

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE  
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**December 21, 2010**

**Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, NJ 08302**

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, December 21, 2010 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder Meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

**Present:** Penny Watson                      Jean Jones  
                  Marianne Lods                         Roy Kaneshiki  
                  Flavia Alaya

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner  
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

**Guest:** Michael Cagno, Noyes Museum

**Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2010**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from November 16, 2010. Flavia Alaya made a correction of the spelling of her last name. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Penny Watson. The motion was seconded by Marianne Lods and passed unanimously.

**2011 Cultural & Heritage Commission Regrant Award Recommendations**

Mr Pisarski had provided the Commission members the grant panel's recommendations via email. He stated that the recommendations had been submitted to the Freeholders in December but the present Freeholders held off until January so their newly elected members could have some input. Ms. Alaya observed that having written a regrant application she was not in a position to comment on particular awards; however, she did think that some of the history awards seemed more tilted toward performance than history and asked if there were any criteria for qualifying as a history vs an arts regrant. Mr Pisarski said there were not. Ms Alaya then suggested that a subcommittee might be set up to create some simple standards for future regrants in history. She thought this might have the additional benefit of improving our chances of state funding, showing we are trying to build our history base. Mr. Pisarski agreed it might be a good idea, saying that in fact we have a New Jersey Historical Commission general operating support grant round coming up this spring and that for the past two years the County has not received NJHC funding and history regrants have been coming out of the Commission's general operating fund that the Freeholders provide. Mr. Pisarski asked Ms. Alaya if she thought rewriting the new standards might help on the state level. Ms. Alaya said she would make inquiries, if possible. Mr. Pisarski was also concerned that if new standards were to force some regrant organizations out of the history category, the Commission should ensure a place for them in the arts regrant category. He pointed out that in fact there was a 30%

increase in the number of organizations applying for regrant funding this year. Ms Alaya agreed that this should be handled with care, but asked if they could go forward to set up such a subcommittee now. The general feeling being favorable, Ms Alaya moved to establish a history subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Watson and passed unanimously.

**Nominations Committee Recommendations - POSTPONED**

Mr. Pisarski said nominations and reappointments are being postponed until January. Ms. Watson asked whose terms from the Commission had expired, and he said that Ms. Alaya's term had expired, in November.

**Healing Arts Initiative Update – Michael Cagno, Exec. Dir. Noyes Museum**

Michael Cagno was introduced and made a presentation about the Noyes Museum working with Atlantic Care regarding "healing arts" programs, which places artwork in different medical offices. Mr. Cagno and Mr. Pisarski have been talking with South Jersey Healthcare (SJH) for nine months about duplicating the program. Some of the problems are money and space. Noyes Museum said they would purchase the art work and loan it to SJH. A committee is being formed to start the process. The committee will be working on fundraising and a press release. Cumberland County artist will be given the first opportunity to participate. There are 20 spots available for art work to be placed. Ms. Lods asked if the project just covers the cancer center. Ms. Alaya asked if this is just a trial. Mr. Cagno said when PR is released hopefully other sites will get on board with the program. Noyes Museum has a 10-year agreement with SJH. Ms. Lods would like to see private medical practices join the program. SJH is referring to the program as "Colors of Hope". Mr. Pisarski thanked Mr. Cagno for all his work.

**Liaison Reports**

Ms. Lods and Jean Jones attended the "Nutcracker" performed by Vineland Regional Dance Company. Both said it was a good performance.

Ms. Watson said Gallery 50 had a good month with sales. Mr. Pisarski said the grants review panel was impressed with their application.

Roy Kaneshiki attended the Jazz concert at Cumberland County College. He said attendance was poor. Ms. Lods believes its lack of publicity. Ms. Alaya said it is very hard to reach anyone at the college.

Ms. Alaya informed the commission that the Bridgeton Holiday House Tour was very successful.

Discussion returned to terms of current members, and Mr. Kaneshiki read them out. Mr. Pisarski said he will check to see if terms are three or four years. Ms. Alaya asked if Commission members normally continue to serve after term expiration until a new appointment or reappointment is made. This appeared to be the case, but Mr. Pisarski said that of course the Freeholders have the right to make new appointments. He pointed

out also that if there is an open seat the Freeholders will consider recommendations from the Commission.

**Other Old/New Business**

Mr. Pisarski will give the Commission members the password and login to Google Analytics so that they may monitor the traffic on the website.

**Correspondence**

In the Commission's packets are thank you letters from several organizations that received special funding.

There is also a press release that was in the The News of Cumberland County regarding the Cumberland County Artist Directory. Ms. Lods will forward Mr. Pisarski her email contacts.

**Adjourn**

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2010, in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.