

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

July 23, 2013

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder conference room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – June 25, 2013

A motion was made to approve the minutes from June 25th by Marianne Lods. The motion was seconded by Penny Watson and passed unanimously.

2014 Re-grant Program Guidelines and Application Discussion and Approval

Commission members received a draft copy of the re-grant guidelines and application in their packet. The dates have been changed and a change was made to page ten regarding the checklist. The Better Business Bureau language was added under the audit or financial review section. It clarifies what the Commission is looking for regarding audit and budgeting documentation. A motion was made to approve the guidelines and application by Roy Kaneshiki. The motion was seconded by Ms. Watson and passed unanimously.

Community Development Block Grant Proposal – Not Proceeding

Mr. Pisarski said it was decided not to proceed with the project that was discussed last month. The Department of Community Affairs said you could apply for two grants but Cumberland County already has a grant open and Triad is applying for a grant for the Juvenile Detention Center.

NPS American Battlefield Protection Program grant – award and next steps

The Commission was awarded \$49,500 from the National Park Service (NPS) to complete the Battle of Dallas Landing project. Mr. Pisarski will go to Washington, D.C. on August 22nd for mandatory training. Mr. Pisarski indicated that the bidding process to select a consultant would have to be canceled and redone due to protocols set by NPS. He said he would coordinate with the Freeholders and Ken Mecouch on the details. Mr. Kaneshiki asked when a press release will be done; Mr. Pisarski said several press releases will be done as the project progresses. Mr. Pisarski commented he plans on having volunteers and school groups involved.

Cohansey RiverFest Plein Air Competition – August 24, 2013

Commission members received in their packet a Call for Plein Air Artists. The event will take place August 24th during the RiverFest. Seven artists have responded so far. Jean Jones asked if it was just for Cumberland County residents and Mr. Pisarski responded that it is open to

everyone. John Garrison asked if there is any cross promotion with Artists Day in Mauricetown. Mr. Pisarski said there is not but they can advertise Artists Day at the Plein Air Competition.

ADA Accessibility Workshop – August 28, 2013 – Bayshore Center in Bivalve

The workshop will be held August 28th at the Bayshore Center and is being held there so Meghan Wren can highlight the improvements made to the building for accessibility. Mr. Pisarski invited John McEwen from the Cultural Access Network but has not heard back from him. Mr. Pisarski contacted David Grennon of the Cumberland County Disabled Advisory Council to facilitate. The Commission will provide funds to the Bayshore Center to supply refreshments. Ms. Lods asked what the workshop will concentrate on and Mr. Pisarski responded that facility accessibility will be the focus.

Grant Writing Workshop Discussion

The workshop will take place in September at Gallery 50. Mr. Pisarski will ask Rachel Dukeman to facilitate.

Artists Day in Mauricetown – September 14, 2013

Artists Day will be held in Mauricetown at the Compton House. Mr. Pisarski met with the Mauricetown Historical Society at the Compton House. All the facilities will be open, music will be available for the day and food has already been secured. A historic fashion show will take place in the morning under the music tent. Audubon Society would like to have an activity at the River Walk. Mr. Pisarski showed the Commission the advertising and directional signage that was purchased last year. Mr. Pisarski said new signs need to be purchased for this year's event; Mr. Pisarski suggested using DMO funds. Ms. Watson asked if East Point was made aware of the venue change. Mr. Pisarski sent an email to Gail Robinson and Dave Ewan and they did not respond. A motion was made to approve the purchase of signage with an estimated cost of \$120 by Suzanne Merighi. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Merighi had a flier regarding the 2013 concert series at Giampietro Park. Gallery 50's art exhibit this month is called Petite Moments.

Mr. Garrison said the County Library had their 50th anniversary celebration. Mr. Garrison did not attend but Jean Garrison who is a retired Vineland Librarian spoke to Mr. Garrison and gave him a report.

Mr. Kaneshiki said the Obon Festival had a good crowd. For Second Friday at Bayshore the weather was bad.

Mr. Garrison asked about the Jewish Film Festival and Mr. Pisarski responded he heard it will be held exclusively at the Levoy Theater. Ms. Lods said she heard it will be more than the Jewish Film Festival, with it taking on a more international theme.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Not in attendance.

Other Old/New Business

Mr. Pisarski provided a review of the second quarter budget handout. The budget approved by the Freeholders kept the budget stable at \$21,000. The Commission thanked Freeholder Kirstein for his support. There were several additional expenses since the first quarter review. The New Jersey Association of Cultural & Heritage Commissions is a new membership, Mr. Pisarski will start attending regular meetings. The signage for the Time Travelers Project went over budget, \$5,000 was dedicated to the project with the actual cost being \$9,700. Nancy Moses is still owed \$8,500 for the Long Range Plan but there is only \$6,000 left in the line item account. Mr. Pisarski said the funds will have to be moved around from different projects or Ms. Moses will have to be paid partially with 2014 funds. Discussion involved the potential re-allocation of funds from the architectural program line item to the long-range plan line item.

Commission members received in their packets a list of the 2014 New Jersey State Council on the Arts grants broken down by county. The Commission received stable funding of \$109,590. Ms. Lods said most organizations stayed the same. Mr. Pisarski received notice from the New Jersey Historical Commission that the next two year cycle of funding has been cut. Mr. Pisarski said he believes it was a percentage cut for everyone. The Commission received \$12,000 in the previous cycle and for the next two years it will be \$10,290. When the budget subcommittee meets the recommendation will be to fill in the gap with line item funds.

Mr. Pisarski said the New Historical Commission special project grant that the Commission applied for last year to stabilize the aerial photographs from the 60's and 70's was not approved. Mr. Pisarski would like to apply again for photography of the interior of the 15 podcast sites. Matt Wargo, architecture photographer, completed the exterior photography pro bono. The cost is estimated at \$500 per site. The application is due in September. Ella Boykin asked where the photos would be placed and Mr. Pisarski responded they would be on the Commission's website. Ms. Boykin suggested that a traveling exhibit could also be considered.

Ms. Lods asked Mr. Kaneshiki if Clay College will be having the oyster plate exhibit this fall, and Mr. Kaneshiki responded that he is not sure. Ms. Lods has funding for Clay College.

Ms. Lods attended a State Council of the Arts meeting, where the executive director presented the public value portion of the arts. A film project was completed to create a video, with filming taking place in New Brunswick, Red Bank, Rahway and Millville. At the meeting Millville's portion of the video was shown. Ms. Lods will share the link so everyone can see the video. Mr. Pisarski will add the link to the Commission website. Ms. Lods said the video is outstanding.

Mr. Pisarski said Keith Wasserman finished the press release on the Time Traveler project. The release has been sent to local, Philadelphia and North Jersey media.

Mr. Pisarski commented that Sharon Mollick who is listed in the Artists Directory was invited to exhibit at a show in England, indicating that the Commission's Artists Directory is garnering interest from far afield.

Ms. Moses conducted an interview with Trudy Hanson and has arranged to meet Sidney Hargo, and Rachel Dukeman has interviews scheduled with Sue Perry and Carolyn Heckman. Mr. Pisarski met with Patrick McGrory.

Correspondence

Articles regarding the 50th celebration of the Cumberland County Library and the Obon Festival were in Commission members packets.

A cause-related marketing article was in Commission packets. Mr. Pisarski said he would like to continue the discussion on cause-related marketing and turn it into a workshop.

Adjourn

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2013 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.