



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **From the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 21, 2019**

### **Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor appoints new members to Board of Directors, names 2019 officers**

**EASTON, Pa.** – The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is pleased to announce that Shelley Speirs of Bethlehem Township and Andy Hamilton of Doylestown have joined the organization’s Board of Directors.

In addition, the organization has named officers for 2019: Michael Drabenstott of Allentown was appointed Chair of the Board, Lon Snowden of Allentown and Sierra Fogal of Jim Thorpe were appointed Vice Chairs, James Birdsall of Bethlehem was appointed Secretary, and John Krissingner of Allentown was appointed Treasurer.

Shelley Speirs is a development professional with 17 years of experience in fundraising, community outreach, marketing, and program creation. She currently serves as Director, Major and Planned Gifts for East Stroudsburg University (ESU) Foundation, where she provides strategic leadership and direction for the overall cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of major and planned gift prospects. In this position, she facilitated the creation of a new “1893 Society” event to recognize the thoughtfulness and generosity of alumni and friends who have remembered the East Stroudsburg University Foundation in their estate plans. Daily she works

to secure philanthropic support for academic programs and athletic initiatives to support the priorities of East Stroudsburg University and enhance the student experience.

In addition to her successful career in development, Speirs' experience includes five years with the PA Department of Community & Economic Development Tourism Office, where she served as Director of Outdoor Tourism & Sports Marketing. Here, she focused on increasing revenue to the Commonwealth through tourism and economic development. She evaluated Regional Tourism Marketing Grant Applications for dissemination of grant dollars and served as designee for research and preparation of Legislative Analysis position reports for House Bills that impacted the tourism industry.

Speirs currently serves on the board for the Planned Giving Council of Greater Philadelphia, and has previously served as a board member for the YWCA of Bethlehem, the Governor's "Adaptation to Climate Change" tourism & outdoor recreation working group, and Pennsylvania DCNR's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Technical Advisory Committee.

Andy Hamilton has more than two decades of experience as a Landscape Architect and project manager. His professional planning and landscape architecture projects include the Raritan River Greenway, Bike Hike Trail System in Doylestown, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Landmark Towns Bicycle Marketing Strategy Plan (Morrisville, Bristol, Yardley and New Hope), the Doylestown to New Hope Trail feasibility study, the Willow Grove Vision Plan, and Washington Crossing Park and Washington Crossing Gateway Streetscape Project, among many other Bucks County planning and landscape projects.

Hamilton has served on the Board of Directors for the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Trail Advisory Committee, and as Mid-Atlantic Coordinator, East Coast Greenway Alliance. He also served on the steering committee of the Circuit Coalition from 2013 – 2017.

## **ABOUT THE DELAWARE AND LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR**

*The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that preserves the historic pathway that carried coal and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol Borough. Today, the D&L Trail connects people to nature and the environment, industrial heritage, health and wellness and economic development.*

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