

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

December 20, 2011

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 3:30 PM., in the upstairs conference room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Penny Watson Suzanne Merighi
 John Garrison Roy Kaneshiki
 Marianne Lods Patt Gale
 Jean Jones Ella Boykin
 Freeholder Fiocchi

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2011

A motion was made to approve the minutes from November 15, 2011 by Penny Watson. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Merighi and passed unanimously.

Conflict Recusal Statement

Matt Pisarski read and explained the conflict recusal statement. Mr. Pisarski asked the commission members to fill it out and return it to him.

2012 Cultural & Heritage Commission Re-grant Award Recommendations

Commission members received the arts and history re-grant recommendations for 2012. Mr. Pisarski said the panel was pleased with the applications this round. Funding for the arts stayed the same as last year at \$95,000 but fewer applications were received. The panel was happy with Gallery 50 and Deerfield Township (Harvest Festival) applications. History funding increased 60% for a total of \$12,000. The panel was satisfied with all six of the history re-grants. Marianne Lods was happy to see the increase in funding. Mr. Pisarski commented that the panel was not happy with Friends of the Bridgeton Library. With the commission's approval the recommendations will go to the freeholder board. A motion was made to approve the recommendations by the grants review panel by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Merighi and passed unanimously.

Re-grant Liaison Assignments

The Commission member's assignments are as follows:

Penny Watson	The Barn Studio of Art, Deerfield Twp. Recreation, Seabrook Buddhist Temple
Ella Boykin	Bayshore Discovery Project, Festival Puertorriqueno, Upper Deerfield Historical Committee
Suzanne Merighi	Boys & Girls Club of Vineland, Friends of Bridgeton Library, Vineland Regional Dance Company
Rich Bermudez	Bridgeton Main Street Association, Gallery 50, Bridgeton Antiquarian League
John Garrison	Bridgeton Recreation, Gateway Community Action Partner., Friends of Historic Vineland
Jean Jones	City of Vineland, Jewish Federation of CC, Mauricetown Historical Society
Roy Kaneshiki	Cumberland County College, Landis Theater, Vineland African American Comm. Dev. Corp.
Patt Gale	Cumberland County Library, Millville Army Air Field Museum
Marianne Lods	Cumberland Regional High School, Off Broad Street Players

Nominations Committee Recommendations

The recommendation from the nominations committee for 2012 is everyone moves up a spot who is currently serving as an officer. A motion was made to accept the nominations by Ms. Gale. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jones and passed unanimously.

John Garrison – Chair
Ella Boykin – Vice Chair
Suzanne Merighi – Treasurer
Penny Watson – Secretary

2012 Schedule of Commission Meetings

A list of 2012 meeting dates is in Commission member's packets. The meeting are being moved to the fourth Tuesday of the month due to a conflict with freeholder meetings. With the exception of December it will be the third Tuesday. A motion was made to accept the meetings dates by Mr. Garrison. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

New Jersey History Toolbox

In the Commission packets is a draft of the New Jersey History Toolbox. At last month's meeting the Commission discussed the results of the building history participation analysis. The consultants recommend another tier of benefits to the four groups that participated. Those groups were: Mauricetown Historical Society, Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center, Millville Army Airfield Museum and New Sweden. Step One - no cost to join the List Serve and Garden State Legacy Journal. Step Two - there are four organizations in South Jersey that are critical for membership for history organizations: The League of Historical Societies of NJ, Advocates for New Jersey History, Preservation New Jersey and South Jersey Cultural Alliance. Step Three – membership to American Association of State and Local History. Step Four – participation in five history events in New Jersey. Mr. Pisarski said there are further steps but they are not as clear as the other steps. Mr. Pisarski said some organizations are willing to give a discount on membership dues if several groups join. Ms. Lods suggested it may be overwhelming if you join too many organizations. Mr. Pisarski said the Commission will phase the benefits in overtime. The Commission needs to decide which organizations fall into the higher tier to receive these benefits and which memberships are going to be subsidized for the organizations. It will cost the Commission \$1,200 for all four groups to join the different organizations. Ms. Jones asked if the Commission will have to provide funding every year. Mr. Pisarski said it would be an annual approval. A motion was made to provide funding for the memberships by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gale and passed unanimously.

West Jersey Time Travelers

Mr. Pisarski is working on the 15 podcast and the website. Mr. Pisarski is talking to the website vendor regarding the design of the website. Mr. Pisarski gave a presentation on clevelandhistorical.org. Mr. Pisarski said Loaded Media (website vendor) will try and replicate the clevelandhistorical.org so it can work for are website needs. Mr. Garrison asked who will be doing maintenance on the website. Mr. Pisarski and Loaded Media will have control of the website. Mr. Pisarski said the URL cumberlandhistorical.org is available for purchase.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Jones commented that the Levoy Theater has put up frame work.

Ms. Lods said Vineland Regional Dance Company performed at Soul of the Season.

Ms. Watson said CHABA thanked the Commission in their newsletter for their special funding they received.

Mr. Kaneshiki said second Friday at Bayshore Discovery Project went very well.

Mr. Pisarski said the Encore Awards may not be held at Landis Theater/Mori's.

Other Old/New Business

Correspondence

The Bayshore Discovery Project sent in a thank you letter to the Commission for helping sponsor December's Second Friday

A newspaper article announcing Nicholas Paleologos is the new director for NJ State Council on the Arts.

A letter was received from NJ Department of Environmental Protection regarding the Route 49/Buckshutem Intersection Improvements. The letter states it does adversely affect historic properties.

Adjourn

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.