

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

February 22, 2017

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 3:30 PM., at Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Kimberly Gauntt, Cumberland County Recreation & Tourism

Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2017

A motion was made to approve the minutes from January 25, 2017. Ms. Merighi made a correction on page two, under other old/new business the name should read George Carlisle. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Mr. Garrison. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

2017 Winter Eagle Festival – Recap

Several Commission members helped out at the festival. The festival was well attended. The tiles were a huge hit with many people who made the tiles wanting to keep them. More tiles will have to be made to complete the project for the handicap ramp at the Mauricetown Historical Society if everyone picks their tile up from Clay College.

Encore Award Nomination

Ms. Silver suggested Leslie Ficcaglia be given the Encore Award. A motion was made to nominate Leslie Ficcaglia for the Encore Award by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moreno and passed unanimously.

2016 Annual Report

Mr. Pisarski went through the 2016 report. Mr. Pisarski commented that the Commission has deviated from the long range plan because he feels times are different from when the plan was completed. The URL for the cumberlandhistorical.org is currently being worked on. The Commission is gaining followers on the social media sites. The newsletter has not been done, Mr. Pisarski said once the website is complete the Commission can revisit doing the newsletter. Mr. Pisarski gave a copy of the report to the Freeholders and it will be added to the website.

Mural Paint Day – Saturday, March 11, 2017

Commission members received a flyer for Paint Day at the Professional Services Complex on Delsea Drive. The Improvement Authority will handle getting the word out to the staff that

works at the complex. Ms. Merighi asked if there is a trade mark issue with the Lego theme of the mural. Mr. Pisarski responded that there is not, according to the mural artist.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Garrison will be meeting with Brandi Grosso with the Vineland Library.

Ms. Merighi said the Barn Studio will be having a gala on March 18th. Ms. Merighi has not received any information from the Millville Army Air Field Museum. Also emails have been exchanged with the Cumberland County Library.

Mr. Kaneshiki will be attending the Seabrook Education & Cultural Center's board meeting.

Ms. Silver has spoken to the majority of her liaisons.

Ms. Moreno spoke to Mauricetown Historical Society and they have many activities coming up. Ms. Moreno went down to the Bayshore Center and had lunch and a tour.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Ms. Gauntt said the tourism council received a \$20,000 grant from Southern Shore to market the county. Ads were passed around showing how Southern Shore is promoting Cumberland County. The calendar of events is currently being printed. The Tourism Advisory Council will be doing billboards. Ms. Gauntt commented that the Cohanzick Zoo has several new animals.

Other Old/New Business

Mr. Pisarski spoke about a new project, Mr. Pisarski & Ms. Watson met with Jason Allen who is with the Council for the Humanities. The project is about the wave of immigrants that have come to the Cumberland County area. The project would possibly be a traveling exhibit in the fall. Mr. Pisarski has reached out to several people to serve on the committee, the Commission offered several names who could serve on the committee. Mr. Pisarski said the challenge would be to have the scholarly research either existing or have it completed and then create the exhibit. The Council for the Humanities is interested in the project because they want to connect the past with the present. They want to know why it happened and why is South Jersey a sanctuary for immigrants and how history can inform are actions today. Ms. Merighi commented that Keith Ragone does exhibits for museums, he maybe a resource that can assist with the project. Mr. Pisarski said the project is at the beginning stages and does not have a budget yet. Mr. Pisarski will forward the details when he learns more.

Ms. Watson asked about the Dallas Landing sign at the Bayshore Center. The Center plans on raising the deck and asked whether the exhibit would be affected. Mr. Pisarski said the sign would rise with the decking but not sure when you look through sign if you would get the same effect.

Ms. Watson also asked about the letter that was supposed to be written to Congressman LoBiondo. Mr. Pisarski said the letters have been written but has not heard back from any of the legislators. Ms. Watson suggested meeting with the Congressman. Mr. Pisarski wants to see what SJ Cultural Alliance and Art Pride plans are first.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Adjourn

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