The regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission was held on
Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 3:30 PM., in the upstairs conference room in Bridgeton, New
Jersey.

Present:   Penny Watson       Suzanne Merighi
           John Garrison        Roy Kaneshiki
           Marianne Lods        Patt Gale
           Jean Jones

Matthew Pisarski, Principal Planner
Jennifer Morgan, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2011
A motion was made to approve the minutes from October 18, 2011 by Suzanne Merighi. The
motion was seconded by Penny Watson and passed unanimously. Marianne Lods abstained.

Building History Participation Project – Culminating Session 11/30/11
The four organizations that participated in the Building History Project were Mauricetown
Historical Society, Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center, Millville Army Air Field Museum
and New Sweden. Matt Pisarski sent an email out to Commission members with the reports
from the three consultants. The consultants all agreed that all four organizations have
collections or missions that are unique. But the organizations have fundamental challenges with
their governance. The consultants feel some organizations’ missions are too broad or their
bylaws have to be redone. Mr. Pisarski and the consultants discussed having a decision tree to
help the organizations reevaluate their mission, bylaws and reassess their collections. The
consultants asked what role the Commission will play with helping the grantees. It was
suggested to create a tiered system. If a grantee was at the top of the tier they would receive
extra assistance. Ms. Watson asked if we offer them help what does the Commission get in
return. Mr. Pisarski said there will be a 6, 12 and 24 month monitoring process. The
organization would have to show progress if they want to keep receiving the additional
assistance. Ms. Lods questioned how receptive the organizations will be to criticism. Ms.
Merighi wanted to know where the extra money would come from. Mr. Pisarski said the money
would come from the line item and he would have to reach out to the different associations and
see what their group rates are for memberships. Patt Gale suggested offering a social media
workshop for the grantees. Mr. Pisarski proposed revamping the current workshops that the
Commission offers. Ms. Lods commented that there are free workshops that regrantees can attend. Ms. Merighi suggested reaching out to Keith Ragone who works with museums and historic society’s on how to interpret their collections. Mr. Pisarski said on November 30th the four organizations will meet with the consultants to discuss the results and issues for each organization. Roy Kaneshiki will inform the regrantees that the Commission is here to help them and to announce the Commission’s intent to provide additional benefits.

**Nominations Committee**
Ms. Watson, Ms. Gale and Ms. Lods have agreed to be on the nominations committee.

**Liaison Reports**
John Garrison attended the Bay Atlantic Symphony concert. He said it was well attended.

Mr. Kaneshiki and Jean Jones went to Bay Shore Discovery Project’s second Friday. They said it was very well attended. Mr. Pisarski commented that the Commission is sponsoring their second Friday in December.

Mr. Garrison and Ms. Watson attended the CHABA awards. Ms. Watson received an award on behalf of Watson and Henry.

Ms. Gale asked how Disability Awareness day went. Mr. Pisarski said the Commission was the only non-medical group there. Fifty tickets were given out to attendees for the Bay Atlantic Symphony concert.

Ms. Lods informed the Commission that the Levoy had a successful Casino Night fundraiser at the Millville Airport.

Mr. Kaneshiki said oyster plates are on display at Clay College.

**Other Old/New Business**
Ms. Gale passed out fliers for Footloose the musical.

Ms. Merighi asked when the grants review panel will meet. They will meet December 5th at 6pm. Mr. Pisarski said there are six history and 21 art regrantees.

**Correspondence**
The Commission has another historic review regarding sidewalks on highway 77. The Commission agreed the proposed work has no historic impact.

Mr. Pisarski sent a letter to Ms. Rappleye regarding Route 49/Buckshutem Road project.

Mr. Pisarski received a letter from The Levoy Theatre for a change of use in their regrant funding, which he approved.
Flavia Alaya sent a thank you letter to the Commission for the special project funding CHABA received.

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

The next regular meeting of the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 in the Freeholder Meeting Room in Bridgeton, New Jersey.