

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

December 12, 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, November 14, 2006 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

**Present:** Penny Watson Patricia Gale  
Jean Jones Suzanne Merighi  
Roy Kaneshiki

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner  
Kim McCann, Recording Secretary  
Freeholder Douglas Rainear  
Freeholder Jane Christy

## Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from November 14, 2006 with the correction of the April 2007 meeting date from April 17<sup>th</sup> to April 10<sup>th</sup> was made by Roy Kaneshiki. The motion was seconded by Penny Watson and passed unanimously.

## Resolution #2006-05 Re-Allocation of the 2006 Re-grant Award

Mr. Pisarski stated that an informal motion was made at last months meeting to re-allocate the funds from the Vineland Community Art Alliance. Mr. Pisarski is presenting a formal resolution to go the Freeholders stating that the Vineland Community Art Alliance is dissolving and they are not submitting their final report and therefore the \$750.00 final payment needs to be re-allocated to an organization of the Commission's recommendation.

A motion to re-allocate funds was made by Suzanne Merighi. The motion was seconded by Penny Watson and it was unanimously carried.

## **Election of Officers**

Suzanne Merighi noted that the election committee met last week to make recommendations for the officers for 2007. The recommendations were:

**Pat Gale - Chairperson**  
**Penny Watson - Vice-Chairperson**  
**Marianne Lods - Treasurer**  
**Roy Kaneshiki - Secretary**

Mr. Pisarski mentioned that in other organizations, they rotate their officers on an annual basis. Mr. Pisarski felt that by rotating officers everyone could serve in some capacity. Jean Jones suggested making an informal policy to rotate officers every calendar year.

A motion to adopt the slate of the 2007 officers was made by Suzanne Merighi and seconded by Jean Jones and unanimously carried.

## **Cumberland County Multicultural Education Center Discussion**

Mr. Pisarski provided a copy of meeting notes from the October 24, 2006 Diversity Committee, of which he is a participant. Approximately one year ago, members of the Jewish community approached the college about forming a Holocaust Studies Center at the college. The Holocaust Studies Center would be a distinct building on the college campus. Dr. Ender formed a committee comprised of a variety of people including members of the Jewish Community to look into the feasibility of a Holocaust Studies Center. Several members felt it needed to be more expansive than just Holocaust related with the result that there are now two separate sub-committees at the college. One is looking at specific Holocaust studies and the other is looking at what is being termed a multi-cultural at the college.

*A Center*

The Multi-Cultural/Diversity Committee met last week to discuss the name of the center, its mission and who should be involved. The college would like to have an academic center to study ethnic and cultural diversity as well as other types of diversity within Cumberland County. The Multi-Cultural Committee would like a distinct building that could have exhibits throughout the calendar year and possibly an annual multi-cultural event with food, music and performances. Mr. Pisarski recommended that the multi-cultural committee view the county cultural plan, which addresses many of these issues. Mr. Pisarski informed the multi-cultural committee that he would forward electronic copies of the county cultural plan and a list of members of the implementation teams. Mr. Pisarski was providing this information to the Commission for informational purposes only, and no action by the Commission was requested.

## **Request for Proposals**

Mr. Pisarski made note that based on the budget for 2007, there would be three editions instead of four for the newsletter. The Commission questions if it was possible to do a multi-year contract instead of re-visiting every 12 months. The only issue with doing a multi-year contract is that the entire contract cannot exceed \$17,500.00 per the county purchasing department; the contract for this past year was \$9,200.00. Mr. Pisarski mentioned that negotiating is difficult because of the proposal standards for the county, but we could potentially put a cap and an all-inclusive lump sum.

Jean Jones asked Mr. Pisarski if a proposal for one year with an option for a renewal for the second year at the same price could be done. Mr. Pisarski said that it is a possibility and that he would have to check with the purchasing department to see if it could be done. The only difference in the RFP is with there only being three issues instead of four, there would be a Spring/Summer issue, Summer/Fall issue and Fall/Winter issue. The RFP'S will be forwarded to Toffanelli & Associates, Wolfe Design, Wyble & Associates and Carol Smith.

## **Adjournment**

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.