

**Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**9:30 a.m., Thursday October 29th 2015**  
**Historic County Court House, 71 Main Street Flemington, NJ**

**Present:** Lora Jones, John Kuhl, Jim Davidson, Robb Sussna, Susan Oldroyd, Maeve Pambianchi, Beth Rice,

**Not Present:** Frank Curcio      **1 Vacancy open on the Commission**

**Executive Director:** Carrie Fellows

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

At 9:30 a.m. Chair Lora Jones declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 24th, 2015 REGULAR MONTHLY MINUTES**

**Moved by Sussna to approve, Seconded by Davidson, Motion Carried.**

**I. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Jones reported that Commissioner Curcio is in the hospital and that a "get well" card is going around for people to sign. We are hoping for a speedy recovery.

Chair Jones reported that County Counsel has not yet commented on the proposed new publications policy. Work on the Historic Sites registry photos will continue after the leaves fall, as many of the sites are still obscured by foliage. Chair Jones commended the progress made on the Clawson house; Commissioner Davidson reported that over 400 people attended a recent open house.

It is with deep regret that we have received Commissioner Rice's resignation effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015, as she is moving to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Commissioner Kuhl is "aging out" as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. Chair Jones asked if the Commission had any more recommendations for replacements. Commissioners Pambianchi and Oldroyd both had possibilities to explore. Chair Jones reported that she and Director Fellows had interviewed Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom and Alan Rigoletto, and their applications had been circulated via email. A motion was made to approve the candidates and forward their applications to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for consideration. **Moved by Rice to approve, Seconded by Pambianchi, Motion Carried.**

Chair Jones reminded everyone that there is no November meeting. The next meeting will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> @9:30am here at the courthouse.

**II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

LAP ReGrants & County Special Projects Grants – The applications were due on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Numerous applicants required assistance via phone and personal meetings. Grant review meetings are pending.

NJSCA LAP Grant FY2016 – The LAP grant contract is completed in SAGE; hard copy will be mailed later today.

NJ Historical Commission – The draft guidelines for 2017 grants is on their website for public comment. We will be applying for funding in 2016 for 2017 funds.

The Flemington Branding committee meetings have been ongoing. As of 10/30 the committee will transition to a Brand Leadership committee and staff will no longer be directly involved.

The Bridging Art & History show had 35-40 in attendance and everyone seemed pleased. Teachers present agreed that it was a difficult time in the school year to hold this kind of program and suggested that the spring might be better.

All new staff positions must be requested through the annual budget process and approved by the administration; Director Fellows is working with Planning Director Sue Dziamara to request a part-time assistant for increased presence at the historic courthouse and to expand programming.

### III. COMMISSION PROJECTS

**Arts/ Kids Culture:** Commissioner Pambianchi reported that she has no performances scheduled. The Commission has \$5000 to spend before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 through the LAP grant. The schools are becoming increasingly harder to schedule due to the changing academic structure. Commissioner Pambianchi thought that we should reserve HCRHS Little Theatre for a performance or maybe the County Complex for a show and open it up to the public. Commissioner Davidson said he would look into the Little Theatre at HCRHS. Possibly next year grant money support a new program, like Teen Arts or an arts festival.

**Art Goes To School:** Director Fellows reported that the next meeting would be on November 4<sup>th</sup>. New members will be oriented and trained. On November 10<sup>th</sup> there will be a regional meeting that she will attend.

#### **History & Preservation/ Historic Markers:**

Commissioner Kuhl submitted a list of markers for placement in 2016 with text to be approved by the commission panel. All edits and corrections need to be submitted ASAP. We are holding off on some replacement markers. The cost approximate for each sign is approximately \$225.00.

- The Three Brothers
- A Civil War Recruiting Camp
- The Rialto Theater
- Lieutenant Hooper Road
- Butler's Park
- Red Mill (replacement/repair)
- Dunkard Cemetery (replacement/repair)
- Joseph Turner House
- Kings Mill
- One Room Schoolhouse

Commissioner Davidson stated that he would volunteer as Chair of the Marker Committee when Commissioner Kuhl retires from his position.

### IV. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/COMMENTS/BOARD DEVELOPMENT NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Rice suggested that we update the Cultural & Heritage logo and offered to work on that before her resignation in December.

Chair Jones shared a schedule for WDVR radio, and suggested we schedule time at the station and speak about Commission activities.

Commissioner Kuhl requested the Commission consider reproducing for sale 2 DVDs, "A Man and His Land" and "Where Have All the Farmers gone". Originally videos produced by the Commission, we would have to get in contact with Mr. Bleck to get the original to burn copies.

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

Peach Exchange - Chair Jones reported that it appears that the transition of the property ownership is moving along. Rural Awareness is working with Green Acres and a number of other state, county, and municipal organizations, nonprofit groups and individuals on the project.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE:**

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Jones moved to adjourn. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Holcombe-Pena*