

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

December 21, 2017

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 3:30 PM., at Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Penny Watson Yogesh Thakur
 Marianne Lods Roy Kaneshiki
 John Garrison Maria Cerda-Moreno
 Merle Silver

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – November 20, 2017

A motion was made to approve the minutes from November 20, 2017 by Ms. Watson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously. Ms. Lods abstained.

Lottery of 2018 Re-Grantee Assignments

The re-grantees for 2018 were placed in a bowl and Commission members pulled their liaison assignments as follows:

Ms. Merighi – Cumberland Players, New Life Alliance Assoc., and Maurice River Historical Society

Mr. Kaneshiki – Bayshore Center, Friends of Bridgeton Library, Seabrook Buddhist Temple and Vineland African American

Mr. Garrison – Deerfield Township, Off Broad Street Players and Mauricetown Historical Society

Ms. Watson – Bridgeton Main Street, Gateway CAP and Vineland Main Street

Ms. Moreno – Boys & Girls Club, Gallery 50 and Upper Deerfield Historical Committee

Ms. Lods – City of Vineland, Millville Army Air Field Museum and CHABA

Mr. Thakur – Clay College, Millville Library and Cumberland County Library

Ms. Boykin – Bridgeton Library, Jewish Federation and Vineland Regional Dance Co.

Mr. Pisarski – Barn Studio, Festival Puertorriqueno, PRAC of SNJ and Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center

2018 Officers' Slate and Nominations

The Nomination's Committee presented their recommended slate of officers for 2018 as follows:

Ms. Moreno – Chair
Mr. Thakur – Vice Chair
Ms. Merighi – Treasurer
Mr. Garrison – Secretary

A motion was made to approve the 2018 slate of officers' by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Kaneshiki commented that he stopped by the Cumberland Mall to see the clerk's office. He commented that it does need better signage. Mr. Pisarski said Ms. Riley (county clerk) and Donna Long (Cumberland Mall) have received the proposal from VSBA. They do not want to go through with the full proposal due to cost. Mr. Pisarski said some components from the proposal will be used. Mr. Pisarski is waiting to get more information regarding funds for the project before any final decisions are made. Mr. Pisarski explained the project to Ms. Lods.

Ms. Silver said her liaison assignments would not relay to her any projects or messages for her to pass along to the commission. Mr. Pisarski will email the re-grantees and remind them about communicating with their liaisons.

Ms. Lods questioned what was happening at the Bayshore Center. Mr. Pisarski said Megan Wren is no longer at the Bayshore. A large funder asked for an assessment of the Bayshore Center and it was determined that the Bayshore Center was suffering from "founder's syndrome". The board elected to ask Ms. Wren to step aside, also several other employees of the center are no longer there.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Ms. Lods commented that she was not happy with the billboard campaign and asked if it was successful. Mr. Pisarski told her to reach out to Ms. Gauntt.

Other Old/New Business

Ms. Watson's house was part of the Christmas Tour in Greenwich. Ms. Watson commented that 75% of the people that she spoke to were from outside of the county.

Correspondence

A letter was received from Preservation New Jersey thanking the Commission for their membership.

RGA Consulting sent in a letter regarding a telecommunications tower in Cedarville. Mr. Pisarski said he doesn't believe the tower will have any negative effects on the area.

Adjourn

Ms. Silver said she enjoyed serving on the Commission and it was a pleasure meeting everyone and learning new things.