

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

January 24, 2012

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 3:30 PM., in the freeholder conference room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Penny Watson
John Garrison
Jean Jones
Ella Boykin

Suzanne Merighi
Roy Kaneshiki
Patt Gale
Freeholder Director Kirstein

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Guest: Chris Volker, Vineland Boys & Girls Club

Approval of Minutes – December 20, 2011

A motion was made to approve the minutes from December 20, 2011 by Suzanne Merighi. The motion was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Welcome Freeholder Director Carl W. Kirstein

John Garrison welcomed Freeholder Director Kirstein to the Commission. The Commission members introduced themselves.

2011 Annual Report

Matthew Pisarski presented an annual report for 2011. Normally a Power Point presentation is done but Mr. Pisarski felt a written report would be more useful. If the Commission accepts the report it will be added to the Commission website. Mr. Pisarski went through the report and explained what was on each page. Patt Gale questioned the timeline on page six regarding hits on the Commission website. Mr. Pisarski said the spike shown in February was when the website was adding the Artist Directory. The Commission members thanked Mr. Pisarski for doing a great job on the annual report.

Discussion with Kimberly Gauntt, Tourism Advisory Council

Postponed to February meeting.

2012 Media Familiarization Tour

Kim Wood suggested to Mr. Pisarski that a joint Media Fam Tour should be done between the Commission and the Tourism Council. Several Fam Tours have taken place in the past years. Ms. Wood recommended the tour be focused on cultural events and programming in Cumberland County. Mr. Pisarski said details need to be worked out such as: route, sites to visit, who to invite and transportation, etc. The tour will take place in May or June of 2012. Mr. Pisarski would like to put together a box lunch with items to highlight what the county has to offer. Penny Watson asked where the media would come from. Media would be pulled from as far as Philadelphia area. Mr. Pisarski said a committee will be formed to plan the tour. Mr. Pisarski asked Commission members to let him know if they were interested in participating. Mr. Garrison said he would like to be on the committee. Mr. Garrison said more needs to be done to promote culture in the county.

Discussion with Chris Volker, Vineland Boys & Girls Club re: Carl Arthur Recreation Center murals

Chris Volker is asking the Commission for a \$1,000 special request to help restore the mural at the Carl Arthur Recreation Center. When the mural was painted in 2008 it was not sealed and the face of Carl Arthur is fading. Mr. Volker said the funds would go to enhancing the mural and seal it so that weather conditions do not age the mural. Mr. Volker does not have an exact price of what the restoration will cost; he has spoken to the art department at Cumberland County College. Mr. Pisarski asked if there was a description on the outside of the building regarding Carl Arthur's history. Mr. Volker said a plaque or something similar is in their future plans. Mr. Pisarski would like to speak to the College and the City of Vineland to see if they would be willing to partner in the restoration of the mural. Ms. Merighi asked when restoration would take place. Mr. Volker would like to have it done in the spring. Ella Boykin said they are getting negative feedback for letting the mural fade. Mr. Pisarski will be working with Mr. Volker with getting a price to redo the mural. Mr. Volker thanked the Commission for supporting the Boys & Girls Club over the years.

Increase to West Jersey Time Traveler website allocation

East Point Lighthouse was the first drafted script to be presented to the Panel of Scholars for feedback. Keith Wasserman suggested doing one podcast from beginning to end to get all the kinks worked out. While that work is proceeding, Loaded Media presented the Commission with a change order of an additional \$1,500 to more closely match the clevelandhistorical.org website. This will increase the total website cost to \$4,500. Mr. Pisarski explained the West Jersey Time Traveler project to Freeholder Director Kirstein. A motion was made to approve the additional funding of \$1,500 to Loaded Media by Ms. Boykin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Watson and passed unanimously.

Encore Award Discussion – Allocation of funds for step and repeat banner

The Encore Awards will be held at Landis Theater on May 17, 2012. Mr. Pisarski said the Encore Awards honor arts programming in New Jersey's southern eight counties. Steve Runk will be honored this year with the Standing Ovation award. Mr. Pisarski would like to get a step and repeat banner to go with the red carpet that the Landis Theater is providing. The step and repeat banner will be used as a back drop to take pictures. The banner will have the sponsor's logo on it including the Cultural & Heritage Commission's. The cost for the banner and display will be \$655. The display can be used for future events. A motion was made to approve the purchase of the banner and display by Ms. Gale. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boykin and passed unanimously.

2012 Winter Eagle Festival – Saturday, February 11, 2012

The Eagle Fest will take place February 11th at the Mauricetown Fire Hall. Mr. Pisarski is trying to contact Jackie Sandro from Clay College for the kid's activity table. Ms. Sandro has run the kids table in past years with the Cultural and Heritage Commission. Mr. Pisarski is asking for volunteers to help with the kids table. Ms. Merighi and Mr. Kaneshiki said they will help during the day. Mr. Pisarski will email everyone with specific time slots.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Pisarski gave the Commission members a cd with their liaison applications. When the freeholders approve the regrant awards, Mr. Pisarski will send the regrantee's their contracts with a letter stating who their liaison will be. Mr. Pisarski explained to Freeholder Director Kirstein how the Commission members get their liaison assignments.

Ms. Merighi said Save the Library (Bridgeton) will be having a Books and Bratwurst fundraiser on January 28th.

Jean Jones informed the Commission the Mauricetown Historical Society will be setting up a new display.

Mr. Pisarski said American Association for State and Local History offered a 10% discount for five organizations joining. Mr. Pisarski has not heard from Preservation New Jersey regarding a group discount. Ms. Watson said it will be discussed at Preservation New Jersey's next meeting. South Jersey Cultural Alliance will give a discount; Mr. Pisarski does not know what the percentage will be.

Other Old/New Business

The Commission received in their packets an email from Janet Foster regarding the Vernacular Architecture Forum being held in New Jersey in 2014. Mr. Pisarski said if anyone has ideas for conference sessions, field trips or tours to please let him know.

Ella Boykin attended the 3rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast. The Commission received an award from the partner organizations that put on the event and a certificate of recognition from Mayor Romano. Mr. Pisarski will send a thank you letter.

Correspondence

An article was in the Commission members packets regarding the Southern Shore Music Festival cancellation.

Flavia Alaya sent in a thank you letter on behalf of CHABA for help funding the First Annual “Bridgeton Rose” Historic Preservation Awards.

Adjourn

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.