

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE  
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**June 21, 2011**

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

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder Meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

**Present:** Penny Watson                      Suzanne Merighi  
              Patt Gale                             Rich Bermudez  
              Marianne Lods                     Roy Kaneshiki  
              Ella Boykin

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner  
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

**Guest:** Melissa Clifton, Cumberland County Office on Aging

**Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2011**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from May 17, 2011 by Marianne Lods. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Merighi and passed unanimously, with the following corrections. On page one Penny Watson asked for GOS to be spelled out (General Operating Support) and to change the spelling of sight to site.

**Welcome Richard D. Bermudez, M.Ed.**

Mr. Pisarski welcomed Rich Bermudez to the Commission. Mr. Bermudez gave a brief history of his background. Mr. Bermudez is currently a teacher at Cumberland County College. Mr. Bermudez is excited about being on the Commission and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Patt Gale asked about Flavia Alaya's appointment to the Commission. Mr. Pisarski said her term expired and she was not reappointed by the Freeholder Board.

**Commission Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report**

Mr. Pisarski discussed the first quarter budget report. Ms. Lods asked how many regrant organizations were funded this year. Mr. Pisarski said \$95,000 was divided between 30 organizations. The Commission did not have General Operating Support for the history regrants this year so the money was pulled from the Cultural & Heritage line item.

Roy Kaneshiki asked Mr. Pisarski about East Point Artists Day. Mr. Pisarski said Nancy Mulick from Barn Studio of Art is interested in taking the lead on the event. The event is scheduled for September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Interdepartmental Request – Seniors’ Month Art Contest – Melissa Clifton**

Mr. Pisarski introduced Melissa Clifton from Cumberland County Office on Aging. Ms. Clifton is asking for funding from the Commission to help pay for the 2012 Older Americans Art Exhibit. The Art Exhibit has been held for the past 37 years at various locations throughout the county. In the past, the Office on Aging has received funding from the Cumberland County College and the Cumberland County Recreation Commission. Due to budget cuts, neither organization will be able to offer any funding. The Commission needed clarification on questions that they asked Ms. Clifton. This clarification includes the categories, amounts and selection process of prizes. The Commission tabled further action until Mr. Pisarski has had a chance to meet with Ms. Clifton.

**County on Canvas Artwork Inventory Presentation – Kim Gauntt**

The Commission received a list of County on Canvas paintings and where they are located throughout the County facilities in their packet. Mr. Pisarski said Gallery 50 will not be doing the County on Canvas contest this year. Mr. Pisarski suggested establishing an intern opportunity to inventory the collection of art held by the County. The County acquires the winning pieces each year from the County on Canvas contest, and this collection now includes dozens of pieces of art spread across several County facilities and offices. A motion was made to approve allocating \$500 for an intern to do an inventory of the art work by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gale and passed unanimously.

**Nominations Committee Recommendations**

The Nominations Committee presented its recommendations for 2012 officers. The recommendation was as follows:

- \*Roy Kaneshiki – Chair
- \*John Garrison – Vice Chair
- \*Ella Boykin – Treasurer
- \*Suzanne Merighi – Secretary

Mr. Pisarski noted that the election of officers had been delayed due to the unresolved appointment status of Flavia Alaya, which had recently been corrected by the appointment of Mr. Bermudez. A motion was made to approve the Nominations Committees recommendations contingent upon John Garrison’s agreement to serve as Vice-Chair by Ms. Watson. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gale and passed unanimously.

**History Regrant Guidelines Amendment**

The guidelines will be discussed in July.

**Port Norris Historical Society Regrant Funds Re-allocation Recommendation**

The Port Norris Historical Society contacted Ms. Gale to inform her that the Society had run into challenges and would not be able to conduct its grant-funded project. Mr. Pisarski stated that consequently the Society's award of \$750 would have to be reassigned. Ms. Lods suggested that if the West Jersey Time Travelers project needed additional funds the funding could be reassigned to that project. Mr. Pisarski suggested that if possible the funds should be reassigned to another history grantee and suggested the Mauricetown Historical Society in order to keep the funding in Commercial Township. In addition, Mr. Pisarski has received correspondence from Mauricetown Historical Society requesting additional funds to pursue State & National Register listing for the Edward Compton House. When consensus was reached to reassign the funds to the Mauricetown Historical Society Mr. Pisarski stated he would draft a resolution stating same for action in July.

**Agendas/Minutes on Commission Website**

Mr. Pisarski said the Cultural & Heritage agendas and minutes are on the website. Ms. Merighi asked if the minutes would still be emailed. Mr. Pisarski said they would continue to be emailed to the Commission.

**Liaison Reports**

Ms. Watson presented a copy of a photograph book regarding the Millville Army Air Field. Ms. Watson also indicated that the membership dues for Preservation NJ needed to be renewed.

Ms. Boykin attended Bay Day and indicated it was a good day.

Ms. Merighi said Landis Theater has a lot going on this summer and suggested those present to check out the Theater's website at [www.landistheater.com](http://www.landistheater.com). Ms. Merighi also stated the City of Vineland will be having their summer concert series.

Ms. Lods said Millville will be having activities all day on July 4<sup>th</sup> ending with fireworks.

**Other Old/New Business**

**Correspondence**

**Adjourn**

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.