

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 29, 2017
Historic County Court House, 71 Main Street Flemington, NJ

Present: Gayle Maher, Alan Rigoletto, Don Sherblom, Susan Oldroyd, Carol Cronheim, Rob Sussna. Staff: Executive Director, Carrie Fellows, Nancy Hanna. Guests: Marc Saluk, Executive Director, Hunterdon County Economic Development; Ross Traphagen, EcDev Intern.

Absent: Maeve Pambianchi.

O.P.M.A.

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

I. APPROVAL OF June 1, 2017 MINUTES

Moved: Cmr. Rigoletto. Seconded: Cmr Cronheim. Motion carried.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT

Cmr. Maher stated she is looking for way to promote arts and history activities within Hunterdon County without duplicating other efforts, and introduced Marc Saluk, Executive Director, Hunterdon County Division of Economic Development. Mr. Saluk introduced Ross Traphagen, intern, and then provided an update on the Division's branding and web site development efforts. He will return and provide another update on these projects before the end of the year.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Grants

NJ State Council on the Arts: Local Arts Program (LAP) – the interim report is due by July 31.

Open Space/Historic Preservation Trust Fund: a subcommittee consisting of Cmr. Cronheim, Sherblom, and Sussna met on June 6 at 9:00 a.m. to review the six applications received for Open Space/Historic Preservation grants. Program administrator Bill Millette led the meeting. First slate: recommendations for High Bridge Borough, Red Mill Museum, Holland Township, Hunterdon Land Trust. Moved: Sussna, Second: Cronheim. Motion carried unanimously.

Second slate: recommendation for Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Cmr. Cronheim recused herself from the meeting. Moved Sherblom, Second Rigoletto. Motion carried. Commissioner Cronheim rejoined the meeting after the vote. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee for their consideration.

Special Projects: Based on the 2016 decision to recommend funding only for grants scoring "3" or higher by the review panel, recommendations were made to fund five of the seven applications for Hunterdon County Special Project grants at the levels recommended by the panel. Moved: Sherblom; Second: Sussna; Motion carried. Cmr. Oldroyd moved that the remaining funds be distributed equally between the five recommended grant organizations; motion seconded by Cmr. Sussna; motion carried.

Director Fellows will request that this grant cycle application/due dates be adjusted to better reflect the County's budget cycle.

NJ Historical Commission (NJHC) County History Partnership Program (CHPP): the CHPP interim report is due June 30.

IV. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

World Music Day – Cmr. Rigoletto reported plans are moving along. The Facebook event post reached 7000 people - and Red Baraat hasn't announced it yet. There was a change of the plan for the sponsors for this year since we don't have the final schedule yet. Next meeting date TBD.

Publications Committee: Lora Jones hosted the meeting on the Curcio manuscript at her home. General discussion about the manuscript and the amount of work needed to bring it to publication. Linda Barth has agreed to review it and comment. Cmr. Cronheim has reached out to her contacts about editing.

4-H Fair - The Commissioners agreed by consensus not to have a booth this year.

Community Day: Cmr. Oldroyd and Rigoletto staffed the Commission's booth; Cmr. Pambianchi helped with setup and breakdown.

Cmr. Oldroyd coordinated an interactive mural with the public featuring ink painting to draw people to the booth and Cmr. Rigoletto played guitar; Commissioners handed out flyers for World Music Day and public response was promising.

V. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/ COMMENTS

n/a

VI. OLD BUSINESS

n/a

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Hunterdon Chamber Radio - Director Fellows and Honorary County Historian Stephanie Stevens will appear weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30am on Chris Bianco's streaming (internet) Chamber Radio show. Stevens will provide prerecorded history highlights, while Fellows will discuss the arts and other topics as they arise with the host in real time.

Manuscript Preservation - Cmr. Sherblom expressed a concern about a potential need countywide for manuscript digitization based on a recent use of a fragile manuscript in a local collection, not just for historic documents but also for professionally prepared reports, i.e. historic preservation and documentary information that would be useful to researchers and the interested public. Discussions will be continued at the next meeting.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

Cmr. Cronheim asked if everyone received the email about the New Jersey Historical Commission's 90-second videos, "It Happened Here, New Jersey".

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Maher asked for a motion to adjourn. Moved: Sussna; Seconded: Cronheim; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hanna