is the DEP holds the funds and we just draw from it. The grant agreement gets signed. DEP Carmen DeVilla probably acts as accounting agent to Eric Pain. Or could set up a bank account where donations also could go to the Park Commission. Discussed whether to go to BCHS because whether funds go to a 501 c3 but decided best to go to DEP. He wasn't sure if the money has to be spent before the end of budget year, June 30 but should be encumbered. One year appropriation so no guarantee we can get it again but he thought likely. He said he would be working on pushing it through any red tape in Trenton. E. Pain went through his long term to-do list, brick walk, floors, parking lot, Aquadams, regrading Sutton Lys property. Chairman Smith mentioned visitor experience is a priority and named redesigning the parking lot and

entrance to the site and the Steuben House, river landing and archaeology/restoration. Mark Texel said the money could be used for anything. Decision point of what we want to do transition into a bank account and sought to grab the enthusiasm of the moment. Flexibility below \$1,750, above that amount had to be publically bid. Can choose from preapproved vendors. Practical for Park Commission not needed to approve every purchase and could go to a select committee. E.Pain's office doing leg work like for quotes. Texel would like to assign a RIS to help. D. Powell asked how does this fit within the original intent of the law. Texel said there is an attorney assigned to Park Commission. He again described the agreement. D.Powell asked is this adding to the budget for the Steuben House or is it the budget. Texel said it is addition. E. Pain said he spends \$35,000 on the site depending on snow plowing, outside of capital projects. E.Pain said he would have to refrain on voting. D.Powell observed the site had a RIS not that long ago so with salary, pension, benefits were probably at \$100,000. The Historical Society is very active at the site and very efficient running the site with volunteers, and for an event we have the whole site [3 houses, barn, outkitchen] open 25-35 historians, interpreters, set up -- that would be large even for the state park to manage. The downside is that school groups and someone traveling for example from Europe can't see the Steuben House. She said she wanted to focus understanding the big picture and the core story what happened here. Texel suggested it be signed as quickly as possible. Who is our lawyer. D.Powell suggested inviting the DEP commissioner to an event. A.Strobel suggested M.Texel wants to go back to Trenton with a sense of approval of document. D.Powell she wanted to read it before voting on it. R.Karp asserted after a quick read through it was pretty straight forward. Chairman Smith said we could vote to empower him to approve it after taking to the DAG. A.Strobel and M. Putrino contract can be made subject to final review. Texel suggested the money would need to be encumbered but he would ask. M.Putrino made a motion to make a contract committee and empower our Chairman [Smith] and Deborah Powell to execute the contract on our behalf. M.Putrino First, A.Strobel Second. No discussion, passed. Link for Intergovernment Agreement Below:

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/IntergovernmentalAgreement_20180404.pdf

D.Powell said that "it is important for Commissioners to remember to generate and submit a written report and send to me so I have that I have them for the minutes, it would be more efficient. We can have a discussion at the end of the report." Cut and paste into Word. She asked if everyone receives the minutes.

L.Bauer said he is working with group to make Teaneck bike friendly.

2018 meeting dates:

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7, Jul 11 (2ndWednesday due to July 4 Holiday week), Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 3, 2019.

X. Public Comment

No comment.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. First, L.Bauer; Second, R.Karp, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Minutes for April 5, 2018:

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:05 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, Adam Strobel, Mike Putrino, Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino, Mary Donohue, John Heffernan

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of March 1, 2018. Motion to approve M.Donohue, Second; R.Karp.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

Chairman Smith listed the upcoming events, including spring clean-up on April 21, Chawme Gischuch; Under the Shad Moon on April 22 and a lecture with on April 26 with Dr. Robert Selig on Battlefield Clean-up.

V. Chairman's Report

And once again, welcome to the monthly Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission meeting. As a reminder, please make sure to provide a written report monthly to our Secretary, in order to ensure a smooth process when recording discussions. I want to begin by thanking everyone for including their resumes in a timely manner so that I could provide them to Senator Weinberg's office for Confirmation. All paperwork was submitted and we await a response. I also want to welcome Jim Bellis Jr., who will be representing the Blauvelt Demarest Foundation. Again, we remember all that James Bellis Sr. did as a founding member of this Commission and we look forward to continue working with the Blauvelt Demarest Foundation here at HNBL.

Moving forward, I did receive the with the agreement from the office of Mark Texel and after discussions, it has been signed and will be sent. This is a fantastic first step when it comes to funding for the Site, which will benefit all parties. I think when we look at the funding is easy to get distracted but I think it is important we lay the foundation for future success and go around's. To do this, I do believe it is important that we consult the Master Plan and look at ways it can be

implemented. One item in the master plan calls for the addition of a hay barrack. Hay barracks would have been common on Jersey Dutch farms and we know they existed here in the county. It would add a missing interpretative piece, but also tie in different components of the site. Imagine a hay barrack, four posts like an arbor, with a thatch roof in the meadow near the pathway. It would force visitors to cross at the street light and go to the meadow pathway first as the safe primary and entryway into the site. To my knowledge, no such structure exists in state or public lands. I also think it will be important to plan out and protect the resources at the core of the site. By having a plan, it will allow future activities to occur at the core. A paint analysis could also occur at the Von Steuben House and possibly the Christie House, to better determine colors for future projects and preservation. Planning could also occur on the entry to the site and best usage of parking.

We should be taking advantage of technological advances to explore the complex history of HNBL as we plan for the site's future: besides geography, artifacts earlier than 5,000 years found at site, Sachem Tantaqua described site's use, reports of an "Indian castle", earliest settlers, 1710 tidesmill, wharf, the 1752-1767 sandstone house [Zabriskie-Steuben House], where are the missing outbuilding and wings, Revolutionary War Battleground, locating the tannery and brickyards, 1745-1888 drawbridge, 1889 swing truss bridge, starting with an 1-

A Historic Review: Review all records and documentation, including previous archaeology but doing Geomorphology, Lidar, Archaeology, Dendrochronology, Cadaver dogs, Marine archaeology, examine the Historic Fabric of the Houses before opening the site fulltime.

In the last meeting, I mentioned it, but again, we should be viewing New Bridge as the new hub for history in Northern NJ for the 21st century, just like it was an economic hub in the 18th century. From this point, we want people to go to the surrounding towns to shop, eat, stay. We want people to go to other historic and environmental sites. I believe this possible because again, the site has all the components you would want, close to transportation, large traffic patterns passing by, compelling, diverse story, one of a kind collection, a green space in the heart of Bergen County. But it will also take all partners, working together, in multiple ways to make this reality happen. I think it would be a major benefit not only to Historic New Bridge Landing but the historic community, the County and the towns.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman

Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VI.

A.

Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. No report submitted.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

I spoke with Fran Wilson of the DPW regarding the kiosk project proposed by Tomas Leonardo. Fran referred me to William Broughton the Teaneck town manger as the one to give approval. I emailed Tomas the information and phone number to contact Broughton and to let me know where the matter stands.

A new rule about dog being allowed in Teaneck parks discussion. Chairman Smith asked if the ordinance for no metal detecting allowed could be posted.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative.

The New Milford council is reviewing their options for grant opportunities and may consider re-applying for the streetscape along River Road (Borough Hall to New Bridge Road). If the borough proceeds I will notify HNBLSPC for a letter of support.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.

M. Donohue spoke to Mayor Mignone about the PSEG property and a determination in the spring is expected. Notice of the clean-up event needing volunteers is posted on the St Peters Church board. She reported J. Lynch has been communicating with the County on the flag pole flooding and cleaning the sewer drains. She advised she would follow up with him on Monday. She asked if it would be okay to invite Governor Murphy to the Naturalization Program Friday, September 21st. Chairman Smith said that would be fantastic. He added he was very thankful for the County's help and cooperation on the Eagle Scout Retreat Sign – 9.3 miles of signs in process of Geo-coded and location recorded. He asked if signs could be added to the route in River Edge as there are none by the New Bridge Landings shopping center and when another scout volunteers. M. Donohue said it would make residents more aware. A. Strobel asked for a copy of the marker locations as the County has a geo-coding program that locates transportation features, drainage basins, traffic signs and sewers.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space.

1. Bergen County Retreat Route Signs - Chairman Smith advised the Commissioners that the Eagle Scout project to replace the signs has been completed. Each sign will be Geographic Information System (GIS) geocoded to indicate the location of each sign along the route. The Eagle Scout will perform this task as part of his project. This geocoded data will be provided to Commissioner Strobel who will provide to the County's GIS database supervisor for inclusion as a Department of Public Works data layer.

2. Campbell Christie House Knox Box – Commissioner Strobel advised he has talked to Bergen County Fire Marshal Bryan Henning to plan for the installation of the Knox Box. Mr. Henning recommended River Edge Fire Marshal Alan Silverman, himself, and Chairman Smith meet at the building to install the box to ensure proper placement. A member of Bergen County General Services Division will install the box. Chairman Smith asked Commissioner Strobel to identify some dates to him for the next two weeks to install the box; this meeting needs to be after 3:30 pm. Chairman Smith asked for dates to schedule.

3. Bathroom Vanity at the Campbell Christie House - Commissioner Strobel advised that he will endeavor to coordinate a site visit for Bergen County Director of Public Works Raymond Dressler to visit the house on the same day as the scheduled installation of the Knox Box to examine the bathroom.

4. Stormwater Improvement Project - A proposal for professional services by Boswell Engineering was submitted to County Engineer Joseph Femia for Design and Regulatory Permitting Services for the New Bridge Landing outfalls project. Mr. Femia has asked Boswell Engineering to revise their proposal to include a Field Survey in the scope of work and as-built drawings. Commissioner Strobel indicated he will inquire on the status of this revised

proposal. He will also obtain a copy of said proposal and provide same to the Commission for its review and files. He reported a cost of \$18-20,000. A.Stroble added the drainage ditch cleaning could be part of that. D. Powell asked if we can get a copy of what was asked for and the report. The ditch / channel is on BCHS property.

5. Inspection of Utility Systems at the Campbell Christie House - Commissioner Strobel will speak to Mr. Dressler if he can arrange for routine/annual inspection of the utility system (heating/air conditioning) to ensure the systems are operating efficiently. A.Strobel added Mr. Dressler may be able to come at the same time. R.Karp asked if there was a service contract like homeowners have to check on systems, \$30 month expense.

6. Traffic Signs on Main Street – Chairman Smith asked Commissioner Strobel if the County can review the number of traffic signs on this section of Main Street; such as Road Closure signs, determining if they can be removed or reduced in number. Commissioner Powell suggested she could provide a map of the existing signs to Commissioner Strobel to share with appropriate county staff members for review and consideration. Chairman Smith added that other parks like Dunkerhook had less visual intrusions. He noted the “Bridge Closed” sign is by the gate where there is no access to the bridge.

7. Chain Link Fence surrounding the Air Conditioning compressors at the Campbell Christie House - Chairman Smith asked Commissioner Strobel to investigate the removal of the existing chain link fence surrounding the compressors and replace with a wooded picket fence like the wooden picket fence in front of the Campbell Christie House. Commissioner Strobel will inquire with Mr. Dressler. D. Powell noted the fence should be higher than the unit.

8. County of Bergen’s Park Master Plan Report - Commissioner Strobel informed the Commissioners that he provided sample language to Chairman Smith and Commissioner Powell that described the Historic New Bridge Landing Park in the County Park Master Plan document. Commissioner Strobel will email this draft language to all commission members for their review and comment.

9. Chairman Smith acknowledged we accommodated the flood level check for the County’s insurance. D.Powell said she feels it is important for the slate to the back door be adjusted for handi-cap accessibility to the building via the back door and to the bathroom.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

1. Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendor. In the interim I am beginning to solicit quotes from additional vendors. Sauerman Contracting to provide an estimate. Prior to estimate must determine whether all collections can be relocated at the same time. 10-day project. D.Powell advised BCHS would have to hire an art mover to move the Steuben statue and depending on how many days the work takes - - to a secure off-site location or truck storage.

2. Snow Plowing

Green Meadows continues to provide snow removal services. Chairman Smith asked for a review of contractor who mows because less area seems to be maintained and cut each year.

D.Powell asked if they are supposed to be removed. E.Pain said they are not contracted to remove.

3. Tree Survey Spring of 2018 Requested dates of availability from NJFS.

4. Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. Chairman Smith indicated the exterior back stairs could be painted white as shown in an early photograph.

5.Trail/Vegetation Removal- Prepared to submit a review for the removal of vegetation and the installation of a trail North of Steuben House as suggested by Chairman Smith. Requesting a proposal as well as a map with GPS coordinates.

6. LIDAR Future HNBLPC Meeting dates have been shared with the contact from NJDEP Division of Information Technology Bureau of Geographic Information Systems. A sample power point has been shared.

7. Guardrail Removal to be scheduled for late spring or early summer. Will try to accomplish in house however it could require a contractor.

8. House cleaned today in preparation for the walking tour this coming weekend.

Projects List

1. Refinish, stain and seal flooring on main floor Ongoing
2. Painting Exterior/Interior Shutters, stairwell spring/summer 2018

Miscellaneous Projects

Phone line now working. Outgoing message not operational. No update.

Guard rail issue: The rail is near the bridge on the state side but serves no purpose with the road closed. E.Pain said he would be able to have it done either in house or contracted out.

Chairman Smith had asked about in a walk, a loop north of the Steuben House. E.Pain started looking at a Land Management Review, internal review for the department and identifies it for historic, archaeology and environmental sensitivities. The Lidar technology by Division of Information Bureau of Geographic Systems and he is checking dates to see about him coming to meeting. M.Donohue suggested a contractor she has used for landscaping.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan for James Bellis, Jr. No report.

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

April has been a busy month at New Bridge. For women's history "March to the Vote" we were thrilled when we had Senator Weinberg and Assemblywoman Schepisi make opening remarks at the event. Both stayed for the performance by Linda Russell. New exhibits included 20 framed images of BC Women who made a difference, a 1920 voting box from collections, 1812 calico dress, 1810 painting of Peggy Ackerman born in Paramus in 1756 along with recent donations of two silhouettes, c. 1815. I had feedback from several people on what thoughtful presentations Sen. Weinberg and Asw. Schepisi made.

We look forward to when exhibits will be up perhaps for longer than one event with the new museum. We spent several weeks working on the exhibit. I encourage Park Commissioners to come an event to see and learn about the site, the collections and how we run the site. We had one member who washed each window of the Steuben House for the event [8 windows, 12 panes each, 107 total panes, and the house just sparkled. It's that kind of thing where someone may not be able to articulate what the difference is but the whole site just sparkles. We really have something special here and unique and we are extremely thoughtful about what we do at the site, for example, The School of Interpretation, Chairman Smith gave last month's presentation. What other group does that? We're training volunteers to give a history of the site, month after month after month, not just one time. Our volunteers are prepared to open the site. BCHS brings a lot to the table.

She called on Pain with the best background on also knowing what it takes to open a site. E. Pain added some of the best experiences he's had was when not in uniform and observing visitor's reaction and learning from that as important as a manager. D. Powell added I know exactly what you mean, it happened here multiple times where a child comes with a parent and then you see them return with the other parent because they are so excited they want to share experience or in reversely where you see a parent or grandparent who came or maybe came as a child and they want to share the experience with their children. So we have this extended impact on people's lives, they actually feel a little bit better about the world. Interestingly, E. Pain added it is also rewarding to staff and helps motivate in the workplace. Museum committee members made new fitted covers for the artworks in the room. These protect collections from sun damage.

D.Powell noted we have new site brochures and event rack cards and asked if there were locations for commissioners to distributed. A.Strobel and E.Pain both took quantities. D.Powell added the Museum Building is trying to get on the town schedule, they just combined the zoning and planning boards.

And the fence rail survey needs to be done, Chairman Smith just replace the one a corner. Chairman Smith added there are ones on the Pocket Park in New Milford that need replacement. [BCHS bought rails for BCHS property] Chairman Smith added we had the battleground tour with the new 1780 painting, when we look at the stories associated with the painting; one about Archibald Campbell who escaped from British capture by hiding in the root cellar of the Steuben House having escaped from his guards. The first recorded tourist in 1898 was descendant who requested a tour of the Steuben House to

see where this event took place, a woman. Archibald's granddaughter drove up in a carriage to see the vaulted room. The story was published in 1844. He cited Kevin Wright's research and continued the complete story. To put in context in the 1780 raid they burn the Court House, they then tried to arrest the sheriff, they march to Paramus and then get back to New Bridge where they take up the bridge and there's a two-hour fire fight involving the Bergen Militia fighting the British and in process rounding up local citizens including Archibald Campbell. Our county should be proud of history. D. Powell asked E. Pain if there was any feedback on Mark Texel's attendance on the last meeting. E. Pain said had not as he was away. D. Powell acknowledged he had questioned if Steuben was ever here and she related that was an old story [that Steuben was never there] that gets repeated and has a life of its own. She went on to describe the complex history of his ownership of the house and his two aids, Walker and North, at the site and tours at the site.

VII. New Business

E. Pain mentioned possibility to adding stone to around sewer and flag pole [in area that floods due to missing tide flap] Chairman Smith said he is looking into to addressing it now. We may be able to reengineer the turnaround with the PSEG lot, it should come under the Park Commission. D. Powell mentioned the huge pot hole also in the turnaround, the road made the "Road Warrior".

Commissioner Donohue thanked the editors of Bergen's Attic [Donohue was featured in an interview by BCHS VP Janet King -

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHSNewsletterSpringLR_2018WF.pdf].

M. Donohue said her family was very impressed. Chairman Smith brought up BCHS would like to try planting the Steuben House beds again. He said we have access to free seeds from an heirloom seed company. E. Pain volunteered they could get plants started in the their greenhouses, it is probably late for this year but in the future. Chairman Smith thanked him and said we were able to obtain native Delaware corn seeds. Garden beds makes the site look cared for. M. Putrino mentioned the third entrance sign is still at Bloom Sign company in New Milford and would obtain status of it. He asked the cost of the new painting prints. Chairman Smith advised \$30, discussion where they could be displayed in area.

VIII. Old Business

No comment

IX. Public Comment

No comment.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. First, J. Heffernan; Second, L. Bauer, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Minutes for May 3, 2018:
Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:03 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out and for those commissioners submitting commission reports.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, Adam Strobel, Mike Putrino, Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino,, John Heffernan

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 5, 2018. Motion to approve A.Strobel, Second; L.Bauer.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

May 14, Clocks & Watches Consignment Day by Skinner, Inc.in the Campbell-Christie Houseand May 16, School of Interpretation, Treasurers through Time on the BCHS collections by Deborah Powell

May 20, Pinkster, Jersey-Spring Celebration of Spring where BCHS has the whole site open.

V. Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone,

With May flowers and summer like temperatures quickly upon us, I want to welcome everyone to Historic New Bridge Landing. April started out with a packed house for the New Bridge painting unveiling and battleground tour and continued throughout the month of April, ending with an informative Chwame gishcuch event, which had something for everyone! I was informed of the passing of former HNBLPC member John Oddie's wife. Please remember John and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Moving forward, the agreement was signed and sent to head of Parks and Forestry for Mark Texel. I did follow up with Mr. Texel and he is gathering the other signatures that are needed. I have also spoken with Senator Weinberg's office and all members should be moving forward on a hearing. Once this is resolved, we can begin to quickly develop and execute a plan on the best ways to utilize the funding for the site that benefits all parties involved. I did have the opportunity to meet with Country Fire Marshall Brian Henning and others to agree on a location of a knox box and placement of a key. This has been promptly resolved and it was great to be able to quickly wrap this project up.

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be addressed and has been talked about for awhile, is water intrusion onto the west side of Historic New Bridge Landing, that encompasses both the property of the DEP (Steuben House) and the Bergen County Historical Society. I do believe more ambitious plans like dredging the river would be helpful as the channel seems to be silting in and in very large storms, with the absence of a flood barriers, water will occur, but many of the water issues are indeed man-made issues. In fact, there should be concern that the land both in front of the Demarest House, behind the Steuben House and behind the Demarest house is changing due to land subsidence. It is said that during the flood waters of Hurricane Harvey, the city of Houston sank and did not spring back up, due to the volume of water on top of the land and causing a change to the soil below. My concern, all of our concern, is that this is happening here at New Bridge and solutions need to be put in place to resolve it to protect the historic resources. While I understand that the underground drainage system is a larger project and as Commission Member, Adam Strobel pointed out, he will be presenting an update from Boswell engineering, one of the areas that could be addressed immediately is the ditch that was cut in between the Christie House and Demarest House. This ditch then stays on Society land, around the Steuben House and back to the Hackensack. It connects near the pathway to the overall drain system. The challenge is that the ditch has not been cleaned or maintained. Therefore, with maintenance, would water be infiltrating behind the Demarest House and then Steuben

House? In part, it appears to do this now because water will travel in a path of least resistance. I am providing an aerial photo of the ditch [red line in aerial photo] being put in that shows its route and ultimately, is part of a larger project. Will it be the ultimate solution? I cannot guarantee, but I do think we should be doing everything in our power to exhaust all options, including the maintenance of the ditch that was put in after the county road extension of 1955 and is a contributing factor to ongoing challenges that should be easily remedied.

Ultimately, Historic New Bridge Landing has all the components to be successful, the story, site, the parking, and the amazing mix of volunteers and contributing partners. We must all do our part to see the benefit of all involved, after all, a future visit to New Bridge might mean a stop off at Van Saun Park or a bite to eat in River Edge or New Milford or staying in a hotel in Teaneck.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VI. Continuing Business

A. Brett Park – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. L. Bauer advised no report.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

R. Karp was asking Teaneck and area businesses if they wanted to buy the 1780 War of Outpost print. Chairman Smith observed there are dead trees in BrettPark including at the bend into the Hackensack and if it work could be done to clear them out. He also noted the DPW shed is very large and bright white. He asked if plantings or camouflaged. D.Powell said it hasn't always been like that and didn't think it was that confrontational to ask for it to be toned down. She noted a women's group saved Mount Vernon and they took steps to save the view shed. Discussion on whether the site was Green Acres. A.Strobel looked it up, the address is 1600 River Rd. R.Karp said they were supposed to have access for the Greenway walkway along the river.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. M.Putrino he is contacting the sign company to make arrangements to move 3rdHNBL sign. M.Putrino said he handed out the BCHS event cards all over New Milford.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge. No report, D.Powell reported she had a death in the family. Chairman Smith offered his condolences.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space.

1. Bergen County Retreat Route Signs - Chairman Smith advised the Commissioners that the Eagle Scout project to replace the signs has been completed. Each sign will be Geographic Information System (GIS) geocoded to indicate the location of each sign along the route. The Eagle Scout will perform this task as part of his project. This geocoded data will be provided to Commissioner Strobel who will provide to the County's GIS database supervisor for inclusion as a Department of Public Works data layer.
2. Campbell Christie House Knox Box – Commissioner Strobel thanked Chairman Smith for making that happen.
3. Bathroom Vanity at the Campbell Christie House - Commissioner Strobel said Director of Public Works Raymond Dressler contacted Chairman Smith to schedule visit to examine the bathroom. Chairman Smith said it was tentatively for the following Thursday. He did not come the day of the installation of the Knox Box. Also to see about other items on the list, like the fence around the air conditioning unit.
4. Stormwater Improvement Project - Proposal from Boswell Engineering dated April 10. He sent it to Chairman Smith and D.Powell May 3 at 6 pm. The scope of work is divided into 3 - 4 tasks, Field Survey to accurately pinpoint the outfalls for construction design purposes, 2nd phase is Engineering and Design that would create design specifications that would go out to bid, Third is securing NJDEP development permit, and as-build drawing of the improvements, \$18,000 of the professional fee. Numerous conversations with Christos Kavvadas thought \$40,000 not a challenge for the County. D.Powell asked for a description of what they are proposing to do. A. Strobel deferred to the engineers. Generally replace the section of pipes. D.Powell asked if this involves archaeology if they are going to be tearing up the ground. A.Strobel said that hadn't been told it would need archeology. D.Powell observed it is on the 18th century wharf. A.Strobel said it has already been disturbed. D. Powell said this could be more invasive and she had seen problems in the past where the contract called for a dipwrench and instead they showed up with a backhoe and caused a lot of disturbance behind the Steuben House. A.Strobel said it probably not more invasive than previous work area. He said he has emphasized to Christos how important and sensitive the area is. D.Powell said she did not want to be a problem or hold the work up. A.Strobel said the DEP permit may require it. He didn't have a survey drawing. He thought the pipes had been looked at with cameras. E.Pain asked if it was on state or BCHS property, his office might not be notified and that he would check in with his supervisors.
5. Inspection of Utility Systems at the Campbell Christie House
6. Traffic Signs on Main Street – Chairman Smith asked Commissioner Strobel if the County can review the number of traffic signs on this section of Main Street to

minimize modern intrusions; D.Powell shared a list and photographs with an aerial location map. She used a drawing rather than the engineering drawing so it would be clearer. “No outlet” could be used instead of the negative “Dead End,” and there are 3 Dead End signs. She pointed out there are 2 Dead End signs where there is no legal u-turn, you are past the decision point, so why have it? The “Bridge Closed” is beyond the gate/fence/vehicle access and on BCHS property. She actually had several people ask if they could walk across the bridge, that they thought it was unsafe, the sign is misleading. A.Strobel asked if it would help if the one in front of the Campbell-Christie House was removed. She pointed out there are so many signs, you have multiple Stop signs blocking view of that Dead End sign. She asked if it would help if we could show other instances that don’t have a sign. Chairman Smith pointed out Dunkerhook doesn’t have any signs at that dead end. D.Powell pointed out the other side of our bridge does not have any Dead End signs (0) or a BridgeClosed sign. The discussion turned to whether we would wind up with more signs rather than less.

7. Chain Link Fence surrounding the Air Conditioning compressors at the Campbell Christie House - Chairman Smith asked Commissioner Strobel to investigate the removal of the existing chain link fence surrounding the compressors and replace with a wooded picket fence like the wooden picket fence in front of the Campbell Christie House. Commissioner Strobel will inquire with Mr. Dressler. D. Powell noted the fence should be higher than the unit.

8. County of Bergen’s Park Master Plan Report - June 17, at 2 Bergen County Plaza and he would send a link. He said he they listed their assets, the Campbell-Christie House, the bridge, acknowledged their partnership. She observed the survey on why you would visit a park had no history option or cultural option so you are going to get a certain answer. [D.Powell had followed up to correct language but had not seen final wording]

9. Chairman Smith acknowledged we accommodated the flood level check for the County’s insurance. D.Powell said she feels it is important for the slate to the back door be adjusted for handi-cap accessibility to the building via the back door and to the bathroom.

**E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative.
Superintendent Ringwood State Park.**

DEP REPORT - Steuben House, May 2018:
Olivia Glenn coming on as Parks Director. D.Powell asked she would be invited here.

Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendors to submit quotes.

Snow Plowing over for the season I hope

Landscaping: In receipt of a contract from Green Meadows Landscaping. The previous contractor was not meeting our needs and I am interested in entering into a contract with a new vendor. Contract available for review and a vote by the Commission. He recommended Green Meadows because of the quality of their work and reliability. D. Powell asked it included a clean up. E.Pain said they had not done a clean-up but his crew had. Chairman Smith had noticed how it looked. D.Powell made a motion to approve the Green Meadows contract. 2nd by R.Karp. Motion carried.

Tree Survey Spring of 2018 Requested dates of availability from NJFS

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted

Trail/Vegetation Removal- Prepared to submit a review for the removal of vegetation and the installation of a trail North of Steuben House as suggested by Chairman Smith. Requesting a proposal as well as a map with gps coordinates.

Guardrail Removal to be scheduled for late spring or early summer. Will try to accomplish in house however it could require a contractor. E.Pain said the chain link fence per DOT. Chairman Smith wondered if a black fence beyond the white fence to serve as protection but agreed we take the guard rail down first, one step at a time. He mentioned appreciated E.Pain working with us to put rocks at outfall for drainage.

Ongoing projects

Exterior painting of shutters, staircase.

Replacing Railing

Rock near foundation for sump pump outlet

Future- Under new leadership and hoping for continued progress at the site. Fortunate to have a seat at the table.

Projects List

1) Refinish, stain and seal flooring on main floor Ongoing

2) Painting Exterior/Interior Shutters, stairwell spring/summer 2018

Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. No report.

F. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell, Commissioner BCHS Representative.

On April 22 we had an event Kevin Wright created, Chawme Gischuch, Under the Shad Moon and I was very glad we were able to continue it with really excellent programming. We had archeologist Dr. Meta Janowitz speak on Native American & Dutch food culture and Primitive Technologist Steve Adams on Prehistory Material Culture that included flint knapping (projectile points) making and cord making and use. The event included a new arrow with a Levanna point which we have two in the collection on exhibit along with other points found right here at New Bridge. The Primitive Technologist is also an experienced archer, he reportedly had taken down a black bear by arrow. Comment someone emailed us the next day, "You had something for everyone."

We had a packed house for the BCHS lecture series featuring Dr Robert Selig on battleground "cleanup." Selig is a Rev War Washington-Rochambeau expert for the NPS. John Heffernan has been putting together quality free lectures for us for years. It's quite a task coming up with someone of interest month after month.

The March School of Interpretation was cancelled due to snow so we reschedule it on April 18 with reenactors Denise Picchino and Sue Braisted, both who have been involved at the site a long time and are on the BCHS board. We make a continuing effort to train our volunteer staff.

Re: the new 1780 War of Outpost painting, one person, a 12 years old wanted one for his birthday, in this age of video games, pretty neat.

John and Joan Oddie commissioned a black walnut table from the tree we had to have taken down, in her sister's memory. John Oddie facilitated getting 45 reproduction Hackensack Valley chairs made that we have for programming/seating at the Steuben House. It was at Kevin's [Wright] direction, to have chairs that tie to the history of the site.

Chairman Smith noted volunteers cleaned up of the property of litter and planting a bed of flax.

VII. New Business

A.Strobel reported the Teaneck DPW yard is not Green Acres, but there is a 5 foot wide right of way trail adjacent to the Hackensack River. R. Karp said it is blocked. A.Strobel suggested to speak to the town. D.Powell brought up Google maps shows a trail – dotted line through Brett Park which is block entirely by trees. BrettPark, HNBL is marked on Google, bigger than anything else. She asked if A.Strobel's office edits those maps. It's very hard to edit them. New Bridge is not green, the park icon has disappeared and someone deleted the Campbell-Christie House which she added previously. She took

screen captures of the problems, documenting it.

D.Powell said we all appreciate Adam's efforts to resolve the tide flap issue. He mentioned they are considering having a line item for the Campbell-Christie House. D.Powell suggested we have a ribbon cutting.

VIII. Old Business No comment.

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. 8:13 pm. First, R.Karp; Second, J.Heffernan, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a wonderful day everyone.

Minutes for June 7, 2018:

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:05 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out and for those commissioners submitting commission reports.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, Mike Putrino, Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino, John Heffernan, Mary Donohue.

Adam Strobel, excused.

Public: Bob Roth.

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 3, 2018. Motion to approve L. Bauer. Second; R. Karp.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

V. Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone,

With June upon us, I will keep my comments brief as we have a lot to discuss this month. It was another busy month at New Bridge, I saw this every month it seems but it is true. From a packed lecture at the Von Steuben House, a successful Pinkster event, School of

Interpretation event and site wide clean up, things were busy at New Bridge. I want to take a moment and thank Debbie Francica, Chief of Staff to Senator Loretta Weinberg and Senator Weinberg herself, for supporting the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission through the years and helping to secure initial funding for projects at the site. Ultimately this funding could be used to benefit all entities at the site to improve the overall visitor experience at HNBL. To conclude, I will share my own Memorial Day experience with everyone in brief. Going to upstate NY and the Finger Lakes region, I saw different communities embrace their history and have opportunities for visitors to explore and share in these experiences throughout the summer. While there, I also visited Watkins Glen for the first time and saw NYS's commitment to the park by helping to improve the visitor experience when one enters the park. A parking lot was removed and a beautiful landscape was being added to welcome visitors. It is something to think about as we move forward here at HNBL. What do visitor's experience when they first arrive at the parking lot.

Thank you,
James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VI. Continuing Business

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

L. Bauer advised no report.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

R. Karp was asking Teaneck and area businesses if they wanted to buy the 1780 War of Outpost print, the library will put up a print of the painting. Westy Storage decided the painting did not work with their corporate image. They have offered free storage and to host events. Brett Park Karp reported they will work on cleaning it out along the river. DPowell suggested the DPW storage tent could replace with a camouflage covering when it needs to be replaced instead of bright white and /or plantings. It's really a multi-step process with also providing access for the Greenway walkway. RKarp reported a clean-up for Brett Park is scheduled but he didn't have a date.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. M.Putrino he contacted the sign company, Blohm Sign, he took photos of 3rd HNBL sign that is in their shop. They gave a quote for the posts and installation. M.Putrino asked for a letter of support for the New Milford Gateway to New Bridge, M.Putrino said they will get the bench turned around to face the river. Chairman Smith asked where should the HNBL sign go, he is considering Brett Park. D. Powell asked what the Gateway to New Bridge is. M. Putrino said they are tying in two historic homes and they obtained the deed to the cemetery. They grant is looked on favorably when it connects sites. Includes decorative signs and upscale garbage cans.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.

1. I spoke with Mayor Mignone about the possibility of River Edge installing curbing along Main Street on HNBLP property. He is not sure whether the borough would assume

responsibility to install curbing. He does know that there is no money appropriated for this purpose in the current budget. He will take a closer look to see whether the curbing would affect either on-site or off-site drainage. If the project would be undertaken, because of its small scope, contractors would likely be charging premium prices to do the work. However, he will ask the DPW to obtain some informal quotes so that we know what the expected cost range would be. I will follow up.

2. Mayor Mignone has reached out twice since March to PSEG for information regarding the sub-station property, as they requested that he do. PSEG has not given him any clear information. Rosalie Serapiglia,, our PSEG contact between Borough and HNBL has been transferred and I have emailed the new representative, Donnett Verley, to tell her of the importance of this matter to HNBL. The Mayor will be asking the County Executive to step in again on our behalf and he is also asking the new Senator Lagana as well. The Mayor believes that the disposition of the land has nothing to do with its cost, but probably with environmental liabilities. He will stay on the project on our behalf - he mentioned that he only has 18 months remaining in his term - but that he would like this land transfer accomplished before the end of his term. I asked the Mayor if RE would consider giving PSEG a tax benefit in exchange for the land. He did not know if this would be possible, but he will speak to the Borough Attorney about this possibility.

3. I wrote Sen. Loretta Weinberg about the sub-station problem and she has been in touch with PSEG and will pursue the sub-station issue. I have also contacted Sen. Weinberg who has always been a helpful, faithful friend to HNBL. I would be remiss in not recording here, the great help, assistance and initiative of Debbie Francica, Senator Weinberg's Chief of Staff. She has been invaluable in contacting PSEG and Senator Weinberg on our behalf and in keeping us informed of developments as they occur.

I called Dave Hollenbeck from PSEG, who is the Regional Public Affairs Manager, to see whether he has any information to share., and to ask him for the new PSEG borough contact's name. Donnett Verley is our new contact, and although she is Rosalie's replacement, she reports directly to Dave Hollenbeck. Dave Hollenbeck has promised to personally oversee the sub-station project. This is good news for HNBL! At this point, we have Mayor Mignone, Dave Hollenbeck, Senator Weinberg, the HNBL Commission all urging PSEG to consider the benefits to PSEG of ceding this land to HNBL.

On June 4th I e-mailed Dave again re the possibility of RE giving PSEG a tax rebate for the property - he replied that that he has already contacted PSEG corporate real estate regarding the matter and that he will get back to me by June 6th. Dave Hollenbeck explained that giving up property and rights associated with the ownership is always difficult, but ... I know that he has our interest at heart in this matter. Stay tuned!

4. Re flooding at the flagpole site - spoke with John Lynch, Director of RE DPW. and with his counterpart at the County for explanation of what is being done at the County level to alleviate this serious problem. Apparently, the answer is nothing! John Lynch will speak with the DPW and Bob Costa Borough Engineer, to lay out a game plan for its solution. This seems to be the same response that we have been receiving from the county and DPW for months! And the area remains a dangerous, unsightly ditch ... at the very entrance of a State Historic Park! ... the only State Park in Bergen County! I have asked Mayor

Mignone to look into the matter again, and would also ask out County Representative to do the same. CALL JOHN LYNCH AGAIN.

5. I wrote Governor Murphy and invited him to be the Guest Speaker at the September 21 Naturalization ceremony at the Steuben House. His office responded that the invitation would be given serious consideration and that they would keep us informed of a decision on this matter. Also contacted Senator Weinberg regarding this invitation, and she too, will monitor this request on our behalf. Mayor Mignone will also write the Governor a letter of invitation from the Borough regarding his attendance at the ceremony.

6. I received a telephone call from Carly Gruenberg, Scheduler for Governor Murphy. She called to say that we are on the schedule for Friday, Sept 21 for the Governor to participate in the Naturalization Ceremony, but that she will confirm closer to the September date. Carly Gruenberg 1-609-777-3501.

7. I completed the application form for the RE Message Board re Pinkster Day and delivered it to Borough Hall. The signs were placed a week before the event.

8. I received a letter from Gov. Murphy's office regarding my re-nomination to the HNBLC and completed and forwarded the Nominee Questionnaire. The nomination was approved, and the vote for re-nomination took place at the State Senate Judiciary Committee meeting on June 7th in Trenton.

9. I obtained a list of all the streets in River Edge for a project the REHC is planning with Honor History Student John Cookson from River Dell who is the student member of the River Edge Historic Commission. The Commission is very desirous of involving young people in the history of River Edge, and John was recently appointed to the REHC at our suggestion by the Mayor and Council.

Discussion: The Naturalization Program on Sept 21 is on Gov. Murphy's calendar. M. Donohue advised she said we could have a sign acknowledging PSEG if they made a donation of the property. Chairman Smith said we could consider moving the turnaround over to the substation property. The way it stands now the area is all pitched so the water runs on to BCHS property. After Chairman Smith suggested the property including the substation and the Old General Store property could be acquired through Green Acres under the HNBLSPC. E. Pain said Green Acres looks favorably on "donut" properties like the General Store. D. Powell asked if paving could be done at the same time as the curbing.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space. No report, absent due to family illness.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

5/3/18

DEP REPORT - Steuben House:

Landscaping - All to be handled by Green Meadows Landscaping

Tree Survey Spring of 2018 Requested dates of availability from NJFS. Tuesdays and Wednesdays have been identified as days that are best for Jack Shuart.

Projects List

Painting Shutters- To be finished Late Spring early summer 2018

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property- Late Spring Early Summer

Exterior stairway- Refinish/Paint Summer-Early Fall

Add Rock to sump pump outfall

Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendors to submit quotes.

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted

Trail/Vegetation Removal- Prepared to submit a review for the removal of vegetation and the installation of a trail North of Steuben House as suggested by Chairman Smith. Requesting a proposal as well as a map with gps coordinates.

Guardrail Removal to be scheduled for late spring or early summer. Will try to accomplish in house however it could require a contractor.

Chairman Smith asked that the "Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List" be moved to "New Business"

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. The French Burying Ground has been donated and transferred to the town of New Milford.

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

The Gold Star program was previously brought up by E. Pain. Chairman Smith brought up BCHS is also participating in the similar Blue Star program, offers free access during summer months to active duty military members and family and he registered making BCHS the first one in Bergen County, a collaboration with the NEA. Chairman Smith mentioned using Facebook Live and boosting our presence to over 4,000 friends.

D. Powell reported the event planning committee, chaired by Carol Restivo, met last night for the monthly meeting and reviewed May events and continued planning events through

the rest of 2018. For July and August events we're going to have the museum village open and add kite flying in the Meadow. The museum collection committee, which meets weekly, has worked on organizing and cleaning the Steuben House attic the past 3 weeks. We still have more work to do but we're clearing the miller's bedroom of artifacts. We had a property clean up June 2, which she didn't participate in as was away on a conference on the Middle Passage African American genealogy Society at Rider College.

D. Powell mentioned giving a talk twice at the Steuben House on the collections. Also included what we know about enslaved people that were at the site during the 18th century and people are very interested. Chairman Smith described the site clean up and work; leveling gravel in parking lot, replacing fence rails, garden beds planted, picking up garbage. Building and Grounds is chaired by Trustee Beverly Hashimoto.

VII. New Business

BCHS was represented at the **Teaneck Street Fair**, we had a table and lots of interest -- we obtained 3 sheets of email addresses. D.Powell asked if there are any flood plans, E.Pain said we have plans from Emergency Plans from insurance company. D.Powell showed a plan from when the Campbell-Christie House was moved that shows the connection to the flag pole and river. Also in that set are cupboard door plans for the house. She mentioned getting missing cupboard doors recreated for the cupboards based on the drawings, one in each front room. They were not included when the house was moved to River Edge for unknown reasons.

J.Heffernan asked to be kept in the loop for when the tree survey is scheduled.

E.Pain asked for estimates or suggestions for contractor for estimates. Stars note in-house projects.

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List -

1. 1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - 7,000

D. Powell asked if anyone on staff, suggested the whole site be done including Brett Park, the Meadow.

2. Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway

E. Pain. Architect or engineer. There's an architectural firm on retainer. Or we might want someone with more experience in historic properties. Chairman Smith opportunity to redesign with a green initiative, and how to design the Sutton/Lys property, monument that's in the master plan. ADA accessible at the traffic light.

3. Remove the broken brick walkway by the Steuben House and replace with stone dust \$2500-\$4000

E. Pain said he thinks he has general contractors that can handle it and can proceed quickly. D.Powell said she understood the stone dust is ADA compliant but asked if E. Pain could confirm with the contractor whether it is. It was reportedly supposed to

4. Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5000

Chairman Smith said he would refer to the masterplan. He asked if his office would be able to plant the trees. E.Pain said it probably be the contractor to plant them.

5. Install electrical outlet in meeting room near cellar entrance. \$100

D.Powell suggested tabling, another hole in the house is a negative.

6. Sand and paint exterior staircase. Replace if warranted \$500 to sand and paint \$3000 to replace

E.Pain said he has contractors to do this. D.Powell asked if his office would survey the structure if it is worthy of painting. It was agreed that his general contractor could review it.

7. Remove Pergo floor and remove raised floor and install doors \$5000

E.Pain said his contractors would need guidance. E.Pain suggested D.Powell should be there. She said she was not there when it was originally done, nor was Kevin so not she's aware of what's under it. We want to restore the floor in the house so it may be a spot call on what to do, need someone qualified.

8. Level and grade roundabout, remove drainage swale and place curbing to demark roadway from island ? Bergen County Responsible? On hold.

9. Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$2500 – 5000

E.Pain said he has references. Jim Smith said we had an expert in the field give a talk recently and he'd like to get a quote from her. M.Donohue suggested Benjamin Moore could do it and offered to contact them if Jim wanted her to. Chairman Smith said that a paint analysis was done in 1977 but the science has improved. He suggested 18th century paint could be recreated based on the analysis.

10. Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$1000-\$1500

E.Pain has an expert plaster contractor. Chairman Smith suggested the whole house be tested.

11. Restoration plan for back kitchen area of Steuben House 10,000

Chairman Smith said Kevin pointed out 18th paint in back rooms. D.Powell said there is water intrusion, bricks are dissolving. We could have a consultant come in to make recommendations. She described the water intrusion from the inlet that was created is starting to reach the historic core of the site.

12. Repair of bricks in Steuben House Fireplace 5000

13. Regrade Sutton and Lys Property (cost unknown)

14. Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$750-\$1000

Chairman Smith thinks this would be straight forward, it would create less heat and non damaging to artwork. He asked for the main floor to have LED bulbs swapped in.

15. Archaeological study at black walnut site ? Ties into review of site.

16. Hay barrack to be constructed in meadow - 10,000 - 15,000

Chairman Smith said they are an 18th Jersey Dutch hay storage system. He sees it as an attraction near the entrance, not operational, no foundation. He mentioned the barn building company, Harvest Moon. Need two other vendors to bid.

17. Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2500 - \$5000.

E.Pain said \$525 to cut, every 2-3 weeks, and that covers the Meadow, the Sutton Lys, Canoe club area. If he had equipment and suitable vehicle to transport - his staff could do it. Chairman Smith said at that price, we could roll that in together with a site clean up a couple times a year and reclaim where the mowers have let overgrowth creep in.

18. Continue curb from Demarest House to Campbell-Christie House - \$5000

Discussion on who would pay for it. M.Putrino suggested the curbing and paving be included in a "Co-op" shared expenses between towns.

1. Refinish, stain and seal flooring on main floor \$5000-\$7500 *
 2. Landscape and install rock at turnaround near flagpole \$7000 *
 3. Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2500-\$4000
 4. Parking Lot resurfacing and striping \$35,000?*
 5. Install electrical outlet in meeting room near cellar entrance. \$100
 6. Sand and paint exterior staircase. Replace if warranted \$500 to sand and paint \$3000 to replace
 7. Remove Pergo floor and remove raised floor and install doors \$5000
 8. Level and grade roundabout, remove drainage swale and place curbing to demark roadway from island ? Bergen County Responsible?
 9. Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$1000-\$1500
 10. Regrade Sutton and Lys Property (cost unknown)
 11. Knox Boxes \$1000 *
 12. Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting \$750-\$1000
 13. Operational expenses Landscaping and Plowing? \$35,000 *
 14. Aquadams? \$10,000? *
- Discussion on system to implement.

VIII. Old Business J. Heffernan 3,044 counter. The hose does not cover the whole road, not even half way. J. Heffernan needs to buy a new hose so we can get an accurate count.

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. 8:57 pm. First, R.Karp; Second, J.Heffernan, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a wonderful day everyone.

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Minutes for Wednesday, July 11, 2018. Note: Agenda for August 2, 2018 follows below minutes.

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:03 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out and for those commissioners submitting commission reports.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, John Heffernan, Mary Donohue.

Adam Strobel, excused. Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino absent.
Public: Carol Restivo, Barbara and Jim Dusenberry, Kevin Tremble

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 7, 2018. Motion to approve M. Donohue.
Second; J. Heffernan.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

Chairman Smith noted upcoming events:

Lantern Tour. Monday, July 2, 2018, 7:00 pm

Vintage Baseball at New Bridge Landing, Saturday, July 7, 2018

Calico Frolic, Saturday, July 14, 2018

BCHS School of Interpretation & Volunteers Meeting: Wednesday, July 18, 7:30 pm, Topic: The Stewardship of Our Heritage by Jim Smith

Summertime Tours, Sunday, July 22, 2018, 1:00 - 5:00 pm

VI. Chairman's Report

As summer is in full swing, welcome to a beautiful evening here at HNBL. I do plan to keep this short, but I just wanted to report on a few recent events at New Bridge. On July 2nd, we held a walking tour originating in this very house. The temperatures were well above 95 degrees and we decided that with the high heat we would have an abbreviated tour and there would be no fee. However, over 60 individuals showed up and continued on the full length tour, enamored with the history of this site and wanting to donate money afterwards.

The next event was our traditional baseball game here at New Bridge. First, thank you to Eric for organizing Green Meadows to have the field looking the best it has ever looked and for all the cranks that showed up, over 250, not including all of the volunteers. Two events, well over 300 people visiting of all different ages, backgrounds, excited about the history of this important site and what it means to people individually. Ultimately, it is important that all members on the Commission communicate effectively with their respective municipalities and organizations they represent when events can impact HNBL. With what appears to be the beginning of funding in place, it is imperative we proceed in a manner that can benefit the entire site and ultimately, continue moving this site forward.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VII. Continuing Business

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

L. Bauer No report, absent.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. No report, absent.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. No report, absent. Chairman Smith advised he did follow up with writing and sending the letter of support for the streetscape grant, connecting New Milford to New Bridge Landing.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.

1. I attended the BCHS Dinner on June 14th and was happy to note that new members to the BCHS from River Edge were also in attendance.

2. Contacted Mayor Mignone again about the curbing on Main Street. Commuters parking on the edge of the NBLP property are damaging the growing grass at the curb. He will check with DPW. (The Mayor has been on vacation this past week.)

3. I placed a notice on the River Edge bulletin board at the Municipal Building regarding the Vintage Baseball Day and it was approved for posting from June 25 to July 7, 2018.

4. On July 6, I called Dave Hollenbeck from PSEG regarding the status of the substation property and he was away for a few days. However, he said that he would check with Corporate properties and will call me by next mid-week. Today he responded:

“ Regarding your inquiry, all sales of former substation properties are on hold pending an internal review regarding the sale process. We have few properties that have been vacated or reduced in size. Some municipalities and other parties have expressed interest in them. Looks like we are looking into offers and site conditions as well as future operational needs. The good news is that we are still considering this site and the unique location. I want to make sure that you have something to report during your meeting tonight.”

I am very confident that Dave will get in touch with me as soon as he hears of the disposition of the sub-station. However, I will keep checking.

5. I received a response to my e-mail to Donnett Verley, the new PSEG representative to the NBL Commission replacing Rosalie Serapiglia. She will make every effort to attend the July meeting and the Vintage Baseball game.

6. Spoke to Bob Costa, RE Engineer, about the curbing on Main Street at New Bridge. He said that he would look into the possibility and let me know. Will contact him again. No one in RE wants to talk about curbing at NBL!!! I have not had a response from Bob Costa.

7. I Spoke with Michele Cariddi (no relation too RE Police Chief) who is a Master Gardener and Beautification Director of River Edge, who is responsible for the outstanding plantings at Borough Hall. She and Randi Duffy, director of the Beautification Committee of New Milford, and owner of Delford Florist, would like to do plantings at HNBL. Michele has asked me to bring this information to the NBL Commission. Michele is also a very competent portrait artist and would like to do a large portrait of Baron von Steuben to be placed at the entrance of the site to interest and attract visitors. She says that she would coat the portrait with coats of lacquer, making it weatherproof and suitable for outdoor viewing. She would like to know whether the Commission would be interested. If the Commission is interested in these offers, I would appreciate an opportunity of introducing both Michele and Randi at the next Commission meeting.

7. I received a copy of the Oath of Office from Trenton as a member of the NBL Commission and the signed oath document was sent to the Governor's office from Mayor Mignone's office in River Edge. I am attaching a copy of the document for the Commission's records.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space. No report, absent.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

5/3/18

General

Landscaping - All to be handled by Green Meadows Landscaping. They were able to complete in time for the event July 7. E.Pain brought up noticing the geese are a problem, and whether it needs to be addressed. Discussion. Options to remove or dog chasing. M.Donohue mentioned issue at the town swim club was addressed so we may have swim club geese. D.Powell asked if branches by the parking lot, if they could be removed.

Tree Survey Spring of 2018 Requested dates of availability from NJFS. Tuesdays and Wednesdays have been identified as days that are best for Jack Shuart. Schedule July 31 or August 1 at 3:30 pm.

Phone/Voicemail- Phone works voicemail order has been placed. Need to confirm the outgoing message and set it.

Car Counter Hose-Replacement hose provided

Projects List

Painting Shutters- To be finished summer 2018

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property-summer 2018

Exterior stairway- Refinish/Paint Summer-Early Fall

Add Rock to sump pump outfall-Summer 2018

Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendors to submit quotes.

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. In contact with Ms. Reichenbach. A matter of coordinating our schedules. I am interested in what she has to offer.

Guardrail Removal late summer. Will try to accomplish in house however it could require a contractor.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. Thanked E.Pain for the hose for the counter. Chairman Smith thanked Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation for facilitating cutting BCHS property grass.

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

We had the Vintage Baseball game with beautiful weather and our biggest attendance for it to date. I invited Brad Shaw who organizes the VBB league to tour the Steuben House and he was totally intrigued by the house and the collections. It came up again how intact the Steuben House is, he volunteers at a house museum in NYC. When I visited recently I noticed and was disappointed that New Bridge is not noted on new interpretive maps at the Ford Mansion in Morristown nor is the impassible Palisades or the Meadowlands. Geography is obviously important when you're talking about troop movements and why New Bridge was so strategic. So many buildings are modern "guesses" - recreations - the Ford Mansion, Fraunces Tavern, Steuben's Cabin in upper state NY, located over 100 miles northwest of Albany.

The bathroom sink in the Campbell-Christie House is still not repaired, if everyone could go take a look at it, how it's sagging.

The museum collection committee has been forming plans to move the 2 halves of the New Bridge millstone to the barn for an interactive exhibit. We need a large slate to replace the one that is a step at the Steuben House walk. The plan is to move on to two wooden frames that can span the barn supports and spread the weight.

The attic of the Campbell-Christie House is quite warm, we need to have the air conditioning looked at.

Yesterday, Tuesday, July 10th, I attended the Army Corps of Engineers presentation "scoping meeting" on flood protection proposals for our Metro area. I was a little disheartened to see that HNBL and the Steuben House, a state historic site, were not included on their maps even though the map showed the area above to Route 4 where we are located. John Richie, (sp?) representative introduced from DEP and Nancy Brighton, Archaeologist presenting for the Army Corps the "NY NJ Harbor & Tributary Coastal Storm - a Risk Management Feasibility Study" were very interested when I introduced them to the site - off the record. Historic properties are one of the items they consider, maybe we weren't included because the DEP did not file a claim for New Bridge Landing.

They showed four proposals and are looking for comments by August 20. I have personally filed two FEMA claims for the BCHS collections. I am very concerned about the impact of rising water and damage particularly that is already intruding into the Steuben House and what can be done to protect it and BCHS property. Of course there is concern for our whole region impacting homes, businesses, and the environment. They have one ambitious proposal that would have huge levees to rise during a storm, spanning from the Rockaways to Long Branch.

Web link for information by Army Corps:

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Media/Fact-Sheets/Fact-Sheet-Article-View/Article/644997/fact-sheet-new-yorknew-jersey-harbor-tributaries-focus-area-feasibility-study/>

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Portals/37/docs/civilworks/projects/nj/coast/NYNJHATS/NJHatPres.pdf?ver=2017-10-16-141621-747>

Chairman Smith added that the Army Corps report was on the evening news. Holland would be good place where to look what works.

VIII. New Business

Chairman Smith contacted Sen. Loretta Weinberg's office and learned that the Park Commission did receive the additional \$100,000 for this year. He added that this not take away for all the important work the BCHS is doing. He expressed that the BCHS is the hub on wheel and continuing to telling the story for Bergen County. He thanked Sen.

Weinberg and her office, staff for their help. M. Donohue asked about paying staff to open site. Chairman Smith said there are problems to work out like the handi-cap bathrooms for large groups.

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List -

A - 1 Study of the Von Steuben House - 7,000 Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway ?

3. **Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2500-\$4000**
4. **Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5000**
5. **Install electrical outlet in meeting room near cellar entrance. \$100**
6. **Sand and paint exterior staircase. Replace if warranted \$500 to sand and paint \$3000 to replace**
7. **Remove Pergo floor and remove raised floor and install doors \$5000**
8. **Level and grade roundabout, remove drainage swale and place curbing to demark roadway from island ? Bergen County Responsible?**
9. **Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$2500 - 5000**
10. **Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$1000-\$1500**
11. **Restoration plan for back kitchen area of Steuben House 10,000**
12. **Repair of bricks in Steuben House Fireplace 5000**
13. **Regrade Sutton and Lys Property (cost unknown)**
14. **Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$750-\$1000**
15. **Archaeological study at black walnut site ?**
16. **Hay barrack to be constructed in meadow - 10,000 - 15,000**
17. **Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2500 - \$5000**
18. **Continue curb from Demarest House to Christie House - \$5000**

IX. D.Powell acknowledged Carol Restivo who took off with the idea of doing a float for the River Edge parade for BCHS. River Edge is the biggest member base for BCHS so it really helps connect us to the town doing an event like this. Volunteers took time out of their busy family holiday celebrations.

Chairman Smith advised he will have the scout Teaneck project to present in August meeting. He mentioned the two scouts that were honored at the BCHS dinner. They separately completed a Retreat marker sign project and restoration project of BCHS blue markers.

X. Public Comment

Kevin Tremble of Tenaflly congratulated Chairman Smith on BCHS president. He was supportive of the Public Service substation acquisition. He asked for comments on map from D.Powell on the Ford Mansion exhibit as he is president of the Washington Association of NJ. He advised his committee unfortunately was involved in the design of the exhibit but had not been able to proof the map before it was produced. D.Powell advised there were actually two maps that could be corrected, neither had New Bridge noted. One had the “Battle of Fort Lee”, she asked when was that battle? D.Powell said she was impressed with how engaging the parkservice employees were compared to a previous visit [March 2014] K.Tremble said he was very glad to hear that, he had heard they were working on it after the opening. K. Tremble said he thought the regional office had a lot to do with it. D.Powell said that would be my criticism, that better to leave the “whole Rev War story” to a larger museum but tell New Jersey’s story here, “who else is going to? Not New York or Pennsylvania, our story is so under told.” K. Tremble agreed.

He congratulated getting the funds to the commission. He mentioned his role on obtaining the fund for the first \$100,000.

Sen. Weinberg sponsored half million dollars for planning the 250th anniversary which passed the Legislature, unclear if the governor signed it. He advised \$200,000 NJ Historical Commission and \$300,000 goes to the Crossroads of the American Revolution to help develop public private partnerships. Chairman Smith said it is fantastic step in the right direction, when you look at New Jersey’s role. It’s two years since BCHS recreated the 250th raising the Liberty Pole in Englewood and our tax collector is doing a fantastic job in the garden scaring visitors. Because New Jersey is a crossroads it played such a pivotal role. Smith said these sites are contributing to the economy and jobs whether in NY, PA or NJ. “When you look at NJ we’re going to be having the 240th battle of Paulus Hook which actually originated here at New Bridge, the Continentals go to Paulus Hook and battle happens somewhere in between Jersey City and New Bridge and boats supposed to be waiting to go to Newark aren’t there and the troops come back to New Bridge with General Light Horse Harry Lee. It goes to what we’re doing with our new painting of 1780

and Washington has troops at Outposts in Bergen County while at Morristown. New Bridge is at the front lines. Chairman Smith added “We’ve had Stamp Act and Townshend Act events and will be doing programming on the Great Awakening, many people don’t realize the religious overtones to the American Revolution.” K. Tremble said he knew how supportive Sen. Weinberg has been of New Bridge. D. Powell said BCHS awarded her the Koehler Award at the dinner and she stayed for the whole dinner, she always seems to put her whole heart into whatever she is doing.

Chairman Smith asked if there were any other comments. Smith thanked everyone for all their hard work including Mary, Mike and Eric.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. 8:57 pm. First, M.Donohue ; Second, J.Heffernan, Motion carried. Chairman Smith – Have a wonderful evening everyone.

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Minutes for Thursday, August 2, 2018. Note: Agenda for Sept 6, 2018 follows minutes below.

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Jim Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:02 pm. Chairman Smith thanked D. Powell for sending the minutes out and for those commissioners submitting commission reports.

II. Attendance

James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, John Heffernan, Mary Donohue, Adam Strobel, Richard Karp, Larry Bauer, Michael S. Putrino absent. Public: Barbara and Jim Dusenberry

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 2, 2018. Motion to approve M. Donohue. Second; R.Karp.

IV. Calendar

V. http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

Chairman Smith noted upcoming events:

BCHS School of Interpretation & Volunteers Meeting: Wednesday, July 18, 7:30 pm,
Topic: The Stewardship of Our Heritage by Jim Smith

Summertime Tours, Sunday, August 29, 2018, 1:00 - 5:00 pm. It was in the Record
Leadership Activity

VI. Chairman's Report

While I've never been to Seattle, it seems we are getting their weather as of late! Still events continue to progress at HNBL with much fanfare, which is quite exciting! Most recently, the Society, conducted its 1st open house tour of the summer and the site was visited by the Record. It was extremely well attended by individuals of all ages. History is alive as well here at New Bridge which is not only exciting today, but shows great promise about what tomorrow will bring.

Speaking of tomorrow, we continue to engage the community and have two more Eagle Scout projects forthcoming. One will turn the gravel walkway leading up to this house into a brick walkway and the other, which was previously presented to this Commission, will be a information kiosk in Brett Park to help orient individuals to HNBL and the diverse story that exists here. I will share a location of said kiosk later. Again, every entity plays an important role here and it is important that we all work together to further the goals of Historic New Bridge Landing and ultimately the future of historic sites in Bergen County and New Jersey as a whole.

Thank you,

James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VII. Continuing Business

A. A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

L. Bauer Suggested signage on Route 4. Chairman Smith noted it had been discussed previously and would be great to reach out to DOT. He asked if Commissioner E.Pain had contacts. Rt 17 or Parkway were discussed adding too.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. In contact with state archaeologist. Waiting for a name for an archaeologist from Montclair State University. Noted that moving the DPW yard to Overpeck, he didn't know how far discussion has gone to build luxury housing in the view shed. M. Donohue suggested building by the river is a bad choice. Chairman Smith noted and "please correct me if I'm wrong, that when HNBLPC was formed that the DPW site would be at that location." Already it

encumbers the view shed, other site understand value like Mount Vernon and Jamestown. Chairman Smith asked for Commissioner Karp to report back on DPW.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. No report, absent

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.

1. I spoke with RE DPW and learned sadly, that John Lynch, Supt. Of the Department of Public Work, River Edge had passed away. John had always been very helpful with problems presented to him from NBL. I inquired about the drainage situation and was told that the Asst. Supt would get back to me. I have not yet received any information,

2. I spoke with Mayor Mignone RE: the disposition of the PSEG substation. He was very encouraged by a response I received from Dave Hollenbeck regarding the matter.

3. I spoke with Dave Hollenbeck re the substation. He has brought the matter of our interest in the PSEG sub-station at our site to the corporate offices, and while no definite decision has been made, he seems hopeful for a favorable resolution.

4.

I placed notice on the RE Bulletin Board re the Summertime Tour and Kite Flying on Sunday, August 19th.

5. Today I contacted the Governor's office Governor's office regarding our invitation that he be one of the guest speakers at the Naturalization event on Friday, Sept. 21. I have not yet received confirmation concerning his acceptance of our invitation for the Naturalization Ceremony. Debbie Francica, Assistant to Senator Weinberg, has been extremely helpful in placing our request in the "right" hands at the Governor's office. Senator Weinberg and Governor Murphy will be our Guest Speakers on Sept. 21 at 10:30 am. This matter is very high on my agenda, and I will inform you immediately that I receive a response from Trenton.

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

Commissioner Strobel advised he was on vacation at the time of the July meeting. I have two items to touch base on, milestone project, one is effort to deal with the flooding, drainage, flapper valves. Copy of correspondence from Boswell Engineering to the County engineer for the two permits, one, land use regulation for waterfront individual permits and other is flood hazard general permit for stormwater outfall. The County retained Boswell Engineering with the permitting that needs to be obtained from the DEP. He said it needs to be sent off to Trenton and get approvals. In the meantime continue designs and plans. The letter is dated July 27. Permits can be issued and go to construction. He indicated plans would be shared in future so everyone is fully informed. Email from Chairman Smith on storm drain. Email July 30, from Nancy Dargis the road was repaved. Chairman

Smith clarified the storm drain is lying in the cross walk, in the handicap cutout, it is just a metal grate and wood pallet were left behind from the roadwork - not hooked up to anything. Hackensack Avenue was repaved. A. Strobel said he would follow up to the July 30 letter. Chairman Smith brought up about Mosquito Control can maintain the drainage ditch of vegetation, that water goes from there to behind the Demarest House and Steuben House, creating "Lake Steuben." He thought it would be simple maintenance permit based on what DEP John Trontis said. He's concerned about reported mosquito levels with disease and we should make attempt to address. Strobel wasn't sure whether permitting was needed for that and asked to be shown where, he asked to be shown where the area referenced. Commissioner D.Powell said she thought we left off with Boswell question of whether archaeology had to be done to do the work for the flap if they are digging a trench. It is a sensitive area for the site, the core area. She said she didn't know whether the archaeology issue would be addressed when it goes to the DEP. It's our job to look out for the site, there has been so much disturbance over the years for various systems. Strobel suggested the work isn't going to disturb any new area, the pipes have been in place for many years. The pipes have been in place a long time. Chairman Smith said there been work done at the site where a small device was supposed to used to dig at the Steuben House and a back hoe was brought in and pottery shards came up because they weren't using the correct equipment. He asked if Boswell could come in and explain the process and go over what they plan to dig. Strobel said his understanding they are only going to do the least disturbance one more complicated and just replacing certain sections. He said he didn't know what the response would be to an archaeological investigation. Kristos would not propose something adversely impact area. He said he didn't think it should be a larger project than it needs to be and would be focused on that. If we are talking about expanding the area clearly beyond my capabilities. D.Powell said since we have to get two environmental permits on work already done you could look at archaeology as just part of the process. E.Pain asked if we would see plans before the work to review. He asked if on State property. D.Powell shared a drawing showing starts on BCHS property and crossing on to State property. A.Strobel asked if on County property? The County effort reviewed whether it is it our responsibility, went to River Edge planning for maps, and it came up whether they should be doing the project, as part of responsibility on the road and he said that it is a good thing for the County to work on, easy and we have the money. \$4,000 plus \$38,000. That now they are getting push back from the commission. Chairman Smith said he didn't think it was push back, when we first talked about it it was only a flap and the project grew. It was not put in by the BCHS or the State, it is a County system and we have to do due diligence and we have not seen plans, we need to see them. A.Strobel, said cameras were put in and determined there were breaks, open it up. A.Strobel said it will not solve all flooding problems at the site. He asked if the direction was to do archaeology. He said I know you would like to see a lot more done. Chairman Smith said maybe it is just endemic of NJ, other states like Virginia are interested in the history and do the archaeology. Stone houses one threatened in Wyckoff and Hackensack is torn down and no archeology is done. E.Pain said it appears a fine line, like the County won't do the work.

D.Powell said she was surprised not sure why there's an issue, it's up to us to protect the site, "I know we mentioned archaeology the last time Boswell came up, it was left up in

the air how to proceed. I don't see that as a bad thing, we may find something interesting and I don't know it will be that expensive. I envision we'll be doing it through out the site after this 1A project - looking at what else happened here, we don't know everything even though the site has been looked at a long time. As Jim said, it only one of very few places where trouble has been taken to set aside and protect and ultimately that's why the Park Commission was formed to do because there were problems in the past. I see us as partners and we're working toward the same thing. I am concerned, it would be nice if we could address the flooding issues now, because I think it is bigger than that one area where the water is coming in [at flag pole], it probably should have been part of a bigger study, on how the water intrusion is coming into the site. A. Strobel acknowledged frustration about water issues because you're in a flood way and impact of the river but when we started this project with the flap which Kevin wanted to do and sunshine flooding. Can we just add the ditch in, that where my frustration is, I don't want to be look like as being non cooperative but if you're asking if archaeological work I don't know if that means delay or another permit. We're all doing good intentions, resistance from the county engineering department, why are we doing this it's not County land. I had to convince them good thing to do we're part of the Commission and it's good for the county engineer to get to. D. Powell said it's like Jim said it appears to be out of the usual scope of how NJ thinks about things, you also need to factor in history to these projects. And project did grow and become more intrusive.

It [the flap-dig project] will be very good for the site because you can see when the water comes up very high at the flag pole and if it gets high enough it continues to push its way up the street to all the sewer [storm water] drains to the point where of even reaching beyond the one in the Campbell-Christie House driveway to the intersection so if the flap blocks water at the flag pole or the river – we will have less intrusion there. The other way I've observed water entering the site is through the channel [ditch] dug apparently in the 50s as part of the sewer drain [storm water] and it comes in there and if it gets high enough it goes over the bank to behind the Demarest House and make a lake between there and the barn and can continue to breach the road to the barn and into the back of the Steuben House. I am starting to see it entering the Steuben House, we can now see bricks crumbling in the fireplace, structural part of the house are dissolving because of the water intrusion to the most important part of the site, the Steuben House and the bridge. A. Strobel noted drainage is expensive, how to mechanically move water away from structures, County is responsible for the County roads. The park is unique, there is no longer a county road, in the 50s if they just left it and no one had the foresite what this means. Kevin, Adam and Kristos looked at the site four years ago in the winter. Kristos was convinced but said he got hit people from County Council that it is not their responsibility. He had to convince them it is an investment. Orphan work, he has to convince people and with no budget. Site hydrology could be down the road. D. Powell said it is down the road but you have to expect that it could come up when the project expanded. Chairman Smith explained further that when a right away was put in for New Bridge Road when the County wanted to replace the 1889 bridge in 1954 the Society sold land [four-lane road] for \$1 and because of the bridge the flooding was occurring so the

County put in the drains [where the water is coming in] and that is how they are involved on BCHS property and the State property. We are super appreciative of your efforts and no one is trying to stop this or be ungrateful, important we are not characterized that way. He reiterated there were problems in the past in the 1980s so that's the big concern so we have this discussion now. L.Bauer said he thought they are sensitive, we can wait for the plans. R.Karp said A.Strobel has done a great job and repeated we need a plan for flooding for the whole site. Chairman Smith acknowledged this a first phase. He said he only mentioned clearing the ditch, did not want to confuse things, take an inch and then an arm. "I could be home, I have a four-year old kid who asked me to build with legos, instead I am here. I want to get stuff done, maybe that's why BCHS works, I didn't mean it to be taken in a negative way. Its fair to bring up the discussion."

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

8/2/18

General

Landscaping -All to be handled by Green Meadows Landscaping

Tree Survey Wednesdays-Fridays have been identified as days that are best for Jack Shuart. 3:30 or later Pick a date. Wednesday August 29, 3:30 pm was chosen.

Phone/Voicemail- Phone works voicemail has been recorded.

Non Governmental Projects List

Painting Shutters- To be finished summer 2018 E.Pain said he expected to be able to do inhouse.

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property-summer 2018

Exterior stairway- Refinish/Paint Summer-Early Fall

Add Rock to sump pump outfall-Summer 2018

Floor Refinishing: Ongoing waiting on vendors to submit quotes. Add to Intergovernmental projects list?

Front Porch Add to Intergovernmental projects list?

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. In contact with Ms. Reichenbach. A matter of coordinating our schedules. I am interested in what she has to offer.

Guardrail Removal late summer. Will try to accomplish in house however it could require a contractor.

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton. Must finalize and provide to Financial Operations. E.Pain noted the \$100,000 had been put into AO account. It is an FY18 Fund, I've been told I have until June 30, 2019 to spend it. They want me to identify projects, under \$1,000 entails less paperwork, he explained how much paperwork is involved for him and vendors. It requires a 3-bids over \$1,000 and the low bid. The funds are for the site. They want the project list immediately though. The Preservation Office made comments to what D.Powell sent.

A.Strobel asked what is an 1A study? E.Pain said a comprehensive plan for the site. D.Powell added Kevin [Wright] did write about the site in a comprehensive foot noted manuscript. Chairman Smith said it's a reference, do we rebuild the bake house to enhance the visitor experience or best with interpretive panels, the story is so complex, what is the best way to approach it. E.Pain said he very heard high estimates. A.Strobel agreed the 1A sounded like useful in proceeding with all the projects and difficulty in bidding process. Part of idea building a new building was to relieve use on the Steuben House and have collections in a building appropriate. One step at a time. Maybe we should put it out there to see what kind of response we get. Eric mentioned doing one of the studies a few years ago, the Lidar. E.Pain mentioned the threshold is \$40,000 for anyone project. He had some people advise it could come in very high. D.Powell asked if we could tap into the second year money. E.Pain was uncertain, first year needs to be spent first. J. Heffernan suggested expanding the 1A to a larger area. D.Powell asked if there was someone is SHPO to manage a 1A. E. Pain said they got back to him with criteria. He said would play a role. Chairman Smith suggested doing the parking lot redesigned and completed to get up from approximately \$70,000 to \$100,000. Chairman Smith noted how important it is to be welcoming at the entrance, he recently experience a new design at Watkins Glen on vacation. Perhaps turning into a green space and directing people to the crosswalk. Currently people are greeted by uneven pavement and dead trees. In the Master Plan it talks about a memorial there. Pedestrian walkway along the County right of way could be planned. Mary would check with town on repave and curbing in front of the Demarest House.

J.Heffernan made a motion to authorize Chairman Smith and Commissioner D.Powell to approve the checklist in behalf of the Commission for the final project. M.Donohue seconded. Chairman Smith noted how nice the porch looked for the walking tour in July, people hanging out on porch for the tour. It is a great credit to E.Pain.

I was asked to confirm park specific account numbers concerning the project funding.

1. 1A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$7,000. Can we get it done within a year?
 2. Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway.
- A.Strobel noted the County right of way. Proceed.

3. Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$2,500-\$4,000 Proceed.
4. Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5,000 Proceed.
5. Install electrical outlet in meeting room near cellar entrance. Delete.
6. Sand and paint exterior staircase. Replace if warranted \$500 to sand and paint \$3,000 to replace Proceed.
7. Remove Pergo floor and remove raised floor and install doors \$5,000. We're not sure if we have enough information, Table.
8. Level and grade roundabout, remove drainage swale and place curbing to demark roadway from island ? Proceed, need design and budget
9. Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$2,500 - \$5,000. Proceed.
10. Repair and repaint plaster walls in dwelling room and rear rooms correcting deficiencies \$1,000-\$1,500 Proceed.
11. Restoration plan for back kitchen area of Steuben House \$10,000 Delay.
12. Repair of bricks in Steuben House Fireplace \$5,000 Delay.
13. Regrade Sutton and Lys Property (cost unknown) Goes with redesign of Parking Lot
14. Identify appropriate fixtures and remove fluorescent lighting and led candelabra bulbs \$750-\$1,000 Get the LED light bulbs so the site could be more energy efficient.
15. Archaeological study at black walnut site ? Get it done so we can replant. \$3,000.
16. Hay barrack to be constructed in meadow - \$10,000 - \$15,000
17. Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2,500 - \$5,000 Proceed.
18. Continue curb from Demarest House to Christie House - \$5,000. Mary checking.

F. **Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan.** No report.

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

"The Summertime Tour event on July 22 turned out to be rather exciting. I thought it would low key day.. So I made an appointment with a NYC resident who contacted us that week to donate local documents. I wanted to strike while the iron was hot so I

suggested she come an hour before we open. The documents turned out to be over two dozen late 18th century - early 1800s Bergen County Indentures and including two enslaved persons bills of sale . It is very big when someone takes the trouble to make a very meaningful gift like this. The museum collection committee was so excited about the docs they began transcribing them almost immediately. As I am going through the donation two reporters from NorthJersey.com came to do what turned out to be a day long visit - - a really great video, interviews and article on HNBL. The kite flying in the Meadow and vegetable-picking garden tours were very popular with children and gave them a chance to unplug for a bit. Visitors are drawn in by our enthusiasm."

"I have begun wrapping up the BCHS FEMA claim, all the work is now completed. The last leg of the document work was completed by board member Peggy Norris who organized volunteers to help process digitizing documents and papers that had been previously treated at a de-molding company.

It's two years ago on Saturday that Kevin found out he had kidney cancer. The doctor at the time said he thought it was five years he had it which would take us back to 2012, the year when Hurricane Sandy hit. Maybe a coincidence but Kevin was deep in toxic sludge as he tried to rescue BCHS collections at the warehouse on the Passaic River across from Newark.

I'm hoping for cooperation from the County of Bergen now on addressing some of the items on the list for the Campbell-Christie House, the sagging bathroom sink is one, should BCHS just take care of it. A.Strobel asked if he needed to tweak him again, schedule something. Chairman Smith advised maybe in September address this, he said he wanted to meet Mr. Dressler. We could have a volunteer meet, Chairman Smith said he would try and set something up again. D.Powell said the air conditioning upstairs needs to be looked at.

Last month I notified the Park Commission about the Army Corps of Engineers proposals for flood protection and sent a link in the minutes. Hopefully you got a chance to look at their information on website. Does the Commission want to send a letter saying we think it is positive step to investigate protecting development along the Hackensack River including HNBL which includes a state-historic site? I'm asking, does the Commission want to weigh in?" D.Powell said it is worth hearing about what can be done. Support possible flood control plans. This was affirmed to reply for the commission.

"We're considering request for Mansion on the Green stones that we've been saving for use at New Bridge. They were deposited here when Hackensack allowed the historic house to be demolished back in the 1940s, it was Peter Zabriskie's house, where Washington was staying when the invasion happened. A horseback rider road up and alerted Washington that the British were coming and Washington took off from there and met the troops at the Liberty Pole and led them back to New Bridge. Anyway, we are considering their request.

With the summer heat we are delayed on plans for relocating the millstones."

VIII. Old Business

Old business Scout orientation device and rules incorporated coordinated by the Park Commission. Replacing what is there with Interpretive panel. He shared a drawing.

A.Strobel asked about the geo-coding from Retreat sign project. Chairman Smith said he had not yet received that file and would follow up.

IX. New Business

D.Powell noted plans to put up a donor kiosk to recognize donors in front of the Campbell Christie House, hopefully before Baronfest. She asked E.Pain for advice from Long Pond Ironwork, she had seen a photo of a bar of pig iron like ours where they had dusted it so more readable and wondered what is considered safe to use. She asked if everyone sent back the paperwork on their appointment to the commission, which was confirmed by everyone present. She asked J.Heffernan if the road counter was working across the entire road which he confirmed and reported 306 vehicles.

X. Public Comment. None.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. 9:06 pm. First, R.Karp ; Second, J. Heffernan, Motion carried.
Chairman Smith – Have a wonderful evening everyone.

XII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held at 7 PM at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, New Jersey, 07661 on Thursday, September 6, 2018, meet in the Campbell-Christie House. A future meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2018.

2018 meeting dates:

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7, Jul 11 (2nd Wednesday due to July 4 Holiday week), Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 3, 2019.

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Thursday, October 4, 2018 - Meeting takes place November 1, 2018

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:03. Motion to approved L. Bauer, R.Karp second. Abstention; M.Putrino.

II. Attendance: James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, John Heffernan, Michael J. Putrino, Richard Karp.

Adam Strobel and Mary Donohue, absent.

Public: Barbara and Jim Dusenberry

III. Review of Minutes

Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of Sept 6, 2018. Change to Michael Motion to approve Michael S. Putrino. Second; John Heffernan.

IV. Calendar

V. http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

Oct 15 - Lecture

Oct 17 - School of Interpretation, D. Powell

Oct 28 - Hamilton Event

Oct 25 - Tree Survey with NJDEP consultant.

VI. Chairman's Report

Good afternoon everyone,

First, my apologies on not being able to attend the September meeting. As I was backing out of my driveway to attend the meeting, my car's transmission went. Thankfully it occurred there and not somewhere on the way. Historic New Bridge Landing, like every month, has been a busy location over the past few weeks especially as fall begins to show signs all around us. From Bergen Leads, Lectures, School of Interpretation, the Naturalization Ceremony and Baronfest. Baronfest was truly a fantastic event for Bergen County with people of all ages, background etc. attending. The site was alive with activity days and weeks prior to the event. So much goes into the events here at New Bridge that it looks easy, but it's not. Mike P., Deborah P., Mark Texel, John H. and myself were members of the Commission who were present. As the event continues to grow, there is definitely the potential further include both Teaneck and New Milford. The most up to date site plan for the museum with renderings was also made available and will further strengthen the site.

As an update, the new kiosk in Brett Park is nearing completion. I am currently beginning the process to work with Deborah on the design of what will go on it. But we need to look at what more can be done in Brett Park. Trees are rotting and areas are overgrown, areas that just a few years ago were cut back. Volunteers can only do so much, we do need to

continue to open up discussions to make sure concerns are met and a maintenance plan is in place. I'd also like to discuss the usage of the park. Currently, if the Society wants to include Brett Park into an event, it is an arduous process of emails and forms. Yet, it would be more efficient to have an event brought to the Commission, and then communicated to Teaneck. Ultimately, this should be the role of the Commission to allow the coordination of events and planning, as is this case with Brett.

Unfortunately, our other Eagle Scout project to replace the gravel path hit a roadblock with brick totals coming up short. However, after going back to the drawing board, literally, the Scout is currently reviewing plans to replace the cabinet doors for this very room, that were removed when the house was moved, and to also correctly add a "fake" basement entry door on the back of the house, not the front, that could be used for storage of hoses or watering cans and would correctly tell the story of this house. This was actually part of an earlier plan once the house was moved here. I did reach out to Mr. Dressler about the sink, per a previous request, however, I have not heard from him since.

I did reach out to Let It Grow in River Edge about the possibility of design services for the entry way to the park. If you have another company that you would recommend, please let me know. Ultimately a redesign will be a major benefit to the area and add to the welcoming nature of the site. More details to follow as they become available. Special thanks to Eric and his crew for quickly responded prior to the events of Florence. It's not easy but through planning and preparation, we're able to avoid challenges.

One of the things that also seems to be picking up is not only interest in the historic site, but different historic stories throughout the county. If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to review the master plan for HNBL as well as its interpretative plan. It is well thought out and helps to define what we are doing here. Ultimately, we all volunteer to be members on the Commission and every role is important. And yet, we have a very important role to help guide and protect the resources in all forms here at Historic New Bridge Landing, not only for the current generation but for future generations. Parking, space, a multilayered interesting story, direct train access, close to NYC, shopping, thousands of people. The success of HNBL will not only benefit the site, but also the local historical and environmental community, the county and state as a whole.

Thank you,
James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VII. Continuing Business

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. Absent.
Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

D.Powell read a letter she composed a letter from the PC to go to Teaneck regarding request for removal of dead trees in Lower Brett Park that are blocking the trail/path.

M.Putrino advised to send to Town Clerk and cc. the DPW. Suggestions to add hazard to public and too big a job for volunteers See end of report.

R.Karp said wanted to see about getting Richard Viet to the site, trying to coordinate dates.. Chairman Smith said he felt process is cumbersome to have use of Brett Park. He asked that if it could be streamlined. If the Teaneck Representative could facilitate use. R.Karp, who came in late, suggested the park could be given to the Commission. D.Powell said that she understood that the different stakeholders should participate.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. 1. The bench can't be rotated, there's no room. **2.** Waiting for DOT response on their grant application. **3.** Bloom signs is closing he arranged transportation to New Milford DPW. The posts do not survive, we would need to purchase legs.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge. Absent but did submit report.

1. Contacted Mayor Mignone re: the DEAD END signs on Main Street – he is looking in to the matter and will get in touch with me when he has information.
2. The annual Naturalization Ceremony took place on Friday September 23 new citizens were naturalized from 18 different countries! The League of Women Voters registered them to vote in time for the November 5 election. Again, we would like to thank the United States immigration and Naturalization Service and all who helped from the Bergen County Historical Society and the New Bridge Landing Park Commission for their help in making this ceremony possible at our site.
3. Notice of the Baronfest celebration was posted on the River Edge Borough bulletin board for a week prior to the event.

Chairman Smith thanked Mary Donohue and BCHS volunteers and everyone involved.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space.
No new report. Repeat previous report for reference.

1. Stormwater Improvement Project --- Christos Kavvadas, county drainage engineer, advised that the NJDEP Permit application(s) are being revised due to multiple owners in the area of the project area. Once this review is completed with Boswell Engineering, a new application form will be generated. It is still anticipated a representative of the Bergen County Historical Society will need to sign the application as a land owner. Will work though Chairman Smith on obtaining required signatures.
2. Shoveling and clearing of Swing Bridge during snow events – As discussed at previous Commission meetings, it is not possible to have county staff preform shoveling to make a clear pathway for pedestrians who pass over the bridge. County staff does not provide snow removal at the pedestrian walkway / bridge.

3. Bathroom Vanity in Campbell Christie House – From our August meeting, Chairman Smith was to communicate with Raymond Dressler, BC Director of Dept. of Public Works to arrange a mutually agreed upon date to visit the house to examine the bathroom. Commissioner Strobel advised that he spoke to Mr. Dressler earlier this week and he will send an email to Messrs. Dressler and Smith to schedule a date.
4. Stormwater Drainage grate removal – BC Road Department will be contacted on the status of the removal of this item from the park.
5. Possible removal of traffic signs at Main Street – Commissioner Strobel will again reach out to BC traffic engineering assistant to ask him to visit the site and provide recommendations to County Engineer Department. Once site visit and consultation is conducted, an update will be provided to the Commissioners.
6. Removal of chain link fence around A/C unit and replace with picket fence at CCH – A follow-up discussion will take place with BC General Services and Cynthia Forster of BC Division of Historic and Cultural Affairs on this item.
7. Cupboard Doors. A.Strobel said this is a new item for list.
Discussion: D.Powell said the cupboard doors were lost apparently when the house was moved to this location and that we have drawings for them. Currently they have curtains and would like to have the cupboards more functional because of events and limited storage. The house is interpreted as a tavern, it was a tavern in the 18th century. Kevin Wright identified interpreting the building as a tavern in 1982. A.Strobel said he didn't think the County had staff. Discussion whether the Commission could fund. M.Donohue asked whether assessment could be done of the building as Chairman Smith requested. She brought up snow shoveling the bridge walkway. D.Powell suggested it could now come under the Park Commission budget. E.Pain thinks it could be included. J.Heffernan reminded about the sewer grate is still in walkway at the corner and needs to be removed. Chairman Smith noted the Storm Grate was removed in time for Baronfest. He said something we would like to add to the list the Campbell-Christie House needs a second railing to the front steps for safety.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

General

Landscaping - handled by Green Meadows Landscaping. Rainy summer and early fall has complicated landscaping considerably.

Tree Survey Wednesdays-Fridays have been identified as days that are best for Jack Shuart. 3:30 or later Need to select a new date. Thursday, October 25, at 3:30 pm was chosen.

Dehumidifiers placed, 3 in operation. Still troubleshooting. Seems some units are not draining via hose but filling up reservoir instead.

DOT contact for signage (made contact waiting for additional info)

Adding stone in front of Steuben House to protect the columns? Chairman Smith asked if the a layer of landscaping material so new stones would not mix into the historic material.

Projects List

Painting Shutters- If not finished this week will be finished next week

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property Next week

Add Rock to sump pump outfall-Splash Block added suitable? Chairman Smith said this was the right direction. D.Powell added that at the last weather event that water came in the north room first, that appears to be the entry point for water. She pointed water is also wicking through the stone.

Floor Refinishing: Completely stalled unsuitable number of vendors interested

Front Porch Strip/sand/paint Can be done independently of Intergovernmental projects or included if we identify that money will be lost if not spent

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. In contact with Ms. Reichenbach. A matter of coordinating our schedules. I am interested in what she has to offer.

Guardrail Removal late summer. Fall or Spring

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

Something to remember about the selection and use of the contractors. All contractors are required to fill out paperwork in order to be able to work with the state of New Jersey. The number of pages depends on the amount of the project. Projects under \$1000 require a minimal amount of paperwork. Projects between \$1000 and \$17,500 require much more and those from \$17,500-\$40,000 even more.

Another thing that must be taken into consideration is that any projects \$1000-\$17,500 must have at least 3 bids. \$17,500-\$40,000 must have at least 3 sealed bids

1. *1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$39,999* Soliciting bids from qualified contractors
2. Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000
3. Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$8000 Bids received po to be requested. E.Pain said he has 3 bids. He said the hand removal was the cheapest and list invasive. D.Powell asked if there was a drawing. E.Pain said he would be on site for the work. HPO feedback. Chairman Smith said it will be very visiable progress. He watched Lou Kahn on a walker and how difficult a time he had navigating. The inferior area will be replaced with stone dust. D.Powell asked if it considered ADA compliant. R.Karp noted an ADA stone dust path in Mary Toposky park. Motion to approve Joe Mayo Construction to removal of walkway and replacement with stone dust path and compaction and removal as proposed on Aug 13, 2018 and shared with Park Commission. First: E.Pain, Second: R.Karp, motion passed.
4. Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5,000 Soliciting prices from vendors. Considering red oak, sycamore. Chairman Smith suggested Sweet Gum, the kas is made from sweet gum and adds to the interpretation. R.Karp supplied a name of a company.
5. Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3,000 -\$4000 Bids received po to be requested. Discussion on how much to replace. Mayo did a really quality job previous job on the porch columns. Smith noted Deborah was quoted in the NY Times article that featured the Steuben House and large photo of the back of the house in a story on River Edge. Motion to approve Joe Mayo Construction to put forth on back stairs of the Steuben House to change all damaged wood and removed all debris as proposed on Sept 10, 2018 and shared with Park Commission. First: E.Pain, Second: J.Heffernan, motion passed. Plan to follow with painting stairs.
6. **Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$5,000-\$7000** Confirm SOW and solicit addl. bids
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 \$750-\$1,000 Jim and Eric to Handle
9. Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2,500 - \$5,000 ID work areas
10. Interpretive Panels \$3500-\$5000 Additional information required. Design and content
11. Fence Rails and posts \$1500 RSP to order

12. Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$3000 Jim and Eric to handle. Home Depot has the ones E.Pain was impressed with, effective and easy of use that Jim had shared with him.

When considering the timeline for projects located on State owned properties is the need for the submission of an application for Project Authorization to the Historic Preservation Office. Depending on the nature of the project most but not all will require review and advanced permission by HPO. This step generally cannot be pursued until after the contractors have bid on the project

*-There was some confusion with the wording and arrangement of the 1-A. that has led to a delay in the submission of the proposal to the archeologists. Once we are all on the same page this will go out to bid through the formal process.

** I spoke to Tina Reichenbach concerning the paint analysis and she is interested in pursuing the project. She did indicate during our conversation that she might need access to the Steuben House again. Has anyone spoken with her since the last meeting? tina@richbrook.net 646-315-5442. Discussion for accounting for correct colors identified in relation to color shifting and HPO felt the correct period color should be identified. Discussion on colors from different periods that may be found in examination. D.Powell advised the master plan identifies the period of interpretation, the house that Steuben restored after the American Revolution. She said it all sounded plausible on the color fading but wondered what the paint scientist would say about it. E.Pain said he was excited to be working on this. He would follow up with Reichenbach. D.Powell wondered if as long as getting bids if these same companies could do dendrochronology on the houses. She thought previously had quotes of \$2,000 for each test and we would want to test for what we think we know about the stages of how the house was constructed which may or may not be confirmed by the dendrochronology. It could be at least six areas and questioned do you just do one or more beams in a room for accuracy and comparison. Could explore testing the woodwork, the paneling. It is a pencil thin boring. E.Pain thought it may be feasible to add.

D.Powell asked for the bids to be sent to add to the report. Chairman Smith asked if there were records of the house and where are they. E.Pain thought there records. He mentioned there was an outhouse behind the house that could be reconstructed for a tool shed.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. No report. Chairman Smith said they continue to mow the grass.

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

I thought it was exciting to read about the new Fort Lee Film Center, another group that is providing leadership and capitalizing on an aspect of Bergen County's history. They get that people want to live in an interesting location, look how hot Hoboken is.

We had big crowds at HNBL for Baronfest and our team pulled together to advertise it and provide a full experience the day of. This is the month that **Kevin Wright** passed away two years ago and despite feeling the loss intensely every day, it is satisfying that we have been able to step up to the plate with him gone. I can

say that he left us with much written vision, planning and history. And left BCHS with the groundwork to have the ability to do an event like Baronfest. This was not always true. In spite of the lack of infrastructure (bathrooms, for example) he set BCHS, as a stakeholder, on a course to have an income with membership and donations. He provided vision on visitor experience that keeps people coming back as well as new people eager to visit. He thought parents coming with their children was especially important with forming shared generational experiences, and we saw that at Baronfest at the family-friendly event.

I quoted John Mills in Kevin's memorial service "Kevin was a great researcher and constant promoter and defender of New Jersey's heritage and New Jersey historic sites. As he was usually at the forefront he also took the animosity from those who demolish our history. Historic sites on the whole are better off due to his dedication. And as you said, he was a witty, humorous, and just plain nice guy. He is already missed." I am encouraged that people are getting on board now seeing that



vision.

I was at the dentist around the corner, and thinking about the location of recently donated 6 lb cannonball was found, went to my computer and measured it at only 250 feet from the Retreat Route - the road from New Bridge to Hackensack. Obviously we can't say for sure but it is plausible to have an association to the November 1776 Retreat. At Baronfest, military historian John Muller identified it as **18th century American**.

We thank the County of Bergen and Adam Strobel for having the sewer grate at the crosswalk removed in time for the event. We thank Eric Pain working through the past two recent storms to have the Steuben House ready for the event where we had the very good fortune of a beautiful day.



We had a very nice moving Naturalization program that Mary Donohue organizes. I took off the day from work to open the house and was able to talk to many people about the site. Sen Weinberg gave remarks along with River Edge Mayor Mignone, Mary and BCHS VP Kate Reilly gave a very moving remarks. E.Pain thanked her for sharing that. Chairman Smith noted making progress on the new museum building, working on the sewer connection, our lawyer is making headway.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

D.Powell asked about the trail cam for car counting and security. Discussion on where they could be positioned and law enforcement protocol. M.Putrino suggested Mary ask if

River Edge police can run plates based on video. E.Pain said we need wi fi for security system. D.Powell: we need to upgrade to wi fi for variety of reasons anyway. Pain said he would bring in security company for advice, possibility of getting a hot spot. M.Putrino said we could patch into the River Edge police. Chairman Smith said it came up recently with souvenir hunters in the US Ling submarine. J.Dusenberry shared some of his experience with security cameras in his job. E.Pain said there may be a distinction between interior and exterior use.

D.Powell said Jim asked her to do a walking tour of the tide mill for the Retreat Event on Nov 19 and she noted there were large tree limbs dumped by someone on the BCHS property by the PSEG / Tide Mill location and asked if they could be removed in time for her talk.

X. Public Comment

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 8:57 pm. First, M. Putrino; Second, R.Karp, Motion carried.

XII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held at 7 PM at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, New Jersey, 07661 on Thursday, November 1, 2018, meet in the Campbell-Christie House. A future meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018.

2018 meeting dates:

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7, Jul 11 (2nd Wednesday due to July 4 Holiday week), Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 3, 2019.

Dear Fran Wilson, Director of Public Works and Issa A. Abbasi, MPA, Teaneck Clerk,

We are writing to ask for Teaneck to schedule and execute the removal of the dead trees and brush, located along the Hackensack River in Lower Brett Park. The trees had fallen several years ago.

The dead tree location is across the river from the state historic site, the Steuben House and are something of an eyesore, and are now overgrown with poison ivy and Porcelain Berry, *Ampelopsis glandulosa* var. *brevipedunculata*.

The trees completely block the trail that is marked for hikers to travel along the Greenway Trail. They block views of Brett Park. As you know, the trail travels from New Bridge Landing south through Teaneck to Bogota. The Bergen County Historical Society and

other groups provide grounds clean-up of the park annually but the removal of the huge fallen dead trees are beyond what volunteers can tackle and pose a hazard to the public.

We view Brett Park as an important part of Historic New Bridge Landing and your work, when completed, will contribute to visitor experience at Historic New Bridge Landing.

Regards,

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission - AGENDA for 12/6/2018 meeting FOLLOWS AT END.

Thursday, November 1, 2018

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:09.

II. Attendance: James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, John Heffernan, Larry Bauer, Richard Karp, Mary Donohue.

Adam Strobel and Michael J. Putrino, absent. Richard Karp left early.

III. Review of Minutes

Thanked D.Powell for the minutes. Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of Oct 4, 2018. Motion to approve M.Donohue. Second; Rich Karp. Motion passed.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018.2.pdf

Nov 4, Sun Grounds & Building Clean-up. 8 -11 AM.

Nov 11, Sun Veteran's Day Wreath-laying & Ceremony

Nov 14, Wed School of Interpretation, TBA. 7:30 PM.

Nov 15, Thurs Lecture Series. Refreshments, Steuben House. 7:30 PM

Nov 18 , Sun The 242nd Anniversary of the British Invasion & American Retreat New Bridge, The Bridge that Saved a Nation. Reading of The American Crisis at the Bridge, military demonstrations, lecture, 18th century civilian life. 11AM - 4 PM. Chairman Smith reported that he would be reading the American Crisis at 12:30 pm, what Thomas Paine wrote about the site. D.Powell walking tour about the tide mill, Todd Braisted on the American Revolution and Kate Reilly walking tour at the bridge. This kicks off the sites Revolutionary history. Chairman Smith pointed out that if the Nov 1776

continental troops had not made it to cross here they would not have made it to cross the Delaware.

V. Chairman's Report

Good afternoon everyone,

First, my apologies on not being able to attend the September meeting. As I was backing out of my driveway to attend the meeting, my car's transmission went. Thankfully it occurred there and not somewhere on the way. Historic New Bridge Landing, like every month, has been a busy location over the past few weeks especially as fall begins to show signs all around us. From Bergen Leads, Lectures, School of Interpretation, the Naturalization Ceremony and Baronfest. Baronfest was truly a fantastic event for Bergen County with people of all ages, background etc. attending. The site was alive with activity days and weeks prior to the event. So much goes into the events here at New Bridge that it looks easy, but it's not. Mike P., Deborah P., Mark Texel, John H. and myself were members of the Commission who were present. As the event continues to grow, there is definitely the potential further include both Teaneck and New Milford. The most up to date site plan for the museum with renderings was also made available and will further strengthen the site.

As an update, the new kiosk in Brett Park is nearing completion. I am currently beginning the process to work with Deborah on the design of what will go on it. But we need to look at what more can be done in Brett Park. Trees are rotting and areas are overgrown, areas that just a few years ago were cut back. Volunteers can only do so much, we do need to continue to open up discussions to make sure concerns are met and a maintenance plan is in place. I'd also like to discuss the usage of the park. Currently, if the Society wants to include Brett Park into an event, it is an arduous process of emails and forms. Yet, it would be more efficient to have an event brought to the Commission, and then communicated to Teaneck. Ultimately, this should be the role of the Commission to allow the coordination of events and planning, as is this case with Brett.

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thanks to Eric and his crew for quickly responded prior to the events of Florence. It's not easy but through planning and preparation, we're able to avoid challenges.

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Thank you,
James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

**Eagle Scout presentation by
Brian Payerle, scout in
River Edge #184:**

The project consists of designing, building and installing doors for the two missing in the Campbell-Christie House on both of the fireplaces in front rooms. Designing and installing a bulkhead for the rear of building. Repainting existing bulkheads in front of the house. Time line: Through December, getting approvals, making cuts to wood, January and February complete onsite elements so done by February the latest. Cabinet doors would be made out of maple or similar wood. They would be made in colonial style but the insets would have molding to create like period carved. Approximately 28x51" and 24x 57". The hardware is yet to be

The image shows a 'Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal' form from the Boy Scouts of America. At the top is the Boy Scouts of America logo featuring an eagle with a shield and a mountain range. The title 'Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal' is in a black box. Below it, the 'BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA' logo is visible. The form contains the following text:

Eagle Scout candidate's full legal name: Brian William Payerle

Eagle Scout Service Project Name: Historic Campbell-Christie House Project

Eagle Scout Requirement 5

While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. (The project must benefit an organization other than the Scout organization.) The project must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your unit leader and unit committee, and the district or district before you start. You must use the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement.

determined, would consult with Chairman Smith. The bulkhead would be made out of treated lumber to protect from elements and double doors to match existing. He would seat it in the ground without having to attach to the building. He shared computer assisted drawings for both. Estimate \$700 - 750 which he would raise through fundraisers like bake sales at St Peters to pay for the work. Supplier donations could factor in. [Project PDF.](#)

Chairman Smith advised when the house was moved here in 1977 the doors were not included but D.Powell was able to supply the drawings from that time and that's what was used by Brian. Smith said Kevin Wright pointed out to him the original bulkheads in August 2016 at the back of the house and that's the basis. They could provide storage for gardening. Rep. E.Pain commended the presentation by the scout. Chairman Smith called for a motion to approve the work, First: L.Bauer, Second: M.Donohue. Motion passed.

VI. Continuing Business

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

Project List:

1. Remove dead trees, brush, invasives and poison ivy in Brett Park, across from the Steuben House.
2. Camouflage the sand shelter at the DPW yard.

“R.Karp met with Issa Abbasi, Teaneck’s town clerk, regarding the use of Brett park for our events. He gave me the forms that are needed with the proper procedure. Still have not firmed up a date with Rich Veit.”

R. Karp said he met with town clerk. He shared an event application that goes through different departments for approval, has to be approved by council. D.Powell mentioned Jim [Smith] was hoping to streamline the process. Chairman Smith said he has filled out this previously but finds it cumbersome, especially since Teaneck has two representatives on the PC. R.Karp mentioned he was pushing for annual authorizing letter that the Greenway has. D.Powell said she did send a letter and outlined map area to the town clerk, Issa Abbasi and the DPW Fran Wilson requesting removal of dead trees and brush in Lower Brett Park where the Greenway Trail is located. Chairman Smith noted a Brett Park tree fell in river in silting up the bumpers of the bridge and changing the current. There is a dangerous pine tree that could fall. The preparation of cleanup would need to begin soon for being able to plan events that include Brett Park. He said Fran Wilson has been fantastic in the past to meet with but understands there have been changes.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative. Absent.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge.

1. Mayor Mignone e-mailed that he has asked the County about the **Dead End** signs and told them that he wishes them removed. He believes that they will be replaced by **No Outlet** signs. The County says that the traffic at the intersection of River Road and Main require signage for safety and direction. The Mayor will continue to keep us posted on developments.

2. A meeting with Dave Hollenbeck, Diane Bumpas, (PSEG) Deborah Powell and myself took place on October 16 at the Steuben House to discuss the disposition of the PSEG sub-station property adjoining our site. The meeting was most satisfactory – PSEG would like to dispose of the property by selling to the BCHS. Further talks will take place in the near future pending assessed valuation of the property. Mayor Mignone from River Edge is also pleased and will become part of our discussions with PSEG. PSEG also recommended that we obtain an attorney to represent our interests. I have contacted Mayor Mignone who has a possible “volunteer”... a practicing attorney in the State of New Jersey who will take our case on a pro bono basis. We are delighted with the progress on this matter. Patience, inter-action and perseverance are being rewarded. Mr. Hollenbeck also remarked that the painting of the electrical box at the Steuben House was an improvement.

On Monday, October 22, 2018, met at my home with Deborah and Mayor Mignone to discuss the PSEG meeting of Friday, October 19. WSe asked his help in obtaining a pro bono attorney to represent the HNBLPC and the BCHS in negotiations with PSEG. He has since responded to me that Mr. Sarlo, Boro Attorney suggested a name to him ... will let us know whether the attorney agrees.

Today I contacted Dave Hollenbeck and Dianne Bumpas for any news from PSEG and they told me that the PSEG team is working on our case, and that they are still evaluating the property. They will keep us up-to-date with new findings and information as they become available.

3. I received an up-date from the RE Dept of Public Woks regarding the flooding at the flagpole – they are working with the Bergen County Dept. of Public Works.

4. I have been in touch with Senator Weinberg’s office, Congressman Josh Gottheimer and all of our government representatives, to try to place our annual Christmas concert on their calendars.

5. A notice regarding Baronfest was placed on the River Edge public bulletin boards.

6. I am submitting a check for \$20.00 for the sale of one New Bridge Landing book by Phyllis Angelo at River Edge Day.

Chairman Smith noted the progress made with getting rid of the double telephone poles to one. He asked if we could meet with the County to discuss the signage at the site. For example we still have a Bridge Closed sign behind the four-rail fence and gate.

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

Absent, no
word. Aske
d if it was
the fifth
meeting
A.Strobel
has missed
this year.

**Chairman
Smith** note
d we did
hear from
the County
Executive's
office and

we were able to have a volunteer as Martha Washington and **help promote Heritage
Tourism in Bergen County** in a marketing video. We are thankful the County wanted to
include HNBL.

Pictured: County Executive **Jim Tedesco** and BCHS Trustee **Beverly Hashimoto**.



Project List:

1. Stormwater Improvement Project
2. Shoveling and clearing of Swing Bridge during snow events
3. Bathroom Vanity in Campbell Christie House
4. Meeting about signage at HNBL.
5. Removal of chain link fence around A/C unit and replace with picket fence at CCH.

6. Cupboard Doors. Eagle Scout has stepped up to do this project.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

General

Landscaping - handled by Green Meadows Landscaping.

Tree Survey Conducted 10/25. Several trees were identified for removal as well as some general trimming and branch removal. Estimates will be pursued

Dot contact for signage (made contact waiting for additional info)

Adding stone in front of Steuben House to protect the columns? Waiting for 1-A

Projects List

Painting Shutters- Complete

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property Complete

Add Rock to sump pump outfall-Splash Block need to place additional stone

Floor Refinishing: Completely stalled unsuitable number of vendors interested

Front Porch Strip/sand/paint Can be done independently of Intergovernmental projects or included if we identify that money will be lost if not spent

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. In contact with Ms. Reichenbach. A matter of coordinating our schedules. I am interested in what she has to offer.

Guardrail Removal late summer. Spring of 2019

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

Something to remember about the selection and use of the contractors. All contractors are required to fill out paperwork in order to be able to work with the state of New Jersey. The number of pages depends on the amount of the project. Projects under \$1000 require a minimal amount of paperwork. Projects between \$1000 and \$17,500 require much more and those from \$17,500-\$40,000 even more.

Another thing that must be taken into consideration is that any projects \$1000-\$17,500 must have at least 3 bids. \$17,500-\$40,000 must have at least 3 sealed bids

1. *1-A Study of the Von Steuben House - \$39,999* Soliciting bids from qualified contractors
2. Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000
3. Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$8000 PO Approved waiting on HPO
4. Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5,000 Soliciting prices from vendors
5. Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3,000 -\$4000 PO Approved work to be completed Spring 2019
6. **Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$5,000-\$7000** Waiting on additional information from conservator about additional analysis
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 \$750-\$1,000 Jim and Eric to Handle
9. Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2,500 - \$5,000 work areas identified. Need to request estimates
10. Interpretive Panels \$3500-\$5000 Additional information required. Design and content
11. Fence Rails and posts \$1500 RSP to order
12. Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$3000 Jim and Eric to handle

When considering the timeline for projects located on State owned properties is the need for the submission of an application for Project Authorization to the Historic Preservation Office. Depending on the nature of the project most but not all will require review and advanced permission by HPO. This step generally cannot be pursued until after the contractors have bid on the project

Chairman Smith acknowledged how appreciative is for his help in facilitating work at the site. E.Pain said he really enjoyed being part of a special place. E.Pain suggested and discussion whether to finish the flapless-unsightly flag pole area that fills with storm water and mud with rock even if we have to rip it up if the County project should move forward. Will get a proposal from Green Meadows. NJ state flag presented to Chairman Smith by E.Pain. D.Powell mentioned about a notice BCHS received about signage for historic sites on roadways. The letter mentioned contacts perhaps for us to get in touch with.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. No report. Chairman Smith said they continue to mow the grass.

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

We had a high tide with the nor'easter on Saturday, Oct 27 with water that surrounded the Steuben House and Demarest House. I was in the Steuben house setting up an exhibit for the following day's Hamilton music, chocolate and wine fundraiser event. I was curious to document where water was entering into the house. High tide was at 1:20 pm, 58 minutes past the high tide for Hackensack. The River Edge police thought I was locked out of the house reportedly even though I called the dispatcher to give status. So they determined to rescue me, Bob Roth and my dog with a fire truck. When we got up to the corner we could see the storm closed Hackensack Ave from Coles Brook overflow and water coming up the street through the flapless storm drains to cover the road by the parking lot.

Besides later returning to get my car I also returned for the next high tide at one in the morning and again attracted the attention of River Edge police. I was keen to determine whether we needed to cancel the by-reservation event the next day. Significantly, 24 hours later there was no high tide to impact the site.

The event was a good test run, I later located emergency numbers list by the land lines at the Steuben house and Campbell Christie House. (Verify at meeting CCHS and SH are landlines.)

We were able to accommodate a request for help with a promotional video on Bergen County with the County Executive arranged by the Meadowlands Chamber, BCHS is a member of that chamber.

E.Pain noted that possibly SUEZ did a water release that caused the high flooding and the discrepancy in the difference in water levels only 24-hours later. He said they said previously they didn't have to relay any information regarding their release plans to him.

Chairman Smith: The sewer connection reportedly cannot go to the County line and is planned for across the street where the apartment dumpster is. We are waiting for that to go to the planning board. Hopefully break ground next spring. We did previously describe the museum building but suggests we have a resolution from the Park Commission supporting the project.

Be a part of the generation that builds a Hall of History at Historic New Bridge Landing



Resolution: Ask the HNBLSPC for full support the BCHS in its endeavor to site the new museum building west of the Campbell-Christie House as the plan shows. First: M.Donohue, Second: L.Bauer. Discussion: Chairman Smith mentioned being inspired after visiting Seneca Falls and amphitheater. Considering Trex and cedar porch decking. Hardie Board is being considered for the siding for its fire resistance and maintenance-free characteristics. Also considering a metal roof. It will be larger than the Campbell-Christie House, 1,700 SF ground floor. A big feature is the ADA bathrooms and take off some of the use off the Steuben House. Meeting/kitchen space adjacent. Transom windows above the doors that won't take away from the wall display area. Could use grid plastic turf area. Menlo Engineering is the engineer. Motion passed. Chairman Smith thanked everyone. M.Donohue said hoped for the solution for PSEG happens at the same time.

VII. Old Business

None.

VIII. New Business

HNBLSPC election was brought up. D.Powell asked if we should wait to until next month with Adam, Rich and Mike absent. Motion to table the election until December: First: M.Donohue, Second: J.Heffernan. Motion passed.

D.Powell asked E.Pain for emergency phone numbers.

Chairman Smith brought up that there is only one railing on the front porch to the Campbell-Christie House. For safety reasons to have a second railing installed.

Plans for testing flood barriers and buying more if they help keep the water at bay.

D.Powell described where the water is coming in the Steuben House by the northwest corner. Chairman Smith said we need a hydraulic study of the site and explore options like with the Army Corps of Engineers or the DEP.

IX. Public Comment

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 8:39 pm. First, M.Donohue; Second, L.Bauer, Motion carried.

XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held at 7 PM at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, New Jersey, 07661 on Thursday, December 6, 2018, meet in the Campbell-Christie House. A future meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2019.

2018 meeting dates:

Meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park Commission

Thursday, December 6, 2018

I. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Chairman Smith read the Open Public Meetings Act statement at 7:08.

II. Attendance: James Smith, Deborah Powell, Eric Pain, John Heffernan, Richard Karp, Adam Strobel.

Larry Bauer and Mary Donohue, were absent.

III. Review of Minutes

Thanked D.Powell for the minutes. Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 1, 2018. D. Powell clarified Adam Stroble missed 4 meetings passed year [not 5], she noted his father passed away. Motion to approve J.Heffernan. Second; Rich Karp. Motion passed.

IV. Calendar

http://www.bergencountyhistory.org/pdfs/BCHS_RackCard2018-19LetterSz.2.pdf

Dec 2, Sun Sinterklaas Day. Open House. Sinterklaas in the Demarest House. Ariel Woll will light the Menorah and read a letter by George Washington wrote to a synagogue in RI. 1:30 & 3 PM. 1 PM - 4 PM.

Dec 8, Sat Decorating at Historic New Bridge Landing: Winter holidays. Concert tickets for sale. 10 AM - 4 PM.

Dec 15 & 16 The 35th Anniversary of Colonial Christmas Concerts. Linda Russell & Co. in the Steuben House, two shows per evening, tavern fare in Campbell-Christie House Steuben House. By reservation. 6:00 PM & 7:45 PM.

Jan 6, 2019 Twelfth Night BCHS Member Party. Bring a dish to share. King's Cake to celebrate, you too can be king or queen for a day. Campbell-Christie House. 2 - 5 PM.

Jan 16, Wed School of Interpretation Topic: The Steenrapie (River Edge) Encampment of 1780 by historian Todd Braisted. Steuben House. 7:30 PM.

Jan 20, Sun Eaglefest at HNBL. BC Audubon Society joins BCHS at HNBL. BCHS president Jim Smith welcomes visitors and talk on the Historical Landscape of New Bridge. Don Torino Eagle talk. Jim Wright on his bird column. Hudson Woodpile folk music & refreshments in Campbell-Christie House. No charge this event. Bring your binoculars! Pine cone bird feeder making activity. 10 AM-2 PM.

V. Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone,

As another year comes to a close much has occurred at Historic New Bridge Landing. From multiple Eagle Scout projects and Events, to site clean ups, restoration work, museum plans, and funding for Historic New Bridge Landing as a whole. These are milestone moments and for 2019, it is important to continue to keep our focus on moving Historic New Bridge Landing forward. This will be an even greater compliment to the local municipalities, county, state and beyond. We do have some difficult challenges for the future. Maintaining overgrowth and invasive species on both sides of the river is important to make sure the site is accessible to all and are key ways to tie everything in. It is important that communication come through the Commission for everything that is happening at HNBL and work on ways to further strengthen the Commission. Ultimately, we have a lot action points on what needs to be done, in 2019, lets all continue to work together to see it through.

Thank you,
James Smith, Chairman
Historic New Bridge State Park State Park Commission

VI. Continuing Business

A. Teaneck – Larry Bauer, Commissioner Teaneck Representative. Absent.

Teaneck – Richard Karp, Commissioner Teaneck Representative.

No report supplied. R.Karp asked if HNBLPC should take ownership of Brett Park.

Chairman Smith said it is an interesting idea but there are things that need to happen first.

The amount of trees and trails are difficult to get through. He referred to plans in the Masterplan for Brett Park; for example; The Memorial to Tantaqua. No response was made to the letter the Park Commission sent regarding clean up of dead trees and the danger they present. The Park Commission deferred to sending another letter to the next meeting, after the first and including the Town Counsel. For 2019 he asked if L.Bauer and R.Karp could take charge of organizing a cleanup. He noted BCHS has over 5,000 likes on Facebook and 2,800 receive the email blasts so if we could organize a clean up we could get a big response and pick out dates at the next meeting. Chairman Smith acknowledged August 2019 he is in the planning stage on an event to recreate on the Raid on Paulus Hook where Light Horse Harry Lee met at the Steuben House but we need cooperation from the towns including Teaneck.

B. New Milford – Councilman Michael Putrino, Commissioner New Milford Representative.

M.Putrino advised he anticipated continuing to be the representative to the Park Commission even though he would be busy as mayor of New Milford in the new year. He said Blohm signs was sold and the DPW will furnish legs. He said when you are ready for it they could move it. Chairman Smith congratulated him and said he was glad he would stay on.

C. River Edge -- Mary Donohue, Commissioner River Edge. Absent.

D.Powell reported Mary was not feeling well but she said that Mayor Mignone was very helpful in working with the County to remove the Dead End signs. She also reported she was very encouraged by talks with Dave Hollenback on progress on the substation.

D. County of Bergen Adam Strobel, Bergen County Division of Open Space.

No report supplied.

Project list

1. Stormwater Improvement Project, A.Strobel had an impromptu meeting that afternoon to determine the holdup. Need DEP permit and costs were a surprise. Chairman Smith questioned about the permit cost when partly on state property and protecting their own resource. E.Pain asked if there was an identifying project number and how far along it is. A.Strobel said the permit application for the work will need to be signed. Chairman

Smith asked A. Strobel for a pdf of the plans and the design report. A. Strobel said the the name of permits: Flood Hazard, Fresh Water and Waterfront Development and cost \$30,000 permits was included in the spring 2018 report by Boswell.

2. Shoveling and clearing of Swing Bridge during snow events. He acknowledged it is difficult for the County to clear the bridge of snow.

3. Bathroom Vanity in Campbell Christie House. Waiting for a meeting.

4. Meeting about signage at HNBL.

5. Removal of chain link fence around A/C unit and replace with picket fence at CCH – Completed. He said Cynthia Forester worked with General Services to complete. Chairman Smith noted what an improvement by moving that modern intrusion.

6. Cupboard Doors. Eagle Scout stepped up to do this project. A.Strobel said he didn't remember the doors being brought up. Chairman Smith explained when the Campbell-Christie House was moved to River Edge in 1977 that the doors to the cupboards on either side of the fireplaces were not included [the woodwork has original cutouts for hardware]. They currently have curtains and are awkward to use. He said we were able to access the [Albin] Rothe drawings for the doors and the Eagle Scout at the last meeting presented his plans. A.Strobel thought Cynthia Forester would be interested in seeing plans. J.Heffernan advised the plans were in the minutes of last month. D.Powell noted when she asked A.Strobel about having them made by the County [see September 6, 2018 minutes] he said they did not have staff to fabricate them. Chairman Smith said he could resend the scout's plans to A.Strobel, and that the doors are based on the County plans.

E. DEP – Steuben House Report Eric Pain, DEP Representative. Superintendent Ringwood State Park.

General

Landscaping/Snow removal - handled by Green Meadows Landscaping.

Tree Survey Conducted 10/25. Several trees were identified for removal as well as some general trimming and branch removal. Estimates will be pursued

Dot contact for signage (made contact waiting for additional info)

Adding stone in front of Steuben House to protect the columns? Waiting for 1-A

Projects List

Turn around onsite visit from Green Meadows required

Cameras Meeting with SMS Security 12/13

Interim solution requested permission to purchase wildlife cameras on 10/28.

Painting Shutters - Complete

Repair fencing at Saw Shop/Canoe Club Property Complete

Add Rock to sump pump outfall-Splash Block need to place additional stone

Floor Refinishing: Completely stalled unsuitable number of vendors interested

Front Porch Strip/sand/paint Can be done independently of Intergovernmental projects or included if we identify that money will be lost if not spent

Painting Interior on hold until historic paint analysis can be conducted. In contact with Ms. Reichenbach. A matter of coordinating our schedules. I am interested in what she has to offer.

Guardrail Removal late summer. Spring of 2019

Intergovernmental Agreement Projects List as submitted to Trenton.

Something to remember about the selection and use of the contractors. All contractors are required to fill out paperwork in order to be able to work with the state of New Jersey. The number of pages depends on the amount of the project. Projects under \$1000 require a minimal amount of paperwork. Projects between \$1000 and \$17,5000 require much more and those from \$17,500-\$40,000 even more.

Another thing that must be taken into consideration is that any projects \$1000-\$17,500 must have at least 3 bids. \$17,500-\$40,000 must have at least 3 sealed bids

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2. Develop plan for redesign of parking lot, Sutton Lys property and entryway? \$15,000
3. Remove brick walkway replace with stone dust \$8000 PO Approved waiting on HPO. Received approval 11/19 scheduling work
4. Plant Trees along the meadow fence line \$5,000 Soliciting prices from vendors
5. Repair and paint exterior staircase. \$3,000 -\$4000 PO Approved work to be completed Spring 2019

6. **Paint analysis of Von Steuben House - \$5,000-\$7000** Waiting on additional information from conservator about additional analysis. Received 11/28. Solicit additional quotes from vendors
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 \$750-\$1,000 Jim and Eric to Handle
9. Site Clean Up remove fallen branches, cutback brush \$2,500 - \$5,000 work areas identified. Need to request estimates
10. Interpretive Panels \$3500-\$5000 Additional information required. Design and content
11. Fence Rails and posts \$1500 RSP to order

Doorway flood barrier and instant sandbags \$3000 Flood barriers suggested by Chairman Smith were purchased. Items will be stored onsite for use during anticipated periods of high water. E.Pain shared purchases made of barriers for the site. They will be stored at the Steuben House. Discussion on how they work. Chairman Smith said Eric, Deborah and he monitor the storms/weather forecasts. Discussion on flooding. D.Powell said Eric observed there could have been a water release by Suez at the same time as the high tide and closed off Hackensack Ave. Another problem you can see water wicking up at the back of the house and structurally damaging the bricks in the fireplace, water is pocketing here. Jim mentioned doing a hydraulic study. M.Putrino advised the ground is so saturated, it's a problem in New Milford too.

D.Powell asked E.Pain to confirm the reason the brick walk replacement was delayed because of SHPO review. E.Pain said they had concerns the stone dust was the wrong color too contrasting to the house. The bricks will be hand-removed with no equipment involved and he said he would be on site himself when the work begins so there is no misunderstandings. Chairman Smith noted one of the wooden bollards is missing asked if the Park Commission use funds to replace it. Pain said he checked that plans change and he was asked to make sure the plans are approved by the Park Commission. Chairman Smith asked if goats have been used in parks for poison ivy and grass control. E.Pain said he had experience in West Virginia park and they used 2 goats very effectively in controlling weeds for 20 years. He said he would check into it, they are using them at Liberty State Park.

When considering the timeline for projects located on State owned properties is the need for the submission of an application for Project Authorization to the Historic Preservation Office. Depending on the nature of the project most but not all will require review and advanced permission by HPO. This step generally cannot be pursued until after the contractors have bid on the project.

F. Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation – John Heffernan. No report. Chairman Smith said they continue to mow the grass.

G. Bergen County Historical Society – Deborah Powell,

Commissioner BCHS Rep

We received a significant donation of a portrait of a woman born in 1782, Ellen Conklin of Hackensack. Interestingly, it appears to have cliffs of the Hudson River in background. She's buried in Ridgewood.



We had a nice crowd for retreat weekend Sunday. It was a new historical business model where Jim put together a day of two walking tours, given by myself (on the Zabriskie's, the architecture and the tide mill) and BCHS VP Kate Reilly (American Revolution) and lecture in the Steuben House by Todd Braisted. Chairman Smith started the day off by a reading Thomas Paine *American Crisis* at the New Bridge and giving an area history.

I find very encouraging about being able to work through the commission to remove the dead end signs with the River Edge mayor, County of Bergen and Mary Donohue. Facebook saw a lot of activity and membership and email blast reach continues to grow. She shared a bird's eye view of the new museum building in a rendering perspective. Currently we are held up with the sanitary line connecting to by the apartments. There also is the County line which reportedly not allowing new connections. This use would be minimal though, we don't have washing machines or showers that contribute to flow. We are including sprinklers. Fundraising was discussed and groundbreaking date. D.Powell pointed out will help to create more of a destination for Bergen County, nj.com recently had 50 reasons to visit New Jersey and the only thing they had for Bergen was White Manna burger in Hackensack. She wrote a response pointing out all the good things in Bergen County.

VII. New Business

HNBLSPC election:

- **Deborah Powell asked for nominations for Chairman. Adam Strobel nominated Jim Smith for Chairman of the Historic New Bridge Landing. Richard Karp seconded.**
- **Powell asked for nominations from the floor for Chairman. There being none, Powell asked for all those in favor, the motion passed.**
- **Chairman Smith asked for nomination for Vice Chair. Adam Strobel nominated Mary Donohue, Michael Putrino, second. Smith asked for**

nominations from the floor for Vice-Chairman. There being none, Smith asked for all those in favor, the motion passed.

- Chairman Smith asked for nominations for Secretary. Adam Strobel nominated Deborah Powell, Richard Karp, second. Smith asked for nominations from the floor for Secretary. There being none, Smith asked for all those in favor, the motion passed.

- Chairman Smith asked for nominations for Treasurer. Adam Strobel nominated John Heffernan, Richard Karp, second. Smith asked for nominations from the floor for Secretary. There being none, Smith asked for all those in favor, the motion passed.

VIII. Old Business

Smith asked for reports to be sent next week in time for the Annual Report. He asked for a quote for renovating the gravel path for the Meadow and to the Campbell-Christie House front door. Chairman Smith wished everyone a great holiday and fantastic New Year. See you in January.

IX. Public Comment, none.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 8:39 pm. First, M.Putrino; Second, A.Strobel, Motion carried.

XI. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Historic New Bridge Landing Park Commission will be held at 7 PM at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201-1209 Main Street, River Edge, New Jersey, 07661 on Thursday, January 3, 2019, meet in the Campbell-Christie House. Future meeting dates will be set at the January meeting.

2018 meeting dates:

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7, Jul 11 (2nd Wednesday due to July 4 Holiday week), Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, and Jan 3, 2019.