

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES****April 26, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 3:00 PM., at Mauricetown Historical Society in Mauricetown, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Chase Jackson, Bayshore Center

Welcome by Mauricetown Historical Society**Approval of Minutes – February 22, 2018**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from February 22, 2018. Ms. Moreno made a correction on page one, under Clerk's Office in Mall the word 'conversions' should read 'conversations'. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Encore Awards – May 14th, Tuckerton Seaport Museum

Everyone received an invitation and a list of previous awardees in their packet. Lisa Garrison will receive the award for 2018. Mr. Pisarski asked everyone to let him know if they are attending. The cost of the tickets will be covered from the Commission's operating budget.

1st Quarter Budget Review

Mr. Pisarski went through budget, he commented that very little money has been spent so far.

Update on West Jersey Time Traveler Signage

Mr. Pisarski said the signs have been edited and reinstalled. The next step will be to create Spanish language audio podcast and create four new podcast for the remaining sites. Mr. Pisarski reached out to SNJ Today to complete the work, everyone received a copy of the quote in their packet, and the quote is for \$5,999.15. Ms. Merighi asked if we will be approving the Spanish speaking podcast before they go live. Mr. Pisarski said that we will review material first and ask SNJ Today for a completed version so we can insure it is the quality that the Commission wants. The Commission has to produce the scripts for the four new podcast with a panel of scholars. A motion was made to approve the quote from SNJ Today in the amount of \$5,999.15 by Mr. Kaneshiki. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lods and passed unanimously.

Resolution 2018-01: Adopting its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Plan: 2018-2021 &

Commission ADA Grievance Procedure

Mr. Pisarski completed the contract for the 2018 State Council on the Arts grant and one of the conditions was a new ADA plan had to be completed. Several hand outs were in the packet regarding the ADA plan. Mr. Pisarski created an Americans with Disabilities Act Plan: 2018-2021. The Commission is missing an ADA grievance procedure, Mr. Pisarski drew up a draft copy for the Commission. The county has a grievance procedure but the State Council wants the Commission to have one of their own. Mr. Pisarski created a resolution to adopt the plan and procedure. Mr. Kaneshiki asked what the difference is between the county procedure and the Commissions. Mr. Pisarski informed the Commission that the county's procedure is less detailed. The Commission's procedure is geared towards audience members regarding programming and it is art focused. The Commission has never had a grievance. The grievance procedure will be added to the website. Mr. Pisarski will also add the self-assessment packet to the website for re-grantees. Ms. Merighi asked if anyone ever requested information in braille, and Mr. Pisarski responded that no requests have been made. A motion was made to approve the ADA plan resolution by Mr. Kaneshiki. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

New Jersey Historical Commission Special Project Grant Application

Lisa Garrison approached Mr. Pisarski stating that Cumberland County does not have a single site listed on the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Ms. Garrison proposed Bethel AME Church in Springtown, Ambury Hill Cemetery in Othello and 663 Ye Greate Street (Methodist Meeting House). Mr. Pisarski put in for a special project grant through the New Jersey Historical Commission. The total cost for the project is \$17,944 and the grant request amount is \$8,972. The Commission is matching the grant with staff time and a cash match of \$2,728 if the grant is approved. If the sites get approval they can apply for grant funding from the Network to Freedom. Mr. Kaneshiki asked if the sites will get podcasts, Mr. Pisarski said they would be added. Ms. Moreno asked what are the conditions of the buildings, Ms. Watson gave a description. Mr. Pisarski commented that if the sites get added it will bring attention to the buildings and they can pursue grants to do work on the sites. A motion was made to approve the special project grant application by Ms. Watson. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lods and passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Merighi commented that the next show for Cumberland Players will be The Addams Family.

Mr. Kaneshiki said March attendance for 2nd Friday was low due to weather but April was crowded.

Ms. Lods said Millville Army Air Field Museum is doing a 50/50 raffle and they will be having a movie night in June.

Ms. Merighi commented that Teen Arts was a wonderful event with many talented kids. Ms. Lods said all the kids were well mannered and they will be adding more workshops for next year. Mr. Pisarski said Harrison Haney the state rep for Teen Arts attended and he was very impressed. The Commission contributed \$6,000 to the festival, Mr. Pisarski will meet with Ms. Van Emden regarding the budget. Ms. Boykin informed the Commission Sheppard Bus donated the bussing for the day and that needs to continue to happen to get the kids to the festival.

Mr. Moreno said Gallery 50 will be exhibiting Rachel Citrino in May. The Boys & Girls Club will inform Ms. Moreno of any activities they will be doing.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Postponed until next month.

Other Old/New Business

Chase Jackson commented that Mike McGrath will be speaking this evening at the Bayshore Center to a sold out crowd. The AJ Meerwald will be ready for sailing very soon, throughout the season there will be cultural and discount cruises. May 2nd will be Second Friday, they will be celebrating historical societies in Cumberland County. On May 24th Boardwalk Empire author will be speaking.

Correspondence

Everyone has a thank you in their packet from Cumberland County College, all the libraries in the county received a copy of Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez's book, In Lady Liberty's Shadow.

Two letters of support have been written, historic district nomination for Mauricetown and preservation of the Cumberland County Courthouse.

A letter was written in support for the Methodist Episcopal Church in Mauricetown and for the Old Stone School House in Greenwich. (letters not included)

Ms. Boykin was asking about the New Jersey court case regarding preservation of religious structures. Mr. Pisarski responded it would not impact the work the Commission does because we do not fund brick and mortar work; however, state funding for religious structures could definitely be impacted and the staff will keep an eye on the developing story.

Ms. Boykin said the Talented Teen's Showcase was a success, 30 kids participated.

The Commission is participating with Wheaton Arts on a community cultural connections program. The theme is East Asian Folkways and Art and starting on May 11th Dong Ho Painting will be the feature exhibit. Mr. Pisarski is looking to add members to the arts committee for the program.

Adjourn

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