

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

May 23, 2019

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 4:00 PM., at Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Ella Boykin Penny Watson
Maria Cerda-Moreno Marianne Lods
Michael Cagno Sharon Yoshida
Suzanne Merighi

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Chase Jackson, Bayshore Center

Approval of Minutes – April 25, 2019

A motion was made to approve the minutes from April 25, 2019. Ms. Merighi made two corrections on page two, under strategic plan the word ‘perseveration’ should read ‘preservation’. Also under liaison reports it should read the Bayshore Center will be holding Second Fridays each month. Also on Thursdays, they will have different lectures. CDC was added after Vineland African American under Mr. Dragotta’s liaison report. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Ms. Yoshida and passed unanimously.

Special Request – Bayshore Center of Bivalve – Chase Jackson

Commission members received in their packet a special request letter from the Bayshore Center. Ms. Jackson is asking for \$1,000 to assist with speaker fees. The speaker is Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell and she will be speaking about the *Evolution of the ‘Spiritual’ In African American Culture*. Ms. Watson asked how many people can attend the speaker series and how many series will they be offering, the Bayshore Center can hold 60 people and three speakers’ series are planned. Mr. Cagno questioned if others get paid to speak, Ms. Jackson said some speakers do their lecture pro bono – depends on the caliber of the speaker. Bayshore will be marketing the event through churches, social media, print ads etc. Mr. Pisarski asked why this event was not part of their regrant application. Ms. Jackson commented that this is part of their speaker series not the cultural cruises.

Ms. Lods asked how much money is in the discretionary budget, Mr. Pisarski said there is funding available. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Commission thinks the event will have an impact. Ms. Merighi asked about other expenses the Commission has, Mr. Pisarski commented that the long-range plan has to be paid for. Mr. Cagno asked if we can require them to record the event, Mr. Pisarski said he will encourage Bayshore Center to record the event. A motion was made to approve \$1,000 special request to Bayshore Center for the speaker by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

Encore Awards - Recap

Mr. Pisarski stated Encore Awards went well. Several Commission members attended.

Story Origami Library Programming – Ellen Beth Nappen

Mr. Pisarski passed around the artwork from Ms. Nappen. The origami library programming will be at different libraries throughout the county. Mr. Cagno is working with Atlantic County to have the programming at libraries in Atlantic County.

Jenson Cheng Traveling Exhibit

Mr. Cheng has 20 pieces of art that will travel to different galleries. Mr. Cagno asked how valuable the art pieces are and how are they being transported to the different galleries. Mr. Pisarski said some pieces are worth several thousand dollars and he will be delivering the pieces to the galleries. Mr. Cagno suggested having an exhibition agreement with the galleries. Mr. Pisarski will get Mr. Cagno acknowledgement language and logos so marketing will be the same for all the galleries.

Senior's Month Art Competition

Commission members received in their packet a flyer for Senior Art Competition. The Commission gives Office on Aging \$500 to assist with cost. Also in the budget we have \$1,000 for tickets. In the past we have purchased 50 tickets from Bay Atlantic Symphony. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Commission wants him to reach out to the Symphony again or another venue. Ms. Lods said she thinks the tickets benefit seniors that cannot afford tickets. Ms. Boykin asked how many tickets actually get used. Mr. Pisarski said he gets the tickets and forwards them to Office on Aging. Mr. Pisarski will inform Office on Aging not to give out blocks of tickets they want a cap on how many tickets will be given to one person.

Veteran's Mural – Vineland

The 2018 remaining funds were given to Vineland Improvement District for a mural at Landis and the Boulevard. The mural is of the different armed services. We do not know the total budget of the project but the Commission contributed \$7,500.

Kite & Color Holi Festival – Saturday, June 8, 2019

Flyers for the festival are in members packets, if anyone would like tickets please let Mr. Pisarski know.

Strategic Plan RFP Discussion

A draft copy of the long-range plan are in Commission members packets. Mr. Pisarski said it is a simple two page RFP. The consultant will assess the Commission's strengths and weaknesses based on the 2012 plan. Mr. Pisarski went thru the proposal outlining what is expected of the consultant and plan. Ms. Watson suggested the consultant meet with the Commission. Mr. Cagno asked the consultant have up to five years' experience. Price and other factors will be considered when the consultant is chosen.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Dragotta called if anyone would like tickets to the play Alterations please let him know.

Ms. Merighi said Bayshore Center will have Community Day June 1.

Ms. Watson said the Millville Army Air Field Museum is planning a new mural. East Point has many activities planned over the summer.

Mr. Cagno passed out a postcard for a summer program at the Arts & Innovation Center called *See Your Song, Sing your Peace*.

Ms. Yoshida will be meeting with the Boys & Girls Club of Vineland. There will be a pop up exhibit at Seabrook Senior Center during the Obon Festival.

Ms. Cerda-Moreno said the Bridgeton Library will be hosting a talk, Mark Demitrof of Stockton University will present on South Jersey's prehistory as revealed by geological markers brought to light through the wall collapse on West Commerce Street. Cumberland County Library will be having Senior Zumba.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Postponed until next month.

Other Old/New Business

Mr. Cagno asked if Seabrook wants to do the lanterns at Obon, Ms. Yoshida will check.

Ms. Watson commented that the Singing Ambassadors have ended.

Correspondence - None

Everyone received a list of the most endangered historic places in New Jersey, East Point Lighthouse is listed.

Ms. Lods asked about the Highway 77 sign, Mr. Pisarski has not heard anything.

Adjourn

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