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Hancock Shaker Village Announces Appointment of Board of Trustees Chairman

(HANCOCK, MA, April 7, 2023) Hancock Shaker Village is very pleased to announce the appointment of Robert L. Plotz as the new chair of its Board of Trustees effective this spring.

“We’re excited to work with Bob as we grow and evolve, and as our institution continues to explore the connections between its rich heritage and our present moment”, said Hancock Shaker Village Director Nathaniel Silver. “Bob clearly shares our devotion to the Village and I’m delighted to be partnering with him as we move forward on our ambitious agenda.”

Outgoing chair Diane Varrin Eshleman will conclude her 15-year tenure on the board in December and will work closely with Bob to support him during the transition. “On behalf of the trustees and staff at Hancock Shaker Village, I want to express my enthusiasm about our incoming chair”, Eshleman said. “Bob has been a board member since 2020. We recognize his important contributions to the organization and are thrilled that he is taking on this important leadership role.”

Robert L. Plotz is a retired litigator. In the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York, he investigated and prosecuted federal crimes including insider trading and stock manipulation cases. He subsequently practiced in a boutique litigation firm and later on his own.

Plotz was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He received a J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he was also Executive Editor of the Law Review. He was awarded a B.A. *cum laude* from Yale University.

Plotz and his wife (Sue) are residents of Berkshire County and have been full-time residents for the past four years. They have three sons. “We love all the Berkshires has to offer and fell in love with Hancock Shaker Village the first time we visited it”, Plotz said. “I look forward to participating in its preservation and growth.”

ABOUT HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE

Hancock Shaker Village, a living history museum on 750 acres in the heart of the Berkshires, is committed to preserving the Shaker legacy. A National Historic Landmark, the property includes twenty historic Shaker buildings dating to 1783, and the oldest working farm in the Berkshires with heritage breeds and heirloom gardens. The museum is home to more than 22,000 artifacts including furniture, textiles, hymnals, and everyday goods, making it one of the premier Shaker collections in the world. Hancock Shaker Village exists to provide a historic context to the Shaker story, to preserve the site and all it contains for future generations, and to bring this narrative to life in compelling ways. The museum is located at 1843 West Housatonic Street, Pittsfield, MA and on the web at www.hancockshakervillage.com