

**Town of Douglas
Blackstone National Park
Resolution**

Whereas, in 1986, by Public Law 99-647, Congress established the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in Rhode Island and Massachusetts to preserve and interpret the unique and significant contributions of the Valley's resources and history to the nation's heritage; and

Whereas Congress created the Corridor Commission to work with the National Park Service, the two states, the cities and towns within the Corridor and other partners to develop and implement integrated cultural, historical and community programs to retain, enhance and interpret the Corridor's heritage values; and

Whereas the Corridor Commission's work with the National Park Service and many public and private partners has had an extremely positive impact throughout the Corridor to achieve preservation, stewardship, recreation and community educational goals; and

Whereas the Town of Douglas has enjoyed significant benefits from its affiliation with the Commission, the National Park Service, other Corridor cities and towns, and public and private partners; and

Whereas the Corridor Commission continues to be an important partner of the municipalities in carrying out regional and local programs to protect and enhance historical, cultural and natural resources for the education and enjoyment of citizens; and

Whereas the Commission's term has been extended by Congress in 1991, 1996 and 2006 but is now scheduled to end in October, 2011;

We do therefore resolve:

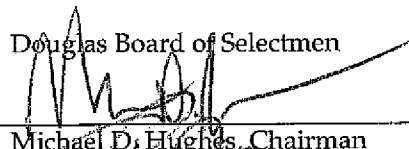
to advocate for a continuing National Park Service presence in the Blackstone Valley in the State of Rhode Island and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;

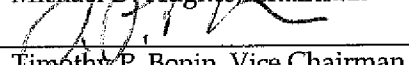
to encourage the continuation of the work of the Corridor Commission and its partners through a community-based organization that will work with the National Park Service for the purposes of

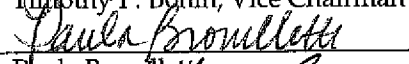
- preserving and sharing the Valley's heritage;
- protecting the River, Canal, mill villages and other historic sites, structures, and landscapes;
- offering outstanding visitor experiences as well as opportunities for sustainable, heritage-based economic enterprise; and

to request that our Congressional delegation introduce and strongly support legislation to (1) establish a new unit of the National Park System with five core sites in Rhode Island and Massachusetts and (2) identify a community-based partner to work with the National Park Service to develop a management plan for the park, protect and interpret heritage sites and landscapes throughout the Blackstone Valley, and promote existing visitor facilities and River greenway recreational amenities.

Douglas Board of Selectmen


Michael D. Hughes, Chairman


Timothy P. Bonin, Vice Chairman


Paula Brouillette


Mitchell S. Cohen


Jeffrey D. LaPorte

November 23, 2010

