

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

March 17, 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, March 17, 2009 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder Meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present:	Roy Kaneshiki	John Garrison
	Patricia Gale	Flavia Alaya
	Suzanne Merighi	Penny Watson
	Marianne Lods	Jean Jones ✓

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Kim McCann, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – January 20, 2009

A motion to approve the minutes from January 20, 2009 with corrections was made by Suzanne Merighi. The motion was seconded by Jean Jones and passed unanimously. Penny Watson and Flavia Alaya abstained.

New Members List & Change of Address

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of the updated contact information of the Commission Members for everyone's binders. Suzanne Merighi pointed out the expired terms of herself, Roy Kaneshiki and John Garrison were incorrect. The correction should be made to reflect November of 2013. Mr. Pisarski noted he would make the corrections and e-mail an updated version to everyone.

Newsletter RFQ

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of an RFQ for the newsletter to the Commission. He also provided a draft of the survey that will be mailed to all of the newsletter recipients. Mr. Pisarski noted if the Commission approves the RFQ, he can release it on March 18, 2009 with a due date for the quotes of April 10, 2009. The next Cultural and Heritage Meeting is on April 21, 2009 so both the RFQ and

the surveys would be back in time to make a decision at the next meeting. The proposal for the RFQ is written for two quotes from each vendor. The first quote would be for all the usual work as cited in section seven on page three and for the printing of one thousand copies of the newsletter per edition. (Option A). Option B would be doing all of the previous mentioned work with no printing of the newsletter, just submitting a PDF.

A motion to submit the RFQ for the newsletter and mailing of the survey was made by Flavia Alaya. The motion was seconded by Penny Watson and passed unanimously.

Commission Appointment

Mr. Pisarski noted the Freeholder Board has reviewed the recommendation of Jane Christy for the Commission. Given her recent departure from the Freeholder Board and the fact that this particular seat is the unexpired term of Beverly Hughes, the Freeholder Board has asked for some consideration on the diversity issue. Mr. Pisarski said he has worked with Freeholder Dunkins over the last month on candidates and they have decided on a candidate for consideration for this particular seat. The understanding is that the Commission would consider this new candidate for this particular seat and then should another seat opens up then Jane Christy would then be considered for that open seat.

Mr. Pisarski noted the candidate is Ella Boykin and provided the Commission with a copy of her Biography.

A motion to recommend Ella Boykin to the Commission was made by Patricia Gale. The motion was seconded by Flavia Alaya and passed unanimously.

Teen Arts & East Point Artists Day

Mr. Pisarski stated Mike Cagno, Amy Sullivan and Carol Nagao will be working as coordinators again for this year's Teen Arts Festival to be held on Friday, May 1, 2009.

Several schools have already signed up and several others have indicated an interest in participating including Bridgeton High School. Mr. Pisarski noted the school that will not be participating is Cumberland Regional High School, but they will be submitting art work. The reason given when Carol Nagao asked was they prefer the venue to be at the county college and are unhappy with it being in Millville and will not participate if it is being held in Millville. The only other issue this year is there is a conflict with the NJ Ask testing at the middle school level. Carol Nagao has spoken with some of the middle school teachers and the students will be submitting art work, but will not be able to participate the day of.

Mr. Pisarski mentioned East Point Artists Day and Liz Nicklus and Carole Ann Witt Mankin (Patt Witt's daughter) have indicated an interest in forming a committee to help with East Point Artists Day. They are aware that the Commission would like to move the venue to September and they agree and would like to form a sub-committee that would report to the Commission but would like to take the ball and run with it for East Point Artists Day. They will be working with the Maurice River Historical Society and Gail Robinson will be on that committee. One of the ideas Liz Nicklus had was for the artists to get together after the event and have some sort of covered dish supper or possibly something at the Bull on the Barn.

Fluff Festival/Millville Army Airfield Museum

Mr. Pisarski attended an initial meeting with Pearl Giordano. They want to have a community festival with a large cultural component. Ms. Giordano would like to have the marshmallow fluff that was created in Cumberland County and is still produced by Limpert Brothers highlighted in this festival. Mr. Pisarski suggested they work with the Millville Army Airfield Museum as a cultural non-profit to come up with specifics. The idea is that the Millville Army Airfield Museum will approach the Commission for some type of special request funding of up to \$1,000.00 since this was just planned. Mr. Pisarski stated we would wait for a letter from Lisa Jester and proceed from there.

Other Old/New Business

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of a letter from Sara Cureton of New Jersey Historical Commission to Doug Rainear. The Commission's funding was increased by \$2,040.00 for 2009. Mr. Pisarski noted the additional funding can be used in a number of different ways. We can increase the amount the Commission gives to the Regrantee's or the funds can be used within our operating budget for instance in the Four Centuries in a weekend with Salem County.

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of an e-mail from Mark Packer with a status of FY10 NJ Arts funding. Mr. Pisarski said it is not looking very good but Mr. Packer noted not to panic yet. Ms. Lods asked Mr. Pisarski to forward the e-mails onto the Commission members so they are more in the loop and ask Mr. Packer to include the members in future mailings.

Flavia Alaya asked Mr. Pisarski if there is an update on Salem County as far as shared services. Mr. Pisarski replied Salem has changed their liaisons to the joint group that would be more accessible. Mr. Pisarski has to coordinate with Marianne Lods to see if they can schedule a meeting. Mr. Pisarski noted he has met with Jim Turk monthly.

Mr. Pisarski mentioned he has two complimentary tickets for the upcoming Vineland Regional Dance Company Spring Recital being held on April 4, 2009. He asked if anyone was interested to please let him know.

Marianne Lods handed out flyers for The Plein Air Art Competition being held at the Millville's Glasstown Arts District June 13th and June 14th.

Flavia Alaya asked Mr. Pisarski about the liaison assignments. Mr. Pisarski replied that based on the conversations with the Freeholder Board and the Director regarding quality assurance and performance assurance related to what is reported in the final report to the Commission, one suggestion discussed was assigning liaisons to the different organizations to build personal relationships with the Commission and the Organizations and to also help insure the organizations are performing as indicated on their applications. Mr. Pisarski noted the Commission is trying it as a pilot program for this year and each Commission member is assigned three organizations which were distributed by lottery. Each organization has been contacted in their award letter that the Commission is trying this liaison project and indicating who their liaison will be.

Suzanne Merighi mentioned the upcoming Encore Awards. Mr. Pisarski noted the Encore Awards will be on May 6, 2009 and asked the Commission to start thinking of who they would like to nominate as the awardee.

Correspondence

Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Flavia Alaya. The motion was seconded by Penny Watson and unanimously carried.

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.