

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

May 24, 2018

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 3:00 PM., at the Down Jersey Folklife Center at Wheaton Arts in Millville, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Matthew Horowitz, Recording Secretary

Guest: Flavia Alaya, CHABA
Dr. Iveta Pirgova, Down Jersey Folklife Center

Welcome by Dr. Iveta Pirgova, Down Jersey Folklife Center

Dr. Pirgova spoke about the Voices & Colors exhibition. The exhibit is part of the Near and Far: Arts and Cultures of East Asia programming. The Vietnamese Dong Ho paintings on exhibit are part of a traveling exhibit with the next stop being in Brazil.

Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2018

A motion was made to approve the minutes from April 26, 2018 by Ms. Watson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Encore Awards – Recap

Mr. Pisarski commented the event went very well. Lisa Garrison was very appreciative for receiving the award from Cumberland County. The Encore Awards will most likely be moved to a different location next year.

Senior's Month Art Competition

Everyone received a flyer in their packet regarding the art show. The Commission gives a \$500 donation to assist with the cost of the show.

Sponsorship of Kite & Color Holi Festival – Saturday, June 9, 2018

The Friends of India Society submitted a request for special request funding, a copy of which is in Commission member's packets. Mr. Pisarski asked that they become a re-grantee but they did not because they were not sure where the festival was going to be held. Mr. Pisarski commented that up to \$1,000 could be funded since they decided to have the event at the Cumberland County Fairgrounds. Mr. Thakur said around 2,000 people attend the event. Mr. Garrison asked about the Commission's budget, Mr. Pisarski said we have the funding. A motion was made to approve a \$1,000 for the festival by Mr. Garrison. The motion was seconded by Ms. Merighi and passed unanimously. Mr. Thakur abstained.

HABS Project for City of Bridgeton – Discussion

Mr. Pisarski and Ms. Moreno had a conversation about reaching out to Cumberland County College through Steam Works regarding reviving the summer HABS program. HABS is short for Historic American Buildings Survey. Mr. Pisarski, Mr. Kaneshiki and an instructor would work with students doing site visits and measuring the buildings. After the site visits they would record their findings on Autocad. Drafts would then be sent to the National Park Service (NPS) and after they receive NPS comments they would complete the project and send all the information to the Library of Congress for recording. Mr. Pisarski would like to start working on the project in the summer of 2019. Ms. Watson asked about insurance coverage, Mr. Pisarski will get blank coverage under the county. Ms. Moreno suggested using the drone.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Moreno will report on the Boys & Girls Club next month regarding their “found objects” exhibit.

Ms. Merighi is playing phone tag with Nancy Paterson with the Maurice River Historical Society.

Mr. Kaneshiki said Second Friday at Bayshore went well.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Postponed until next month.

Other Old/New Business

Everyone received in their packet a press release about the Play Streets initiative in Vineland. Mr. Pisarski and Ms. Boykin spoke about hosting a Play Streets Initiative in Bridgeton behind the Administration building. The parking lot behind the building has cyclone fencing, Mr. Pisarski commented that there are many ways to decorate the cyclone fencing. The community in that area is very diverse and under served for artistic programming. Mr. Pisarski said if it is successful that the Commission could possibly fund an art day each year. Ms. Alaya suggested the kids could record the event with their cell phones and have them edited into a video.

Mr. Kaneshiki asked about the 4-H butterfly tent, Mr. Pisarski will get an update.

Ms. Moreno asked about the Motel 77 sign, and Mr. Pisarski responded that we yet to receive a response from Lidl.

Ms. Alaya said Cumberland County will be receiving two awards at the Historic Preservation Conference, East Point Lighthouse and the Mauricetown Historic District. Ms. Alaya said a children’s book is being launched on June 1st at the Ashley McCormick building.

Correspondence

Tyler Daddario with the Levoy provided a final report regarding the Teen Arts Festival. All the numbers greatly went up. Mr. Garrison questioned why the numbers grew so quickly. Mr. Pisarski responded that 2017 was the relaunch and it was something new for the Levoy. Ms. Merighi commented that it was a great use of funds and partnerships.

Adjourn

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