

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Held Via Audio Webinar**  
**Pursuant To Temporary Emergency Orders**

**Members: Chairman Gouldman, Legislators Montgomery & Jonke**

**Tuesday**

**6:00PM**

**April 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order via audio webinar at 6:03 P.M. by Chairman Gouldman who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Committee Members Jonke, Montgomery and Chairman Gouldman were present.

**Item #3 - Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2021**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Item #4 - Discussion/Update/Boscobel House and Gardens Future Plans/Executive Director Jennifer Carlquist**

Chairman Gouldman stated Boscobel Executive Director Jennifer Carlquist and County Tourism Director Tracey Walsh are on the line to discuss this matter. He thanked Legislator Montgomery for bringing this forward for discussion.

Legislator Montgomery stated this is real treat to bring forward one of the gems of the Hudson Valley. She stated Executive Director Carlquist has a great background and has initiated the revision of Boscobel's master plan.

Executive Director Carlquist thanked Chairman Gouldman and Legislator Montgomery for this opportunity. She presented the attached PowerPoint. She stated Boscobel is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. She stated Boscobel is proud to employ 50 local residents, including 17 year-round. She stated they also prioritize using local vendors. She outlined the history of Boscobel. She stated the house was originally located in Montrose, New York. She stated Boscobel hosts over 80,000 people each year. She gave an overview about how Boscobel educates people about the history of the Hudson Valley. She stated that County Executive Odell has been a great advocate for Boscobel. She stated many organizations use the grounds, including the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival and the Putnam Arts Council. She stated the Putnam County Sheriff's Department will begin utilizing the grounds for training. She noted that Boscobel has partnered with the County Historian's Office. She stated Tourism Director Tracey Walsh is a great asset to Boscobel and has constant dialogue. She noted that cultural tourists spend 60% more than other types of tourists. She stated they are now hosting about 35 people per hour. She noted that Boscobel hosted almost 1,000 people just for yoga classes. She stated the fastest growing audience are young families, which have doubled in attendance over the last few years. She stated other growing businesses at Boscobel are film and photo shoots. She read some testimonials from visitors of Boscobel. She stated about 30% of Boscobel's

members are Putnam County residents. She stated now that the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival has its own site, Boscobel will now be able to utilize its entire 68 acres. She stated this is a great opportunity. She stated studies show that museums are the most trusted institution in America.

Chairman Gouldman thanked Executive Director Carlquist for a great presentation.

Tourism Director Walsh stated this was a fabulous presentation. She stated there is a farm to table event being hosted by the Putnam Community Action Program's Ride to Fight Poverty. She stated Boscobel has really stepped up to assist a non-profit achieve its fundraising goals. She noted that Boscobel has also assisted with parking for access to Constitution Marsh.

Chairman Gouldman thanked Tourism Director Walsh. He stated great things are happening in Putnam County.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if Executive Director Carlquist if there is any update on a possible connection to the Cold Spring Train Station from Boscobel.

Executive Director Carlquist stated the Philipstown Community Congress Trails Committee has had discussions to identify possible routes to walk or bike from the Village of Cold Spring to Boscobel. She stated this has tremendous potential for increased access.

Legislator Nacerino thanked Executive Director Carlquist for the comprehensive presentation. She stated it was very interesting to learn the history and about the versatile programming. She stated Boscobel is a priceless resource in Putnam County and she is really looking forward to visiting this year.

**Item #5 - FYI/Unemployment Report – Duly Noted**

**Item #6 - Other Business – None**

**Item #7 – Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 6:51 P.M., Chairman Gouldman made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Jonke. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Ed Gordon.