CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES April 14, 1998 3:30 P.M.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Present:

Suzanne Merighi

Austin Gould

Jean Jones

Mel Brody

Penny Watson

Sunako Oya

Patricia Gale

Susan Gogan

Joseph Polhamus

Freeholder Chuck Griffiths

Kim Wood, Director

Nancy Cannone, Acting Secretary

The meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission was called to order on Tuesday April 14, 1998 at 3:30 p.m., in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building, by Chairperson Penny Watson.

The Chairperson called for approval of the Minutes of February 10, 1998. (There was no regular meeting in March.) A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Joseph Polhamus, seconded by Susan Gogan, and passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

The meeting was turned over to Director Wood who reported on the following:

OLD BUSINESS;

<u>BLOCK GRANT:</u> Director Wood reported that the Block Grant which was due by April 9th, has been completed and submitted as required, and a copy is on file in her office. The Commission has requested an amount of \$282,000. Additionally the Budget reflects an Administrative Line Item of \$30,000. This is due to the inkind contributions of Steve Kehs, Tim Brill, and the secretarys in the Department of Planning. I want to thank the Freeholders for providing the Commission with the additional support staff.

Mrs. Wood reviewed with Commission members the following FY 1998/99 Suggested Projects:

- 1. Two activities at East Point
- 2. Annual Earth Day Concert
- 3. Art Show
- 4. Book Production
- 5. Arts and Humanities Month (October)
- 6. Older Americans Month
- 7. Teen Arts
- 8. Technical Workshops (ADA and a Town Meeting)
- 9. Newsletter Quarterly/monthly cultural calendar

JUDY COLLINS CONCERT (Saturday April 25, 1998): There are, as of last Friday, only 73 \$20.00 tickets left for this Concert, and it is expected that these will be sold before the end of the week. Mrs. Wood showed members an advertisement that will run on several of the area cable TV stations such as A&E, Lifetime, TNT, and the Food Network each evening. In addition ads are running in the local newspapers. Ms. Collins will be picked up in New York, driven to Cumberland County, and returned to New York. The Concert will start at 8:00 p.m. and a reception will follow at 10:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP CONCERT (April 26, 1998): Two of the Philippines most gifted pianists, Della Gamboa Besa and Anamaria Gregorio de Gusmand, will perform a concert in the Gant Room at the Millville Public Library, following their performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. They performed here in November of 1995 while the guests of Mr. RickCassell of Millville, and they were so pleased with their reception that wanted to do a repeat performance.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH: May is Older Americans Month. A special seven page Calendar of Events has been put together by the Office on Aging and Disabled listed all of the special events available to Senior Citizens. The Cultural & Heritage Commission has purchased 100 tickets to a Concert by the Bridgeton Symphony, for Senior Citizens who might find it difficult to attend without some assistance. Arrangements have also been made with the Office on Aging for these Seniors to use CATS.

<u>LEVOY THEATER:</u> A bill in the amount of \$170.29 was presented to the Commission for cost of film used in documenting the Levoy Theater by made by Joseph Pierce. A motion was made by Patricia Gale, seconded by Susan Gogan, and passed unanimously to approve payment of this bill.

<u>ART TENT:</u> Director Wood passed around information on the different kinds of tents that the Commission had expressed interested in purchasing. This tent would be used for various indoor and outdoor functions to promote the Culture & Heritage Commission. It was decided that a 10 foot x 10 foot would be ideal. A motion to purchase such a tent was made by Mel Brody, seconded by Austin Gould and passed unanimously.

GRIEVANCE PLAN: Mrs. Wood reported that the State Arts Council reported that the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission needs to have a "Grievance Plan." Director Wood created a DRAFT Grievance Plan and distributed it at the meeting. The Commission will vote on the plan at its May meeting. The Commission also needs to have a plan for encouraging its Grantees to work on compliance with ADA. The Director will work on getting a workshop set up.

<u>SPRING NEWSLETTER:</u> The Cultural & Heritage Spring Newsletter was distributed to Commission members. Director Wood reported that this Newsletter was also mailed out to a large number of County residents and organizations.

COMING EVENTS:

TEEN ARTS FESTIVAL (May 29, 1998) - County College - 9:00 -2:00

FARM DAY (April 26) - Greenwich - 1:00 - 5:00

NEW BUSINESS:

<u>ART TOURS:</u> Director Wood distributed a brochure from California offering half and full day trips to take people on scenic tours to paint. This is a possibility for a future project of the Commission.

ARTS COUNCIL MEETING: The next Arts Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 1998 at the Performing Center for the Arts at the County College from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Mrs. Wood commented that it would be nice if those who were interested could be taken to Bivalve and/or a ride on the Meerwald, which by that day may be New Jersey's official "Tall Ship.

<u>ARTIST'S DIRECTORY:</u> The 1996 Artist's Directory is in need of up-dating. Mrs. Wood asked that members review the Directory and see if there are any suggestions for additions or deletions. Suggestions will be discussed at the May meeting.

<u>RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE DISABLED:</u> A resource guide for the disabled needs to be compiled. This should contain services available in the County related to the Arts for the disabled.

<u>EAST POINT OPEN HOUSE:</u> (August 1, 1998: This event, reported the Director is always a big success. Artists of all ages come to paint. Children especially seem to enjoy the day. Freeholder Griffiths asked if there was any way this event could be tied into and upscaled in connection with the 250th Anniversary. Some ideas discussed were:

- a. Children's Puppet Show
- b. Food (Maurice River Historical Society)
- c. Light House Tours.

<u>AWARDS DINNER:</u> Mrs. Wood reminded members that June is usually the date of the Cultural & Heritage Commission's annual Awards Dinner. It was agreed to hold it again at the Ramada in Vineland. The Director asked members to think about who should receive "Awards" this year and report back at the May meeting. Jean Jones said that George Luciano, Sr., should be the Honoree.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m./

Nancy Canhone Acting Secretary

REMINDER

The next CCC&HC Meeting is scheduled for MAY 12, 1998