

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

April 27, 2016

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 3:30 PM., at the Barn Studio of Art Millville, New Jersey.

Present: Penny Watson Suzanne Merighi
Ella Boykin Roy Kaneshiki
John Garrison Maria Cerda-Moreno
Merle Silver

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Holly Boyer Manders, Barn Studio of Art
Steven James Paul, Bridgeton Main Street
Debbie Boykin Greenberg, Bridgeton Main Street

Approval of Minutes – March 23, 2016

A motion was made to approve the minutes from December 21, 2015 by Mr. Garrison. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

Welcome to Barn Studio – Holly Boyer Manders

Members of the Barn Studio were introduced. The Barn Studio was founded by Patt Witt and has been in existence for 54 years. Many classes are offered for all ages. Mr. Pisarski commented that the Commission is excited to have the Barn Studio as a re-grantee.

Ms. Boyer Manders gave a tour of the barrier free bathroom, the bathroom has many pieces that were found around the studio. Mr. Pisarski said the Commission met at the studio to show what a great job is being done to create accessibility in an existing space.

Presentation by Steven James Paul, Bridgeton Main Street – Juneteenth Celebrations

Ms. Boykin Greenberg said Bridgeton Main Street is collaborating with Tri-City Hope to celebrate Juneteenth. Ms. Boykin Greenberg said Juneteenth recognizes the actual ceasing of slavery in the United States. Ms. Boykin Greenberg commented that many people do not know what Juneteenth is and with this celebration they would like to educate the public. The celebration will be set up like a festival: food, vendors, mini parade and speakers. Bridgeton and Fairton school districts were asked to participate in an essay program and a poetry spoken word contest.

Mr. Paul said he has contacted Rowan University to see if a teacher of African American Studies would like to speak. Some of the vendors will be: Inspira, Colleges, Voter Registration and many more. Mr. Pisarski asked for more information on Tri-City Hope. Tri-City Hope is an organization that developed from Tri-City Boxing. Tri-City Hope wants to help with the social

betterment of the city and to give the youth a positive outlet. Mr. Pisarski asked for more background information on Juneteenth. Ms. Boykin said for three years in the 90's a Juneteenth was held in Bridgeton, but was stopped due to lack of volunteer support.

Mr. Pisarski said Bridgeton Main Street is already a re-grantee so they cannot receive special project funds but the Commission can be a co-sponsor. Mr. Pisarski will follow up via email.

2016 Creative Spaces Artists' Forum – Saturday, April 30, 2016

Commission members received a flyer for the Artists Forum. The discussion will revolve around the opportunities and pitfalls related to creative spaces. The \$10 registration covers lunch, dessert reception and a show ticket.

2016 Encore Awards – Tuesday, May 24, 2016 – Eagle Theater, Hammonton

The Commission will be honoring Maryann Cannon. The Commission and the Tourism Council will be doing a full page ad. The Commission will be splitting the cost of a full page ad with Millville Glasstown Arts District.

Commission Budget – 1st Quarter Review

The Commission received in their packets the budget breakdown for 2016. Mr. Pisarski went through each line item. Funds have been allocated for different events for the proposed 2016 budget. Mr. Pisarski has not heard back from Office on Aging regarding Seniors Month regarding the Senior Art Show. A motion was made to approve the \$2,125 received by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority to be allocated to the Caribbean programming being held at WheatonArts by Ms. Boykin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Watson and passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Garrison commented that he attended a community outreach program at Barn Studio and it was a wonderful experience. The program is for 3-5 year olds. Ms. Witt said it's a very emotional program.

Ms. Merighi attended the Cumberland County Black Hall of Fame family night of entertainment. There were 20 different acts. Ms. Merighi said the kids that performed were very talented. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Black Hall of Fame would become a re-grantee in 2017, Ms. Boykin said they received their 501C3.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Postponed until next month.

Other Old/New Business

Commission members received in their packets different color schemes for the Commissions logo. Mr. Pisarski said color tones can be changed. It was suggested to pick two options so that people that are using the logo can have a choice. Mr. Pisarski said we are working with Print, Signs and Designs for the color schemes, the Commission prefers the red and blue color schemes. A black and white logo will also be available.

Ms. Silver mentioned a business at the end of route 55 that has bamboo and a nice mural.

Correspondence

Commission members received in their packet a letter and brochures regarding “A Race through Time.”

Mauricetown Historical Society is co-sponsoring an event with Commercial Township School District for a history night.

Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Silver. The motion was seconded by Ms. Merighi and passed unanimously.