CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

October 18, 2011

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 3:30 PM., in the freeholder conference room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Penny Watson Suzanne Merighi

John Garrison Roy Kaneshiki Ella Boykin Patt Gale Jean Jones Rich Bermudez

> Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Flavia Alaya, Center for Historic American Building Arts

Rosemary De Quinzio, Bridgeton Historic District Commission

Approval of Minutes – August 16, 2011

A motion was made to approve the minutes from August 16, 2011 by Penny Watson. The motion was seconded by Rich Bermudez and passed unanimously. Patt Gale abstained.

Special Request - Center for Historic American Building Arts

Commission members received in their packet a letter from Flavia Alaya on behalf of the Center for Historic American Building Arts (CHABA). Ms. Alaya said CHABA is asking for \$750 in special project funding. CHABA's mission is to bring Bridgeton's historic streetscapes into the changing economic and cultural dynamics of American cities in the 21st century and showcase preservation as a basis of community entrepreneurship, partnership and reinvestment. Rosemary De Quinzio explained to the Commission how important the historic district is to the community. CHABA would like to have an awards ceremony recognizing a building in each part of the historic district. Ms. Alaya said CHABA is asking for nominations from the community. Ms. Gale asked what the Commission is being asked to sponsor and can CHABA apply for regrant funding. Matt Pisarski said CHABA does not currently have the requisite 3-year history as a non-profit, but will be eligible to apply next year for regrant funding. The Commission had several questions for which they needed clarification. Ms. Watson suggested funding the certificates and public program. Suzanne Merighi would like to help the organization succeed. Jean Jones asked if CHABA has been active in Bridgeton. Ms. Merighi asked if the Commission had any other special request funding coming up. Ms. Watson said a small request will be

submitted. After discussion, a motion was made to approve CHABA's \$750 special request by John Garrison. The motion was seconded by Ms. Merighi and passed. Patt Gale opposed.

Review and Approval of 2012 Budget – Budget Subcommittee Report

Commission members received a copy of the 2012 proposed budget. Mr. Pisarski commented that there are only two changes from the 2011 budget. Architecture Programming was increased from \$500 to \$1,000 taking \$500 away from special request. The Commission received a Historical Commission grant for \$12,000 which will be used for the history regrants. Since the Commission received the Historical Commission grant no money will be used from the line item for history regrants. The Encore Awards have been increased to \$1,000. The budget committee has set aside \$6,500 for the Long Range Plan. The current Long Range Plan will expire next year. A motion was made to approve the 2012 budget by Ms. Gale. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

2011 Budget – 3rd Quarter Review

Mr. Pisarski went through the 2011 expenses. Money has not been paid out to Mike Cagno and Carol Nagao for the Teen Arts Festival. The subcommittee has not met. Mr. Pisarski said he can pay them their stipends and get them committed to the subcommittee. A motion was not made at the August meeting to approve the Architecture Program funding. A motion was made to approve \$500 for the Architecture Program by Ms. Boykin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Watson and passed unanimously. Ms. Merighi abstained. Mr. Pisarski said the line item funds must be encumbered by November 15th. Mr. Pisarski asked the Commission for ideas for spending the line item funds.

Ms. Watson said Joan Berkey is a preservationist from Cape May County and she did a study of early timber frame buildings in Cumberland County. Greenwich Planning Board would like to have her speak at their meeting as a public service. Greenwich Planning Board is requesting a \$300 honorarium for Ms. Berkey.

Mr. Garrison suggested senior tickets for Bay Atlantic Symphony. Mr. Pisarski recommended going through Office on Aging for the concert on November 5th.

Ms. Boykin informed the Commission that New Bethel AME Church in Vineland is having a 140th anniversary. They are celebrating with a lecture series and a history of gospel music.

Roy Kaneshiki said Bayshore Discovery Project just started a program called Second Fridays. Mr. Pisarski said the Commission could sponsor November or December.

Mr. Pisarski asked the Commission to prioritize the recommendations, which it did in the following descending order of priority: Bayshore Discovery Project, Bay Atlantic Symphony, New Bethel AME Church, and Joan Berkey.

Building History Participation Project – Culminating Session 11/30/11

Mr. Pisarski will send the Commission members more information regarding the session that will be held at Cumberland County College.

Disability Awareness Day – October 22, 2011

Mr. Pisarski said the Commission has a table at Disability Awareness Day at Cumberland County College. The event starts at 9:30am.

<u>Cohansey RiverFest Plein Air Competition – October 29, 2011</u>

The competition had several setbacks due to weather but it will take place on October 29th. The award ceremony will take place on November 4th at Gallery 50.

Liaison Reports – Liaison Assignments reminder

Other Old/New Business

Correspondence

Mr. Pisarski said the correspondence is pretty straight forward with the exception of the Route 49/Buckshutem Road study. Ms. Watson suggested writing a letter to NJ Department of Transportation. Mr. Pisarski will write a letter and send out to the Commission members for their approval.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Garrison. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.