

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE  
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**March 23, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 3:30 PM., at the Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

<b>Present:</b>	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

**Guest:** Kimberly Gauntt, Cumberland County Recreation & Tourism

**Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2016**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from February 24, 2016 by Ms. Silver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garrison and passed unanimously.

**2016 Artists' Forum – Saturday, April 30, 2016**

Everyone has a save the date flyer in their packet for the forum. Mr. Pisarski spoke to the state council about sharing the responsibilities for future artists' forums. Karen C at SJCA will be the moderator for this year's event. The idea is to move the grant to SJCA next year with the Commission assisting with the event. Speakers for the event are currently being chosen. A take away will be given to attendees.

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

Ms. Lods suggested Maryann Cannon to receive the Encore Award. Ms. Lods gave a list of Ms. Cannon's accomplishments: business owner, artist and volunteer. A motion was made to approve Maryann Cannon to receive the Encore Award by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

**Older American's Month Programming Discussion**

Mr. Pisarski received a phone call from the Director of Office on Aging wanting someone to take over the Senior Art Show. In the past the Commission has given Office on Aging \$500 to help with the event. The Commission has agreed to not get involved but will give suggestions to Office on Aging of some galleries and art organizations to see if they would like to assist. Ms. Gauntt received an email also asking her for help. Ms. Moreno asked if we could express concern if the event does not happen. Mr. Pisarski will write a letter to Office on Aging and the freeholders letting them know the Commissions disappointment if the event does not happen.

**Art & Economic Prosperity Project – Update**

Commission members received a list in their packet of all the cultural organizations in the county

the list was turned over to Art Pride. Survey forms need to be completed for the project. Mr. Pisarski received forms from Vineland Regional Dance Company. Mr. Pisarski will send a reminder out stating that at every cultural event volunteers need to be asking people to complete the survey, the survey is anonymous. Ms. Lods commented that the survey was too cumbersome. Mr. Pisarski gave an idea what some of the questions are. The Commission felt the survey was not anonymous since the volunteer had to ask the questions to the person taking the survey. Mr. Pisarski said 80 surveys need to be completed by the end of the year. Mr. Pisarski will email the survey out again.

### **Cumberland Mall Display – Must be removed by May 16<sup>th</sup>**

The mall display has to be moved since the mall has a new tenant moving in. Mr. Pisarski said the display pieces will be returned to the owners. The display cannot be put into the mall office hallway since it is made out of paper. If anyone wants to help disassemble the display Mr. Pisarski will send out an email with the date and time.

### **Cultural & Heritage Website**

Mr. Pisarski showed the Commission the draft website. Mr. Pisarski said anything can be changed. Ms. Lods asked about organizations submitting their own information to the calendar. Mr. Kaneshiki asked about the new logo, it is being worked on. Mr. Pisarski would like the text bolder. Ms. Lods inquired about the banner, Mr. Pisarski said the banner can be a cut out image or a collage of photos. Ms. Lods asked about the artist directory page, Mr. Pisarski said it does need to be updated and added to the front page. ADA policies need to be added to the website. It was suggested to remove the phone number from the front page. Mr. Pisarski will email everyone the link and get him suggestions.

### **Liaison Reports**

Ms. Silver sent emails to her liaison organizations and she has not heard back. Ms. Watson only heard from one of her organizations.

Mr. Pisarski attended Paint Day at the Boys & Girls Club. The children started the panels and ? will take them back to their studio and clean them up. The panels will be installed in May. Matt Wargo took pictures of seven murals, Mr. Pisarski will email everyone the images.

Mr. Kaneshiki commented that the Bay Atlantic Symphony held a world premier concert called Algonquian Dream Catcher. No one from the Lenni Lenape tribe attended. Gallery 50 will be having live shows, a schedule was passed around.

Ms. Lods said the Art Every Project call for artists will go out next week, the event will take place on July 30<sup>th</sup>. It will start at 7:30pm with live bands, food and local crafters. Multi Cultural night is April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Levoy.

Ms. Merighi spoke to Flavia Alaya from CHABA they are trying to create awareness with homeowners and the historic district. The nail house restoration is taking place. The new building for Clay College is under construction. Levoy Theatre has many shows coming up.

Ms. Boykin said the teen art show case is up to 20 acts.

Ms. Moreno commented that Cinco de Mayo will be returning to Bridgeton. Mr. Pisarski will

reach out Mr. Paul at Bridgeton Main Street to find out if the regrants funds will be used for Cinco de Mayo or Viva La Independencia.

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

Ms. Gauntt said the tourism and recreation website will be ready soon, [www.explorecomberlandnj.com](http://www.explorecomberlandnj.com). A new county brochure is be worked on it will direct people to the website. Tourism Council received a \$20,000 grant from Southern Shore DMO. Four two minute videos will be done with the DMO funds. Recreation will be having their 35<sup>th</sup> annual Fishing Derby.

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

Ms. Silver asked about the new logo, Mr. Pisarski is working it.

#### **Correspondence - None**

Ms. Watson showed everyone the NJ Biz newspaper it a had a list of cultural organizations with the highest attendance in the state. There is a website listed ([www.njbiz.com/list](http://www.njbiz.com/list)) so people can get there organizations listed.

Mr. Garrison asked about the renovations that will be taking place in the freeholder meeting room. Mr. Pisarski we may only have to relocate for one meeting. Aprils meeting will take place at the Barn Studio at 3pm.

#### **Adjourn**

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