

**Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission  
MINUTES**

**Regular Monthly Meeting  
9:30 a.m., Thursday February 27, 2014  
Bldg. # 1, Route 12 County Complex, Raritan Twp., NJ**

**Present:** Stephanie B. Stevens, Lora W. Jones, John Kuhl, Elizabeth Rice, Frank Curcio, James Davidson, Anne M. Hewitt PhD, Freeholder Suzanne Lagay

**Guest:** Paul Jennis

**Staff Present:** Rick Steffey, Susan Holcombe-Pena

**O.P.M.A.**

At 9:38 a.m. Chair Stevens declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**I. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 30, 2014 MINUTES**

**Moved by Rice to approve, Seconded by Curcio, Motion Carried.**

**II. GRANT REPORTS**

**NJSCA (New Jersey State Council on the Arts)**

Staff Rick Steffey reported that he has just submitted the 2013 report for the activities. Final payment for about ten thousand dollars will hopefully follow to distribute to the re-grantees. The state is still reviewing the 2014 grant agreement once that is approved we should be getting the first twenty five thousand dollars of this years \$63,000.00 dollar allocation. Staff reported that the Arts application will have a 3 year round starting in 2015-2018. Staff reported that the application is due with all originals and supporting documentation by Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup> 2014 and at the state by April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Chair Stevens stated that we need to notify our all of our re-grantees and grantees that this is happening via media, paper, and social media. Staff reported that the State wants also an updated long term plan, setting up a panel or committee of the arts people to put together the narrative, all this is due by Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Freeholder Lagay asked that she be informed when these committees are going to meet. Staff reported that possibly updating the long term plan could work. Staff supplied "comments" from the state site visit that can be used to help complete the long term plan, and what we could do. Chair Stevens said that the plan has to be updated to reflect what the public suggested, mainly the website the Expo, Facebook. The plan needs to reflect the progress. Staff went over the requirements for the LAP application. Staff stated the "purpose of funding" needs to come from the commission; the commission needs to pull together and create one. Staff reported that there should be enough information to get started with the narrative. Staff also reported that council appears to have made it easier this year, priorities have been listed and that we would have to answer to them.

**Special Projects - 300<sup>th</sup> Grants and Mini-Grants**

Five mini grants we approved. East Amwell Historical Society, Raritan River Music, Courthouse Quilters, Kissimmee River Pottery and InZane Productions will be awarded \$200.00. Vouchers will need to be sent out for payment to these groups once the county budget has been approved.

### III. COMMISSION PROJECTS

#### Arts

##### Kids Kulture:

Commissioner Jones reported that Mayhem Poets all the schools seem to enjoy. She has two more shows coming up. One show is in late March and the other in April.

##### Art Goes to School:

Chair Stevens reported that AGTS as per Joanne Wolsifier is moving along. Things have been a little difficult with the snow and all the school closures but they are making their trips out. Joan Wolsifier said that they are in dire need of some new young blood to help with the program.

##### Art Show 2014 "A Click in Time":

Staff Susan Holcombe-Pena reported that the feedback has been slow due to the numerous other activities that are also going on within the county for the Tercentennial. The Tercentennial also has a photography show also running at the same time. Commissioner Jones said that she would put out a press release to help promote the show more. Commissioner Davidson has spoken with the heads of the photography departments at Hunterdon Central and notified them of the contest and Chair Stevens has spoken with North Hunterdon High School, and Staff has spoken with South Hunterdon. Staff has reported without a point person, contact is hard. Commissioner Jones said that she would go to the Democrat and have an article hopefully published to promote the event.

#### History & Preservation

##### Mini-Historian Essay Contest:

Staff Susan Holcombe-Pena reported that the usually schools have sent in a "yes" participation form. Chair Stevens asked that we send out a catchy reminder to say it's not too late.

##### Site Signs:

Commissioner Kuhl reported that there is no update; there have been no new sites as of yet for consideration. Chair Stevens said "what about doing historic cemeteries'?" Commissioner Kuhl thought that would be good idea.

##### Roads of Home:

No update at this time.

##### Sites of Historic Interest:

No update at this time.

##### Hunterdon's Civil War Vets:

Commissioner Kuhl had said that the books are selling well through the 300<sup>th</sup> Committee and its activities.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### Pysanky Egg Decorating:

Chair Stevens stated that information is being sought out for a "teacher" of the craft. It is hopeful that the Commission can have a Pysanky Traditional Ukrainian Egg Decorating Workshop in the near future. Staff

Susan Holcombe-Pena stated that she has reached out to Middlesex Cultural & Heritage and the County Senior Center for information and is waiting to hear back.

#### Moving the Commission:

Chair Stevens reported that she has been told that the Commission will be moving in the near future to the Old Historic Courthouse. Freeholder Lagay said that more than likely the move will hopefully be happening by the end of this year. The Commission will need to go through the courthouse and write down what they would like to see and have there, rules, etc. so that the freeholders can discuss.

#### Cultural Directory Update:

Staff Susan Holcombe Pena reported that letters have started to go out. Although, a lot have come back as "Not Deliverable", but some are trickling back with updated information. Commissioner Jones thought about putting press release in the newspaper.

#### Newsletter:

Staff Susan Holcombe-Pena has obtained enough pictures to send out the first edition of the newsletter for April 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 and also the Kidz Korner April edition will also go out.

#### NJ History Fair Application:

Application was submitted and approved.

#### Paul Jennis Mural Update:

Paul brought up a mockup of the mural. He noted that the corner of 1800's is not yet finished and that he needs more ideas for the 1900's panel. Paul needs the reference material for March so that he starts to sketch out the last panel and start the mural. The lecture series starts in November. Paul stated that the first two murals will be done, he is hopeful that the last mural will be completed, if not definitely by the end of November. Chair Stevens said that a final list will be forwarded to Paul after the commission decides.

Chair Stevens and the Commission came up with another list sites: Flemington Egg Auction, Reservoir's, First Artificial calf, Route 78, Solberg Airport- planes, balloons, Lambertville Music Circus, Urban Sprawl, Farm Preservation Sign, Horses, CCC Camp at Voorhees State Park, Hunterdon Medical Center, North Hunterdon Regional High School, Lindberg, Hauptman, Water fountain outside court, Truss Bridge at Raven Rock, New Justice Center, Blue Star Highway Sign, Christine Todd Whitman, Vineyards, Tractors, Raceway, Ringoes Drive-Inn, Fair Grounds, LINK Bus, and Diversity.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

#### 300<sup>th</sup> Book:

Commissioner Jones reported that The 300<sup>th</sup> Committee is selling them for \$10.00 a book. 50 books are left, Pam at the print shop said that no new vouchers have come in for printing anymore.

## **VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE:**

Various flyers/brochures, newsletters, press releases were available for review by the members.

### **• VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Curcio moved to adjourn. **Motion carried** Meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM

Respectfully submitted  
*Susan Holcombe-Pena*