CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

April 19, 2011

Freeholder meeting room in Bridgeton, NJ 08302

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 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
          Flavia Alaya   Freeholder Fiocchi

          Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
          Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – March 15, 2011
A motion was made to approve the minutes from March 15, 2011 by Flavia Alaya. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Merighi and passed unanimously, with the following correction. On page 3 regarding the “Colors of Hope”, Ms. Merighi noted that not enough appropriate art was received from Cumberland County artists.

Special Request – Friends of India Society
Yogesh Thakur turned in the budget for the events that the Friends of India Society is asking to be funded. They became a nonprofit in 2006. Ms. Alaya asked if they have to submit paper work showing they are a nonprofit. Mr. Pisarski said they will have to provide paper work showing their nonprofit status. Marianne Lods asked how much funding Friends of India Society asked for and where funding would come from. Mr. Pisarski said they will take any amount given to them and funding would come from the special request line item. Ms. Alaya inquired if some items can be excluded from the funding. Mr. Pisarski said the Commission could suggest they use funding for music and printing. When the event is over Mr. Pisarski will ask for a report showing how funding was utilized. A motion was made to give $500 to Friends of India Society for printing cost by Ms. Merighi. The motion was seconded by Jean Jones and passed unanimously. Mr. Kaneshiki asked if there were restrictions on printing. Mr. Pisarski said the letter will state the funding is to offset printing cost for the events in Cumberland County.

Library Memo to Board of Chosen Freeholders
Mr. Pisarski drafted a memo to be given to the freeholders. Mr. Pisarski asked if the Commission had any edits. The Commission said it was a well written memo. A motion was
made to approve the memo by Ms. Alaya. The motion was seconded by Pat Gale and passed unanimously.

**Colors of Hope Final 20 Selected Images**
The final 20 pieces of art have been selected. They will be on display at the Cancer Center at South Jersey Healthcare. Ms. Merighi said it was a group decision regarding the art that was chosen. Penny Watson asked how many artists were from Cumberland County. Mr. Pisarski said half are from Cumberland County. There will be an opening reception in late May. Mr. Pisarski played a slide show of the art pieces that were selected.

**Encore Awards – Thursday, May 19, 2011, 5:30 – 9:30pm – Bally’s AC**
Austin Gould was selected to receive the Encore Award. The Cultural and Heritage May newsletter will feature Mr. Gould and the award. Mr. Pisarski sent out invitations to Commission members.

**Liaison Reports**
Ms. Merighi attended a meeting of the Landis Theater group. She was impressed with the caliber of volunteers and their dedication. They will be having a performance of the Wizard of Oz the first week in May.

**Other Old/New Business**
Mr. Pisarski asked the Commission if they wanted to have the minutes and agenda put on the Cultural and Heritage website. The Commission agreed it was a good idea.

**Correspondence**
The Commission received a copy of the letter sent to Ms. Alaya regarding the comments from New Sweden Colonial Farmstead Museum’s grant application.

The Commission was given a copy of an article that was in the paper regarding New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

**Adjourn**
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Lods. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gale and passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.