

## Resolution of the Board of Directors of

## FRIENDS OF THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION

Dated: March 3, 2022

WHEREAS Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation was founded in 1987 to support, promote, and protect the New Jersey School of Conservation;

WHEREAS for decades Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation has interpreted its mission to do what is best and necessary for the New Jersey School of Conservation to include any efforts necessary and within the capabilities of its Directors and their numerous relatives, friends, and other connections in the New Jersey environmental community;

WHEREAS in 2019 Montclair State University determined that it would no longer manage the New Jersey School of Conservation and left it up to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to determine what to do with the New Jersey School of Conservation;

WHEREAS immediately upon hearing of the news of Montclair State University's withdrawal of its support, Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation began to lobby for a speedy transition to new management, took extraordinary efforts to protect the facility and its reputation during the transition, entered into negotiations with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to allow it to voluntarily protect the facility and provide programs there, undertook a facility inventory, and then raised money to retain an engineer to perform a property condition assessment of the entire built portion of the campus;

WHEREAS Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation also immediately began to coordinate with environmental organizations, educational institutions, social welfare and justice groups, for-profit companies, and many many concerned individuals to develop a plan for the future of the New Jersey School of Conservation that would both be true to its original mission of making environmental education in a natural setting available to all residents of New Jersey and would fully embrace the need for the broadest and deepest possible inclusion of the voices of underrepresented and burdened communities in curricula and its work overall;

WHEREAS the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection issued a Request for Expression of Interest in January 2022 requesting proposals for the long-term management of the New Jersey School of Conservation; and

WHEREAS Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation has worked diligently for almost two years to design an important, sustainable, well-considered, conservative, and self-funding model of management for the New Jersey School of Conservation, and has partnered with people and organizations throughout to New Jersey to give life to that model;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE DIRECTORS OF FRIENDS OF THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION, THAT:



- 1. Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation endorses the Response to the Request for Expressions of Interest that Friends and its partners have drafted and will submit on March 7, 2022.
- 2. Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation supports the Response to the Request for Expressions of Interest that Friends and its partners have drafted and will submit on March 7, 2022 and will continue to work to support the joint partners' efforts at the New Jersey School of Conservation into the future to the plan outlined in the Response into effect.
- 3. Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation is honored to have worked with the numerous partners and intended Members of the new New Jersey School of Conservation, who love the New Jersey environment and New Jersey residents so much that they are willing to work as hard as they have to save and promote this crucial piece of New Jersey's history and future.

Voted on and passed unanimously at a meeting of the Board on March 3, 2022.

My signature below indicates that I chaired the board meeting at which this resolution was passed:

Abby Farber Board Treasurer

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Friends of New Jersey School of Conservation