

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**April 11, 2006
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, April 11, 2006 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Present: Marianne Lods
Roy Kaneshiki
Penny Watson

Suzanne Merighi
Jean Jones

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Kris Lemmonds, Project Assistant
Freeholder Director Douglas Rainear

Special Guests: Carol Smith of Presige Publications
Robert Trivellini and Steve Burke of
the Millville School District

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from March 14, 2006 was made by Marianne Lods. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Merighi. Roy Kaneshiki and Penny Watson abstained.

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2006 special meeting was made by Marianne Lods. The motion was seconded by Jean Jones and passed unanimously.

Accion Social Puertorriquena, Inc. special request

Mr. Pisarski received a letter from Margaret Custodio requesting assistance with funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 for their 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance.

Ms. Custodio could not appear before the Commission to provide background regarding the organization.

The Commission members would like to have more information before making a decision on the request. Marianne Lods made a motion to table the decision to grant the \$1,000.00 special request from the Accion Social Puertorriquena, Inc.

until the May meeting. Suzanne Merighi seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Prestige Publications, Inc.

Prestige Publications, Inc. was awarded the 2006 Cultural and Heritage Newsletter Contract. Carol Smith of Prestige Publications came before the Commission to get more information and for story suggestions.

The due date for the next newsletter will be pushed back to May 22.

Mr. Pisarski suggested that the first issue should have an article on the Encore Awards and John Fuyume.

Mr. Pisarski emphasized again that some of the concerns from the past for the Commission are that the photographs need to match the articles, that deadlines are met and that the facts are correct.

1,000 copies of the newsletter would be folded and sealed for mailing and the remainder will be distributed.

Freeholder Douglas M. Rainear suggested that the More to Offer marketing logo be placed on the newsletter.

Request from the Millville School District

Mr. Bob Trivellini and Mr. Steve Burke from the Millville School District came before the Commission with a special request to assist in funding the Multi-Cultural Festival week activities. It is the second year that Millville Schools has had a multi-cultural week. This year it is being expanded.

The general idea behind the multi-cultural week is to have three days of activities during the school week that focus on the cultural diversity of the county.

This year there will be a Friday night event. The Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts has agreed to host the Friday night as part of the multi-cultural week.

The Millville Schools are coming to the Commission to request their support in promoting the event and also a financial request.

Jean Jones read the letter from Mr. Trivellini into the record:

The Millville County schools are partnering with the Glasstown Arts District and the Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts in presenting a Multi-Cultural week for students in Millville and descending districts of Commercial Township, Maurice River Township, Lawrence Township and Woodbine from May 2-5,

2006. Additionally, we will be hosting a special evening of performing arts on the Glasstown Plaza on Friday, May 5, 2006 from 6-10 pm.

This is the second year that multi-culturalism and the arts is being explored and discovered by the school children during the week of special events. All fifth graders along with students from other grades will be viewing various art exhibitions at galleries in the Arts District.

By expanding the program this year we would ask for your support in financial assistance to include the entire community for the May 5th evening event. If the Cultural and Heritage Commission will consider funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 we would be very grateful.

We look forward to expand this program in future years and want to promote the County's Cultural Plan by being an active part of it.

Thank for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Steven Burke

Mr. Burke thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present the proposal and to invite everyone to the Friday night event.

Mr. Burke envisions this program expanding into a County wide program. Mr. Pisarski stated that potentially a County wide cultural event is part of the Cultural Plan Implementation and this event could easily be incorporated to be part of that.

Jean Jones stated that this type of activity benefits the students and the Arts District and the type of project the Commission wants to be involved in doing. Mr. Pisarski added that this year the request has to be made by Special Request but next year it can be incorporated into the budget.

A motion to approve the Special Request of \$1,000.00 by the Millville School District for the Friday night event was made by Penny Watson. Roy Kaneshiki seconded the motion and passed unanimously. Marianne Lods abstained from the vote.

Resolution Establishing an ADA Advisory Subcommittee

Mr. Pisarski introduced resolution # 2006-03, for the Establishment of an ADA Advisory Subcommittee.

Resolution #2006-03 - Resolution of the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission
For the Establishment of an ADA Advisory Subcommittee

The Resolution states that the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission hereby establishes an ADA Advisory Subcommittee comprised of three members of the Cumberland County Disabled Advisory Council to be determined by the Council along with a liaison from the Cultural & Heritage Commission to be determined by the Commission.

This subcommittee will have as its charge to review and comment on any and all components of the Commission's work which relates to disabled persons and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The subcommittee may meet as needed to fulfill its charge and any administrative components of the subcommittee are to be handled by the Coordinator of the Commission. Patricia Gale has offered to be the liaison for the Commission and that offer was accepted.

**CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND**

RESOLUTION 2006-03

DATE: April 11, 2006

| MEMBER | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT | MOVED | SECOND |
|------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| GALE | | | | X | | |
| JONES | X | | | | | |
| KANESHIKI | X | | | | | |
| LODS | X | | | | | X |
| MARTINEZ | X | | | | | |
| MERIGHI | | | | | X | |
| POLHAMUS | | | | X | | |
| WATSON | X | | | | | |

Resolution establishing an ADA Advisory Subcommittee comprised of three members of the Cumberland County Disabled Advisory Council to be determined by the Council along with the liaison from the Cultural & Heritage Commission to be determined by the Commission.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Cultural and Heritage Commission held at the Cumberland County Freeholder Board Room, 790 E. Commerce Street, Bridgeton, New Jersey on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 3:30 pm.

DATED: April 11, 2006

Updates on Cultural Plan Implementation Team Activities

Team 1 – Cultural Institutions, Programs & Events

No report

Team 2 – Infrastructure and Visitor Amenities

No report

Team 3 – Marketing & Outreach

No report

Team 4 – Partnership

No report

Team 5 – Resources & Fundraising

Suzanne Merighi reported that the funding committee met for the second time. A county tax or possibly funds from the Open Space tax are two possible sources of funding is being explored.

Two ideas came out of this meeting. One is to have a field trip to another county in New Jersey that has implemented a tax funding source.

The other idea was to approach Steve Wymbs at the Cumberland County Improvement Authority for funding assistance.

Team 6 – Board Growth & Participation

No report

Recap of the NJSCA Meeting at Wheaton Village

NJSCA held their regular monthly meeting at Wheaton Village on April 4, 2006. The Commission co-sponsored with Wheaton Village to fund the lunch.

Wheaton Village received very good feedback from the NJSCA and many of the board members remained after lunch to take part in the paperweight making session.

Programming for Success Workshop Series

Mr. Pisarski announced that the Programming for Success Workshop Series is now live on the Commission's website. All of the workshops with their descriptions are posted on the website with online registration.

April 19 – Long Range Planning Workshop with Nancy Moses

May 17 – Disability Awareness/Sensitivity Training Workshop by John McEwen, NJ Arts Access Task Force and Dave Grennon, Cumberland County Office for the Disabled

June 21 – The Art of Making Connections by Marian V. Marchese

August 16 - Grant Writing Workshop by Pat Bohse

Old Business

Long Range Plan

Mr. Pisarski informed the Commission that Gordan Dahl is having difficulty finding funding because the plan is specifically related to a single organization.

Mr. Pisarski spoke with Susan Gogan about a Long Range Plan for Wheaton Village. Ms. Gogan would like to establish focus groups which are a part of Nancy Moses' Long Range Plan proposal.

Ms. Gogan expressed a desire to possibly collaborate with the Commission. The Strategic Planning Committee for Wheaton Village will be meeting later in the week to discuss collaborating with the Commission. Mr. Pisarski feels that if Wheaton Village were to collaborate with the Commission it could potentially be easier for Mr. Dahl to obtain funding.

Marianne Lods also informed the Commission that the Arts District is beginning to work on their Strategic Plan. Ms. Lods expressed an interest in collaborating with Wheaton Village and the Commission.

Mr. Pisarski will provide an update at the next meeting as to how to proceed if all parties are in agreement to collaborate.

Adjournment

There being no further business Suzanne Merighi made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2006 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.