

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
9:32 a.m., Thursday March 31, 2016
Historic County Court House, 71 Main Street Flemington., NJ

Present: Lora Jones, Maeve Pambianchi, Jim Davidson, Susan Oldroyd, Alan Rigoletto, Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom and Carol Cronheim, Robb Sussna

Executive Director: Carrie Fellows

O.P.M.A.

At 9:32 a.m. Chair Jones declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

APPROVAL OF February 25, 2016 REGULAR MONTHLY MINUTES

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

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

2016 Most Endangered Historic Sites: Nominations are due by the end of the workday today March 31st. The list currently has 8 site nominations with several going to the Union Hotel.

- The Grist Mill
- Bonnell Tavern
- Union Hotel
- 78, 80, 90 & 100 Main Street
- Reading Large House

Once all paperwork is obtained and the sites verified, qualifying sites will be announced May 12.

Resolution Opposing Penn-East Pipeline: Chair Jones proposed a resolution that the Commission oppose the PennEast pipeline proposed to run through historic Hunterdon County. **Commissioner Sherblom moved to accept, Commissioner Sussna seconded the motion. Commissioner Cronheim recused herself, and Commissioner Davidson abstained. Motion carried.**

Logo: Chair Jones brought out the new logo that Beth Rice had created for the Commission. Commission Maher thought it looked fresh and modern. Chair Jones said that she like that the words Cultural & Heritage is in the logo. **Chair Jones asked that we have a motion to approve the new logo. Commissioner Maher moved to accept, Commissioner Cronheim seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.**

Speakers: Chair Jones reminded the group to attend the presentation by Judith Krall-Russo, *Corn, Simply A-Maize-ing* on April 12 at 7:30 pm in the Historic County Courthouse.

Frank Curcio's Book Draft : Lora said that she is working with Frank's son who is actively involved in the project. He is very accommodating, is helping fill in the blanks and understands the editing process.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Grants -

NJ Historical Commission – The NJHC recently sent us the templates with which to survey constituents, as required for the CHPP application. Unfortunately the information we received from their research into Guidestar was incomplete. Chair Jones compiled a list of about 90 that are more current. Director Fellows and Chair Jones will also need to create new regrantee application/guidelines complying with the new overall program guidelines to submit with the application. Deadline for the Commission's DOI is May 1; June 1 for the grant application.

Projects - The gallery lighting project for the Courthouse will start on Monday April 4th.

Hunterdon County Community Day (Chamber Program) – “Save the Date” notices have been sent; and a few responses have already been received.

Flemington Redevelopment - Executive Fellows said that this project is under the purview of the municipality, the Borough of Flemington, and not subject to oversight by the County, and by extension, the Commission. We can advise, and assist if they want us to for the historical aspect of the design concept, but it is up to the municipality to make judgment calls on what is best for downtown Flemington. Executive Fellows was asked by Planning Director Dziarama and Mayor Greiner to attend Flemington Borough’s meeting with SHPO in April.

Artist Studio Tour – The first “Hub” meeting is April 4, 5:30pm at the historic courthouse, 2nd floor.

III. COMMISSION PROJECTS

Student Art Exhibit: Commissioner Sussna and Commissioner Oldroyd had nothing to report at this time. Commissioner Oldroyd said that she would be in contact with the Hunterdon Art Museum to open formal discussion about a possible art exhibit that piggybacked on their student program, which is funded in part through a Local Arts Program grant.

Junior Historian Essay Contest: Staff reported that 20 essays have already arrived at the Planning Department. April 8th is the last day to submit essays for the contest. The awards ceremony is scheduled for May 17th at the Historic Courthouse and the Board of Chosen Freeholders will award ribbons and certificates to winning essays.

Speakers- Chair Jones reminded everyone that *Corn, Simply A-Maize-ing* by Judith Krall Russo will be on April 12 at 7:30 pm at the Courthouse. And *Jacqueline Kennedy’s Historic Preservation Legacy – 50 Years Later* by Kathleen Galop will be on May 10th at 7:30 pm, also at the courthouse. The ADA Sensitivity Training by Robert Carr, NJ Theater Alliance will be the week of September 12th.

World Music Program: Commissioner Rigoletto has compiled a great outline for a full scale World Music Day program. He stated that our World Music Day falls on International Music Day. The Commissioners viewed the Draft outline of confirmed performers and stage times. Commissioner Rigoletto enlisted Commissioners Pambianchi, Sussna and Oldroyd to create a stage backdrop with an international flair, with help from the Franklin Theatre Works students. Commissioner Rigoletto also said that he would start to work on the brochure for the festival and mapping. No rain date is planned.

History & Preservation/ Historic Markers:

Executive Fellows stated that County Counsel has required the Commission to add language to the policy in order to indemnify county staff or volunteers when accessing private property for marker research, placement, and installation. Once that has been approved through County Counsel the new policy will be updated on the webpage. Commissioner Davidson said that currently he has 5 signs that need replacing or “patching” to correct information.

Poetry Out Loud: Director Fellows, Chair Jones and Commissioner Pambianchi went to the state finals held on March 17th at The College of New Jersey’s Center for the Arts. They all reported that there were some amazing poetry readings. The Commission wishes to spearhead Hunterdon County’s participation in in 2017. Director Fellows has been in contact with the Secretary of the Superintendents of Schools, who will send the information via an email to participating grade levels, and at this point there is no need to be present at a round table meeting.

Stevens Research Fund Policy: Commissioner Maher reported that she has received more information and now will start to develop the application to go with the rules and requirements; ideally at the next meeting a third draft will be ready for review.

IV. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/COMMENTS /BOARD DEVELOPMENT Nothing to report at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Director Fellows said that this weekend she will be traveling after the meeting to ALHFAM Mid-Atlantic Meeting at Historic St. Mary’s City in Maryland.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Peach Exchange - Chair Jones reported that there was nothing new at this time.

Historic Site Inventory: Chair Jones reported that there was nothing new at this time.

Farm Related DVDs: Staff had nothing to report at this time.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE:

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Jones moved to adjourn. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am.

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Holcombe-Pena*