

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE  
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**January 25, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 3:30 PM., at Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director  
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

**Approval of Minutes – December 21, 2016**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from December 21, 2016 by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously. Ms. Moreno and Ms. Lods abstained.

**Welcome to Freeholder Joseph Sparacio**

Mr. Pisarski commented that Freeholder Sparacio gave his regrets for not attending but he will be able to attend the Thursday meetings.

**2017 Winter Eagle Festival – Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

Commission members have a flyer for the eagle festival in their packet. Mr. Pisarski asked for volunteers to help with the clay table, and several members offered their time. Tiles of backyard birds are also being done. Once the tiles are complete they will be placed at the Mauricetown Historical Societies handicap ramp.

**Skirmish at Dallas' Landing Vodcast - Discussion**

Mr. Pisarski emailed the Commission a video file of the Dallas Landing vodcast. Please watch the video and let Mr. Pisarski know of any edits. Keith Wasserman interviewed Dr. Hunter at the site. Ms. Moreno commented that the video kept her interest and was informative.

**Encore Award Nomination – Discussion**

Mr. Pisarski asked for suggestions for nominations for the Encore Award. A formal decision will have to be made at February's meeting. Mr. Pisarski will email the Commission a list of previous recipients.

**2016 Annual Report**

The annual report will be given in February.

**Liaison Reports**

Ms. Merighi heard from all of her regrantees except for Millville Army Air Field Museum.

Ms. Lods asked about the future of Bridgeton Library and Ms. Merighi responded that Ms. Reece, the Director of the Bridgeton Library, is going to the Millville Library. Mr. Pisarski commented that Mr. Estelle is stepping down as Director of the County Library.

Ms. Silver emailed her regrantees and received responses from most.

### **Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt**

Ms. Lods said Southern Shore will be having their lunch meeting February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts.

### **Other Old/New Business**

Commission members had in their packets a draft letter to Congressman LoBiondo. The letter is in support of continued funding to art and cultural organizations. Mr. Pisarski got most of his information that is in the letter from National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Mr. Pisarski said the letter will be sent to Congressman LoBiondo and the Senators. Mr. Pisarski will forward the letter to the regrantees so they can write their own letters of support. Mr. Garrison asked if Cape May and Atlantic County counterparts should also send letters, Mr. Pisarski will forward the letter to South Jersey Cultural Alliance for them to disperse out to the southern eight counties. A motion was made to send a letter to the Congressman and Senators asking them to protect the NEA & NEH and all other associated funders by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Merighi and passed unanimously.

Mr. Kaneshiki commented that the new Arts & Innovation Center in Millville can host the Commission's April meeting.

Ms. Moreno said she googled the Commission and the old website came up. Mr. Pisarski said we are having issues getting the old website url address from Loaded Media. The vendor for the new website suggested filing a complaint with the organization that manages URL's. Our current vendor has reached out to Loaded Media several times with no success. Ms. Merighi suggested having the county legal department send a letter to Loaded Media.

Ms. Merighi has reached out to George Carlo whose grandfather is Charles Miskelly. Mr. Miskelly wrote a book called "At the Head of the Tide". The book is about Millville and the glass industry. He would like to see the book published again. Ms. Lods suggested contacting Richard McCarthy, a retired attorney. Mr. McCarthy has an interest in the Millville glass industry.

### **Correspondence**

Commission members received an article in their packets from the Atlantic City Press regarding the Nail House in Bridgeton.

Commission member's attendance for 2016 was included in the packets.

### **Adjourn**

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