

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

October 22, 2013

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder conference room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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| Present: | Merle Silver | Ella Boykin |
| | Roy Kaneshiki | John Garrison |
| | Jean Jones | Suzanne Merighi |
| | Penny Watson | Freeholder Kirstein |

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2013

A motion was made to approve the minutes from September 24th. Jean Jones made a correction to the minutes, on page two under AASLH it should state a press release will be done. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by John Garrison. The motion was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

2014 Budget Subcommittee – Appointments

The 2014 budget subcommittee needs to be formed. The commission chair normally appoints the committee. The members that sat on the 2013 committee were Ms. Merighi, Ella Boykin and Penny Watson. Ms. Boykin asked for volunteers to serve on the committee, Ms. Silver, Mr. Garrison and Mr. Kaneshiki agreed to serve.

2013 Budget – 3rd Quarter Review

Mr. Pisarski went over the 3rd quarter budget. Artist Day came in under budget, Mr. Pisarski said he thinks the budget subcommittee added more money for 2013 Artist Day. The State Council has \$4,500 remaining funds and the budget line item has \$5,000. The budget closes in November so funds will have to be encumbered for end of year expenses.

Disability Awareness Day – Saturday, October 26, 2013

Disability Awareness Day will be October 26th at Cumberland County College. Mr. Pisarski will be speaking. Ms. Merighi asked if Commission members should attend, and Mr. Pisarski responded that members are encouraged to attend.

George W. Arbuckel House Site Visit by SHPO – 10/29/13

Raymond Sotnychuk and his family are the current owners of the Arbuckel House in Vineland. Mr. Sotnychuk attended a previous Cultural & Heritage meeting asking for assistance on grant funding to maintain and rehab the house. Mr. Pisarski suggested he contact the Barn Studio of Art because they did a similar project and for him to approach the State Historic Preservation Office. The Arbuckel House is not on the state/national historic register, but the house is on the county register. Mr. Sotnychuk contacted the Barn Studio and filled out the proper paper work for the state register. The State Historic Preservation Office will be coming down to do a site

visit. Mr. Pisarski will contact the Daily Journal to try and get some press on the house. The only other buildings on the national register in Vineland are the Landis School and Landis Theater. Mr. Pisarski will check with the owners to see if commission members can attend the site visit.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Silver received an email from the Boys & Girls Club. They have a new fine arts teacher and Mr. Volker apologized for the presentation that Juan Rodriguez gave at a previous meeting. Mr. Volker also stated the Boys & Girls Club will not be working with Mr. Rodriguez. Ms. Silver attended the Harvest Festival, she said it was well attended.

Mr. Garrison saw two films from the Foreign Film Festival held by the Jewish Federation. He said the films were great but attendance could have been better. Mr. Garrison will contact Mr. Schimmel regarding the displays for the history grant project.

Ms. Merighi attended the John Wernega opening at Gallery 50. Ms. Merighi said she had a problem opening her minutes, she asked if anyone else had an issue.

Mr. Kaneshiki said Freeholder Kirstein went to the Colonial service at the Fairfield Presbyterian Church.

Tourism Advisory Council Comments – Kimberly Gauntt

Not in attendance.

Other Old/New Business

Ms. Watson said Greenwich Planning Board received two applications for construction of a cell tower. The first application is for a spec tower from a private property owner and the second one is from Verizon to be put on school property. The planning board turned down the private owner and it was unanimous to approve the Verizon tower. The Verizon tower is 600 feet out of the historic district but is visible from the district. The application is currently at the State Historic Preservation Office for review. Verizon will give the township \$20,000 a year with \$10,000 going to restoration of the historic school. If Verizon does not use the tower within six months they will have to remove it. The township is asking for a letter of support for the construction of the Verizon tower. A motion was made to approve writing a letter of support for the Verizon tower by Mr. Kaneshiki. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jones and passed unanimously.

Mr. Pisarski said Friday was the due date for the regrant applications and a few extensions were given out. 29 regrant applications were received and of those 3 were new, Millville Historical Society, Nanticoke Lenni Lenape (being worked on) and Bridgeton School District specializing in art education. The grants review panel will meet the week of the 18th at Cumberland County College.

Juan Rodriguez submitted another letter to Kim Wood asking for \$1,000. The county may provide funding for his project separate from the Commission. Any further funding would need to come through the formal re-grant application process. Mr. Rodriguez submitted an OPRA request wanting to know how much funding Hispanic organizations received and whether there are any Hispanic members on the Commission or grants review panel. The Commission has had several Hispanic Commission members but has had difficulty in consistent attendance at

meetings. Mr. Pisarski is working with several individuals trying to find an appropriate Hispanic commission member. If anyone has any suggestions for a Hispanic commission member or grants review panelist please let Mr. Pisarski know.

Ms. Boykin asked when the bylaws will be addressed again. Mr. Pisarski said Nancy Moses and Rachel Dukeman will be presenting an update of the bylaws for the next meeting.

Mr. Kaneshiki inquired about the Landis Theater, Mr. Pisarski said he has not heard anything and they did not submit a regrant.

With the federal government shut down there is no new information on the Dallas Landing project.

Correspondence

An article ran in the Atlantic City Press regarding the West Jersey Time Traveler project. Thomas Barlas wrote the article and he is very interested in any updates to the project.

Ms. Watson said the City of Bridgeton is doing an audio podcast for the Bridge Keepers Building. The city would also like to do one for the Ferracute Building.

Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Merighi. 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, November 26, 2013 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.