CUMBERLAND COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE
COMMISSION MINUTES

July 12, 2005
3:30 pm

Freeholder Board Room in Bridgeton, NJ  08302

The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 3:30 PM., at the Freeholder Board Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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

Freeholder Director Douglas Rainer
Matthew Pisarski, Senior Planner
Kris Lemmonds, Project Assistant

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2005 was made by Penny Watson. The motion was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.

Cultural County Cultural Plan

A copy of the final draft of the Cultural Plan was sent out to Commission members, Freeholder Board members and all those that attended the bus trip to Chester County. Numerous comments were received and a conference call was conducted between Matt Pisarski, Nancy Moses and Tom Reiner. Some of the comments made were:

Sally Vandewater, the new folk life coordinator for the Bayshore Discovery Project, submitted comments that she would like more references to the Bayshore Discovery Project.

Beverly Hughes, suggested that specific reference be made to the oyster and clam business. The Lenni Lenape be given more discussion particularly in
the beginning of the document. As a new cultural offering she would love to see local libraries specifically mentioned. In particular, she would like to see the Millville library provide exhibit space and programming.

Mike Cagno recommended that although all the municipalities use art to stimulate their economy, he would like to see some diversification and not an exact replica of Millville’s programming.

An American Classical Festival is included in the Cultural Plan geared specifically towards the Bay Atlantic Symphony. Mike wanted the classical festival be expanded to include other types of music.

Another recommendation was an open house for farms to promote agri-tourism in the county. The Commission, the CADB and tourism advisory board could work together to promote agri-tourism.

Pat Gale, despite expanding Route 55 while it could be difficult but it should be kept in the plan as a goal.

Megan Wren is concerned about the expansion of Route 55 and its impact on the natural areas of the County.

Jane Christy would like the inclusion of train rail service in the plan. She would like specific mention of nurseries within the agriculture community. As to the issue regarding insects, the Cumberland County College entomology program and course work should be mentioned.

By the end of the month, Nancy Moses will be providing a final version of the report, bound and ready for distribution to the Commission, Board of Freeholders, Gordon Dahl. She would like to have an implementation workshop. Ms. Moses suggested the workshop could occur in September. She suggested having a plenary session that comprehensively reviews the report. She suggests selecting these teams chairs prior to the workshop.

**Grant Writing Workshop – 7/20/05**

Pat Bohse, of Bohse and Associates, will be conducting the Grant Writing Workshop again this year. It will be held at the Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts on July 20, 2005 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
The grant applications, budget forms and guidelines are being revised and will be available on the Cultural and Heritage website to be downloaded.

The following are the persons who will make up the Grants Review Board: Michael Cagno, Greg Hambleton, Steve Kehs, Sally Vandewater, Greg Coin.

**East Point Artists Day – 8/06/05**

This year we have 10 artists. We have Bobbi Berg, Sandra Smith, Vernan McClain, Pat Moore, Maryann Connan, Doris Botts, Margaret Ricci, June Rocco, Deb Spinelli and Leslie Ficaglia. Tricia Dufford and Louisa Sharp Oliver will be doing the Paint the Lighthouse this year.

The Turtle Singer from 10:00 – Noon, is providing the music in the morning. Steve Byrne and The Snake Brothers are providing the music for the remainder of the day from the Noon – 4:00 pm.

**Teen Arts Coordinator Meeting Report**

Matt Pisarski and Kris Lemmonds attended the coordinators meeting in Lambertville. Cumberland County along with Warren County do not charge schools to attend their Teen Arts Festivals. All other counties in attendance charge and were surprised to find that Cumberland County along with Warren County did not charge schools to attend.

Some of the schools from counties pay from $150.00 - $9,000.00 to participate in their Teen Arts Festivals. The following is a list of some of the other fees that are charged:

- Somerset County - $300.00
- Mercer County - $350.00 – Middle School
- Mercer County - $500.00 – High School
- Hunterdon County - $3.50 per student and could range from $120.00 - $9,000.00 depending on the number of students enrolled at the beginning of the school year – whether they attend the festival or not.
- Burlington County - $300.00
- Middlesex County - $375.00 – Middle School
- Middlesex County - $475.00 – High School
- Ocean County - $150.00 per school
While we were at the meeting, we also picked up art that had not been picked up from 2004. The art was brought back and was returned to Cumberland Regional and Millville Senior High with letters of apology.

**Old/New Business**

Matt Pisarki passed around a clay figurine that will be made for the Cultural and Heritage Commission kids craft table at Eagle Fest. Miss Jacqueline Sandro of the Clay College has agreed to assist with the Cultural and Heritage Commission kids’ craft table this year. She will be paid $150.00 for the purchase of the clay needed to do the project.

Mr. Pisarski has spoken with Cindy Mills from ARCH 2 and there are a few critical organizations that have not submitted surveys. The survey has been mailed and faxed to these organizations multiple times. If the surveys are not returned within two weeks, Mr. Pisarski and Ms. Mills will complete the work on the survey without them.

Michael Tofanelli attended the meeting and addressed a few issues regarding the last quarterly newsletter. The policy for the additions to the calendar was discussed since Marianne Lods inquired to have dates added and was told that the calendar was full. A picture that was not of East Point accompanied a story in the newsletter.

The NJ State Council on the Arts will be making their grant award announcements on July 26, 2005 at the War Memorial from 10:00 to Noon. Mr. Pisarski, Kris Lemmonds and Michael Cagno will be attending the meeting.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Suzanne Merighi. It was seconded by Roy Kaneshiki and passed unanimously.