A RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS DESIGNATING AN INDIAN SACRED SITE AT THE DELAWARE MORAVIAN VILLAGE OF GNADENHUTTEN, AN OHIO HISTORIC SITE

RESOLUTION 2017-41
Submitted by L. Heady, DTHPO Special Assistant

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribal Council is authorized by Article V of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Delaware Tribe of Indians to represent and act in all matters that concern the general welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 has established executive policy for accommodation and protection of Indian Sacred Sites on Federal lands in furtherance of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 13007, an Indian Sacred Site is a site that is identified by an Indian tribe as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 13007, the identification and designation of an Indian Sacred Site on Federal land is the sole province and determination of the affected Indian Tribe or Indian religious practitioners; and

WHEREAS, it falls within the inherent sovereign power and responsibility of the Delaware Tribe of Indians to identify and designate Indian Sacred Sites and strive for their protection regardless of land ownership; and

WHEREAS, in March 1782, hoping to alleviate hunger, a group of Delaware Indians returned to Gnadenhutten to harvest crops remaining in their fields, were set upon without provocation by Pennsylvania militiamen under the leadership of Captain David Williamson, were capture and subsequently murdered in a most brutal fashion; and

WHEREAS, this event infamous known as the Gnadenhutten Massacre resulted in Williamson’s men butchering and burning ninety-six (96) Moravian Delaware Indians (twenty-eight Delaware men, twenty-nine Delaware women, and thirty-nine Delaware children); and

WHEREAS, the site of the mass grave of the martyrs of the Gnadenhutten Massacre has been monumented and is located within the Gnadenhutten Museum & Historical Park in Tuscarawas County, in the State of Ohio,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians does hereby designate and declare this place to be an Indian Sacred Site, subject to the full protection and accommodation provided for in State and Federal law, including Executive Order 13007 and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing was considered by the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and adopted this ___th day of December 2017 with a vote of ___ yes, ___ no, and of ___ abstaining.

Chet Brooks, Chief

Attested by: Charles Randall, Secretary