

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

September 21, 2010

Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, NJ 08302

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at 3:30 PM., in the Freeholder Meeting room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2010

A motion was made to approve the minutes from August 17, 2010. Jean Jones made a correction to change the next meeting date to read September 21, 2010. Flavia Alaya would like the minutes to state that she said “that the RiverFest group suggested that next year the RiverFest should be coordinated by a single individual to organize events”. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Patricia Gale. The motion was seconded by Ella Boykin and passed unanimously.

Budget Amendments

Matt Pisarski informed the commission that an extra \$10,000 was put in the commission line item. The freeholders added the extra funds because of budget cuts from the state and the great work the Cultural and Heritage Commission does. Mr. Pisarski said the money needs to be used by the end of 2010. Food for the grants review panel and the ADA workshop will be purchased from these funds. Mr. Pisarski said around \$10,000 will be available to spend on something that is not budgeted. Some suggestions were to give out monies to regrantees, have an event or hold on to it for special requests. Penny Watson suggested we share the funds. Marianne Lods asked about the letter from the City of Bridgeton. Mr. Pisarski said they already received the funds they just want to reallocate the money for something else. John Garrison asked Mr. Pisarski if he had any suggestions. Ms. Lods asked if money could be used for Teen Arts. Mr. Pisarski said the commission should get another \$10,000 next year that could be used for Teen Arts. Mr. Pisarski said the County Library is having a reception for their public art work. He suggested helping the library cover the cost of this event. Patricia Gale asked if the

money could go to the West Jersey Time Travelers Project. Mr. Pisarski said that because it is a 2011 event it could not. Ms. Watson asked if re-grantees have projects coming up. Ms. Lods asked for Mr. Pisarski to read the list of re-grantee names. Mr. Pisarski read the names and the amount they received this year. Suzanne Merighi asked if there was anything in the Cultural and Heritage five year plan that has not been completed. After considerable further discussion it was decided to tentatively allocate \$3,000 to update the artists' directory and offer the remaining \$7,000 as supplemental funding to the re-grantees. Mr. Pisarski will send out a letter to re-grantees and let them know extra funds are available. The re-grantees will have to submit a letter stating what they would use the extra funds on. Ms. Alaya asked if the money could be used for special requests. Ms. Gale said she did not think it would be fair to the re-grantees to give money for special projects for organizations that do not do the grant writing work. Ms. Lods asked about setting an amount on what would be given out. It was decided to limit supplemental requests to \$1,000 each. Mr. Pisarski said by next meeting he will have letters from the re-grantees, and the commission can make awards at that meeting.

East Point Artists' Day Recap

Mr. Pisarski said the day went well. The tents were new and worked out better than the old ones. Beverly Hughes enjoyed being at the Maurice River Botanical Gardens. Mr. Pisarski would like to get Ms. Hughes back for next year. Thompson's Beach did not work well – hardly anyone visited the site. It was suggested for next year to do a walk at Matts Landing to see the eagles and other wild life.

Grant Writing Workshop Recap

Mr. Pisarski wanted the commission to know that Kathleen Cavanaugh did a great job. Over 40 people attended. Ms. Merighi asked why so many people showed for the workshop. Mr. Pisarski said that there is a large need for grant funds.

NJ Council for the Humanities Grant – West Jersey Time Traveler Project

The commission was provided a list of historic sites in their packet. Mr. Pisarski said the list needed to be prioritized. Keith Wasserman is getting proposals to do the audio podcast component. Roy Kaneshiki said that the commission needs to remember this could also include Salem County. The suggestion would be for the podcast to last no longer than four or five minutes. Ms. Alaya would like Mr. Pisarski to send everyone an email regarding the sites for West Jersey Time Travelers. Ella Boykin said Bethel A.M.E. Church in Springtown is one of the documented sites for the Underground Railroad and should be included. Mr. Pisarski asked if there were any other documented sites in Cumberland County. Ms. Boykin said there are some in Salem County but not in Cumberland.

Disability Awareness Day – October 23, 2010

The commission has a booth and Mr. Pisarski will give a speech. Mr. Kaneshiki asked what time Disability Awareness Day was scheduled to be held. Mr. Pisarski will email him the information.

City of Bridgeton Letter

Mr. Pisarski would like a motion to approve the reallocation of funds based on the submitted request. Ms. Gale asked what are the commission's obligations is to the State for the change. Mr. Pisarski said we are permitted to reallocate the funds. A motion was made to approve the reallocation of funds by Jean Jones. Ms. Alaya briefly discussed the variety of projects contained in the Holiday House Tour and asked that Mr. Pisarski request from Ms. Hemple specific items for which the funds would be reallocated. The motion was seconded by Patricia Gale and passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

John Garrison said he was impressed with the Jewish Film Festival. Mr. Pisarski said the film festival was well attended.

Other Old/New Business

Correspondence

Mr. Pisarski said there is a variety of newspaper articles. Seabrook Education had a visit from Ambassador Nishimiya.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.