

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

September 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 3:30 PM., at the Cumberland County Administration Building Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Assistant Planning Director
 Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Kim Gauntt, Cumberland County Recreation and Tourism

Approval of Minutes – August 26, 2015

A motion was made to approve the minutes from August 26, 2015. Ms. Watson made a correction on page three under correspondence, National Register should be added to the sentence regarding Siloam Cemetery. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Mr. Boykin and passed unanimously.

Artists' Day in Mauricetown Recap

Mr. Pisarski commented that artists day was partially rained out. The band had to stop playing and the vendors left around 3pm. Carol Perrelli from the Mauricetown Historical Society was very pleased with the day nonetheless. 12 artists were booked for the day with 10 showing up. Mr. Pisarski said the budget is not completed but he thinks the event came in under budget. Attendance was down due to rain but advertising was good; newspaper, yard signs and social media. Freeholder Director Derella and Jim Quinn stopped by.

Freeholder Derella spoke to Mr. Pisarski about the mural arts program, He thinks it's a great idea and would like to see a project done in 2016. Mr. Pisarski said there are two areas that are available for the program. Chris Volker from the Boys & Girls Club was donated a building and they are putting in a regrant application to have the building covered in the mural. Mr. Pisarski asked Mr. Volker to get quotes to do the whole building. The commission asked if all sides of the building were visible, yes the whole building is visible from various angles. The second project would be public art on the river in Millville. Ms. Lods mentioned discussion has already taken place regarding public art on the river. Mr. Pisarski said the budget subcommittee will have to set aside funds for the project if the Commission wants to participate. Originally the Commission had discussed funding for public being raised and placed in the trust account, but with so much interest in public art occurring so quickly, the line item will be used for the first year to get the projects started. Mr. Pisarski asked for suggestions for locations for a project to be done in Bridgeton.

Logo Design Competition – Discussion

Commission received in their packet a draft for a call for artists. Mr. Pisarski read through the guidelines. Ms. Watson asked for clarification on the size. Mr. Pisarski will email out a .pdf so everyone can pass it on to artists. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Commission has anything to add, Mr. Thakur suggested leaving it up to the artist of what they want to design. Ms. Merighi asked if the colors that are used need to be limited, and Mr. Pisarski responded they do not. A motion was made to approve sending out the call for artists flyer by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously. Mr. Pisarski said he will send the flyer out to schools, social media and do a press release. Ms. Moreno asked how the winner will be selected; the commission will chose whose logo gets selected.

Mr. Pisarski spoke to Jake Hartigan regarding the website, Mr. Hartigan will be transferring information over to the new website. The website will be tweaked as things move along. Mr. Pisarski had Mr. Hartigan check to see if www.cumberlandnjart.org was available, it is. We would keep www.ccculturalheritage.org and it would be linked to the new website. The historical website will also be connected to the art website.

Cumberland Mall Display - Discussion

Commission members received in their packets images of the display at the mall. Ms. Gauntt said the display started out in an empty store front seven years ago, the space has been moved around several times. The mall would like the display cleaned upped and updated. Mr. Pisarski is working with VSBA to help design a new display. Tourism will give space in the display to the Commission to help promote arts and history. Cumberland Mall said the space could be painted or whatever is needed to make the space eye catching. Donna Longo with the Cumberland Mall cannot guarantee how long the space will be available so whatever is designed has to be moveable. Ms. Boykin asked about music being played, Mr. Pisarski will ask if music can be played. Funding will come from the county marketing funds. Mr. Pisarski is asking for updated images for the display.

NJ State Council on the Arts & NJ Historical Commission Composition

Mr. Pisarski provided two informational sheets regarding representatives for the NJ Historical Commission and NJ State Council on the Arts. A wide majority of the members are from North Jersey. Ms. Watson asked if Mr. Pisarski has spoken to the legislators, he has not. Mr. Pisarski will do more research with a detailed map of where the representatives are from and the amount funding that each county receives. Correspondence will also be sent to the third district letting them know they are not represented. Mr. Pisarski said when he sends the letter to the third district he will add that Cumberland County is one of the four counties in New Jersey that is a minority majority county.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Merighi said Gallery 50 will feature Peter Mastro in October.

Mr. Kaneshiki commented that a mosaic was installed at the Holly Family Center in Millville.

Ms. Lods said construction for the Arts & Innovation Center will begin shortly.

Ms. Watson asked if the Commission funded the new mural at the Millville Army Air Field Museum, the commission did not.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

The tourism council has a new website, www.cumberlandnj.com. SNJ Today is working on a new six panel brochure. The website and brochure are being paid for from a grant that was received from Pascal Sykes. The Pascal Sykes grant also paid for ads in AAA World and billboard signage. The billboards are in North Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Other Old/New Business

Mr. Pisarski commented that South Jersey Cultural Alliance (SJCA) has not made a decision yet of where they will be locating. Jim Donio from Hammonton sent an email to the SJCA board regarding the crime rate in Millville and felt if the office was located in Millville the employees would not be safe. Ms. Lods said a very good offer was made to SJCA and Mr. Donio mis-stated all the numbers regarding the move. Mr. Pisarski responded to the email stating the positives that Millville has to offer. Mr. Pisarski said the executive committee unanimously recommended Millville to SJCA Board.

Correspondence

Rutgers is doing a program on Public Histories of Detention and Mass Incarceration the project will focus on Seabrook Farms.

A letter was received from the Historic Preservation Office regarding the Bivalve shipping sheds and wharves.

The next meeting will be held at the Vineland Historical Society, refreshments will be served. Mr. Pisarski said by relocating the meetings they can use as the get-togethers recommended in the strategic plan. Future meetings will be held at the Barn Studio and Seabrook Buddhist Temple. The meetings will be advertised to the regrantees.

Adjourn

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