

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

January 20, 2009  
3:30 pm

Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, NJ 08302

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder Meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

**Present:** Roy Kaneshiki  
Patricia Gale  
Suzanne Merighi  
Marianne Lods  
John Garrison

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner  
Kim McCann, Recording Secretary

## **Approval of Minutes –December 16, 2008**

A motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2008 with corrections was made by Patricia Gale. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Merighi and passed unanimously.

## **2008 Year in Review**

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of the 2008 year end report to the Commission members (attached herein). Mr. Pisarski reviewed the report with the Commission. The first chart is the cultural regrantee's through the Council on the Arts. The second chart is the history regrantee's followed by the regrant funds by municipality. Suzanne Merighi asked why Vineland was much larger than the other municipalities. Mr. Pisarski replied it is because of the College, Vineland Regional Dance Company, The Boys and Girls Club, Jewish Federation and Festival Puertorriqueno and it is approximately half the population of the county. The next report shows ethnicity for 2008. The other reports were artistic discipline which is another category that has to be identified for the state and how many audience members did each regrant dollar attract. This report is based on the audience membership that the organizations report back to the Commission.

## **Re-grantee Liaisons**

Mr. Pisarski stated he had spoken to Freeholder Director Magazzu regarding some of the issues that were raised during the re-grant awarded discussions. One of the topics discussed as how the Commission confirms that what is recorded in the final reports from the regrantee's is accurate. Put another way, how is the Commission backing up performance assurances by the regrantee's?

Mr. Pisarski mentioned to Director Magazzu that each Commission member could take two or three regrantee organizations under their wing and try to attend one or two of their trustee meetings throughout the year and to also attend the events the Commission is funding. Mr. Magazzu thought this was a good idea.

Mr. Pisarski has taken the regrantee's for 2009 and broken them down into nine groups assuming there will be a new Commission member in 2009, each member would take a group of three regrantee's each. Mr. Pisarski had everyone choose a card and asked Marianne Lods to select for Penny Watson, Flavia Alaya and Jean Jones who were not present.

## **Other Old/New Business**

Patricia Gale asked Mr. Pisarski if he can anticipate any future issues of concern regarding Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission by the Freeholders. Mr. Pisarski replied it is a very active Board this year as described to him and there are three Freeholder members assigned to our committee. James Dunkins is the Chair and Nelson Thompson and Jane Jannarone are alternates. Joe Peptione also has shown interest but was not assigned to the Commission but may attend some of the meetings. He indicated that greater involvement by the Freeholders would be welcome and would only be considered positive.

Marianne Lods asked Mr. Pisarski about the Teen Arts Festival. She knows the date has been set for May 1, 2009 which coincides with the Millville Multi Cultural Event later that evening. Ms. Lods asked if the planning committee was Amy Sullivan and Mike Cagno. Mr. Pisarski replied in the affirmative with the inclusion of Carol Nagao. Mr. Pisarski also mentioned Kim McCann would be helping out this year instead of Jill Swartz as she has other projects she is working on. Ms. Lods will be setting up a tent on the lower plaza for the evening festivities and told Mr. Pisarski he was more than welcome to use that tent to help off set the cost. Mr. Pisarski mentioned he has spoken with Bob Trivellini and the problem last year with the tents was the drum circle performed, it was during the same time as other performances and they drowned one another out. The drum circle will be moved to the plaza for this year.

The Eagle Festival is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, 2009 from 8:00 to 4:00

at the Mauricetown Fire Hall. Mr. Pisarski asked for volunteers for the kid's clay table.

Mr. Kaneshiki asked Mr. Pisarski if he has submitted Jane Christy's name for the open seat on the Commission. Mr. Pisarski replied he is working on it and there will most likely be a decision at the February Freeholders meeting. Ms. Merighi asked Mr. Pisarski if he expects any resistance and he replied possibly as the Commission is not as diverse as it could be. He reminded the Commission that it is advisory to the Freeholders and ultimately appointments are at their discretion.

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Pisarski provided the Commission with correspondence from the Atlantic Cape Community College. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Commission would like to link to their facility directory listed on our website and if so to decide by next month's Commission meeting.

Mr. Pisarski passed around a Thank you card from Jane Christy.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Marianne Lods. The motion was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and unanimously carried.

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.