

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION
MINUTES
July 14, 1998
3:30 P.M.
CUMBERLAND COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Present:

Jean Jones Joseph Polhamus
Austin Gould Penny Watson
Freeholder Chuck Griffiths

Kim Wood, Director
Nancy Cannone, Acting Secretary

The meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission was called to order on Tuesday, July 14, 1998, at 3:30 p.m., in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building, by Chairperson Penny Watson

As there were not sufficient members in attendance to form a quorum, no official actions were taken. However, the following was reported:

REPORTS:

The meeting was turned over to Director Wood who reported on the following:

OLD BUSINESS:

CHILDREN'S BOOK: Chairman Penny Watson reported that she had received a draft of the "Children's Book" and that she and three members of the Historical Society reviewed it individually, and then met for one full day to put together their comments on one copy. They then had to meet for another day and still have not finished the process. Mrs. Watson suggested that perhaps she, Kim Wood, and several people from the Historical Society should meet with Ms. Bruno to discuss possible changes. Those on who have read the draft were disappointed in the style, it was hoped that the book would be written in story form that would interest young readers. Mrs. Wood expressed concern in the credits at the front of the book. There should be credit given to the Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as they financed the project. Mr. Griffiths stated that it was possible to call the author to task on factual evidence, but the style problem may be unsolveable. Mrs. Wood asked the Commission members to review the draft and note any corrections they see, and give them to Penny for the Historical Society to add to their comments.

ANNUAL DINNER: Director Wood expressed disappointment with both the room and food given to the Commission for the Annual Dinner. The Ramada was made aware of this and have promised this will be corrected in the future.

ARTISTS DIRECTORY: Mrs. Wood is actively working on updating this Directory. She again asked members to submit any additional names not currently listed.

EAST POINT: Saturday, August 1st is set for the program at East Point. Mrs. Watson reported that restoration of the lighthouse is not scheduled to be completed until September 14th so there will be scaffolding surrounding the building. The tower will be up but no one will be allowed in the building. Therefore there will be no tours of the lighthouse. However, Mrs. Watson pointed out that this will be an opportunity to discuss the restoration. Someone for Watson & Henry and from the contractors office will be there to talk about the project. It will be possible to use the steps of the light house for the 250th ceremony at 11:00 a.m.. The workshops, artists, animals from the Zoo, etc., will go on as planned.

Mr. Polhamus mentioned that several years back the Vineland Kiwanis Club sponsored a project to purchase light house direction signs, made by Garden State Highway Products in Millville. These signs had the light house logo, plus arrows directing people to the light house. Mr. Polhamus believes Garden State still has the silk screen and he suggested that perhaps we may want to have made up additional signs to replace those that are missing or damaged. Freeholder Griffiths suggested Kim talk to Jay Clark about these signs.

TOWN MEETING: Director Wood reported that a Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th., from 7:00 p.m., to 9:00 p.m., at Wheaton Village in the Museum of American Glass. The Speaker will be Eduardo Garcia. Mrs. Wood stated the need to put together a "Long Range Plan Committee" to review the Commissions long range plan and to give Eduardo a direction. Penny Watson, Mel Brody, and Suzanne Merighi along with Director Wood were selected to form this Committee. The Committee will review the old Plan to see what direction the Commission wishes to go in the future and give it to Mr. Garcia. The Director reported that in reviewing the current Long Range Plan, she was pleased to see that most of the goals have been accomplished.

ADA RESOURCE GUIDE: Director Wood is currently compiling the information for this guide so that it can be given out to the Arts organizations that the Commission gives Grants to give them a resource should they need any of these services. Chairman Watson gave Mrs. Wood a copy of material she had received from the New York Council on the Arts which listed organizations that fund ADA. Dick Boston from the County Library will print the material when it is completed.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH:

- A. Buried in New Jersey The Arts and Humanities Council for the State of New Jersey is sponsoring a program during the month of October called "Buried in New Jersey." These are cemetery tours of old cemetery's in the State. Director Wood contacted Sally Watson to see if the Historic Society would be interested in doing something like that locally, especially since no Counties in the southern part of the State are doing anything. Mrs. Watson was interested and provided enough information so that the Director could put together an application. There will be \$500. in Grant money that the Historical Society can use to help defray expenses to put this tour on. One stipulation is that the tour be held on October 30th or 31st., and the other is that the tour be free. This will probably be an all-day tour and it would be nice to stop at Potters Tavern or someplace and have a box lunch for the participants of the tour. If there is not enough money to cover bus expenses and a box lunch from the \$500, Director Wood asked if there was any money in the Commission's portion of the County budget to help out? Freeholder Griffiths felt sure that the money could be found.
- B. Children's Opera Director Wood reported that she has tentatively scheduled a FREE performance of "Little Red Riding Hood" by "Opera On the Go" a children's opera company, for Saturday, October 3rd, 1:00 p.m., at the Performing Arts Center at the County College. It was pointed out that this was the same day as Maurice River Township's Bicentennial Celebration. Mrs. Wood will try to rework that date.

MULTI-CULTURAL GRANT TO THE CITY OF VINELAND: The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has approved for the City of Vineland a \$20,000 Grant for multi-cultural programming with the understanding that they create a community cultural plan. The County College will present \$20,000 worth of cultural programming between the Performing Arts Center, and the Landis Middle School so that the inner-city children can get to the school if they don't have transportation they can walk. The trade-off is that the City has to come up with a multi-cultural plan with the assistance of this Commission. Mrs. Wood has sent the City a letter requesting that they keep this Commission up to date as to what they are doing. The Director believes that this could be a model plan that could be used throughout the County so that all municipalities recognize each of the uniqueness of their ethnic make-up.

CCC&HC BUDGET: In the past Commission members have asked to see a printout of the Commission's budget. Mrs. Wood passed out a copy of the Commission's 1998 budget to the members so they could see the breakdown of the moneys.

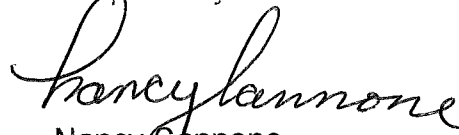
NEW BUSINESS:

STATE ARTS COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING: At the Annual Meeting of the State Arts Council which will be held on Tuesday, July 28th, the Commission will find out how much money we will receive for 1999. It will be held at New Jersey Network. If anyone is interested in attending, contact Mrs. Wood.

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC AGENCIES BROCHURE: The State Historic Association for Cultural & Historic Agencies is preparing a brochure as a resource and will list all the cultural agencies around the state. It will only give the minimum information, but at least it will be a listing.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Nancy Cannone
Acting Secretary