

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission  
MINUTES  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
9:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017  
Historic County Court House, 71 Main Street Flemington, NJ

**Present:** Gayle Maher, Alan Rigoletto, Don Sherblom, Carol Cronheim, Rob Sussna, Maeve Pambianchi, Susan Oldroyd  
**Staff:** Executive Director - Carrie Fellows, Clerk - Nancy Hanna. **Guests:** Kevin Davis, County Administrator

#### 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 September 28, 2017 MINUTES:** Minutes were accepted as presented. Moved: Cmr. Rigoletto; seconded: Cmr. Sussna; motion carried.

#### II. CHAIR'S REPORT

Cmr. Maher welcomed Mr. Davis and introduced him to the Commissioners.

**Donation:** Cmr. Maher requested that the Commissioners approve a resolution to donate \$100 to the Travis Manion Battalion, U.S. Navy Sea Cadets, for their tremendous effort managing the parking for World Music Day. Moved: Cmr. Sussna; seconded: Cmr. Rigoletto; motion carried.

**Resignation:** Chair Maher read Cmr. Rob Sussna's letter of resignation from the Commission, effective Dec. 31, 2017, and presented to him a Certificate of Thanks from the Board of Chosen Freeholders acknowledging his service.

**Meeting dates for 2018:** Chair Maher asked the Commissioners to consider changing meeting time, either early morning or early evening to make the meetings more widely accessible to interested parties, and not in conflict with Freeholder agenda meetings.

Mr. Davis thanked the Commissioners for what they do and expressed an interest in attending future meetings.

#### III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

##### Grants

**NJ State Council on the Arts:** Submitted the LAP contract through SAGE. An updated ADA plan is required by Dec. 31 as part of our 2018 contract. The LAP regrant applications are due 10/27. The regrant review panel will meet on Nov. 14 with panelists Kim Leary, Andy Bernstein and George Trogler; recommendations will be presented at the Nov. meeting. The regrantee log is also due by Dec. 31.

**Special Projects:** changed the application date to the first week of Feb.; the 2018 forms are in process.

**NJ Historical Commission (NJHC) County History Partnership Program (CHPP):** Regrant applications are due on 10/30; have been responding to applicant questions. The NJHC is having issues with SAGE and we are still waiting for the contract to become available so we can complete it for consideration.

##### Programs & Initiatives

**The Art of Historic Dress- Part 2,** presented in partnership with the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area is scheduled for Nov. 17 & 18, 2017 at Prallsville Mills, Stockton, NJ. Registration is open through the Crossroads' website.

**Courthouse Rentals & Scheduling:** Many constituents need to be walked through the process of how to request courthouse use; how to find the forms; how to determine whether their request complies with approved general use policy or if it requires BOCF approval (and tutelage on how to do that).

**Movie Theater:** TAPInto Online reported that the Flemington Community Partnership would like to use the courthouse as a movie theater for classic or art films. Director Fellows met with them to see if a workable solution to this community need can be found using a county facility. The current policy does not support more than twice-monthly use by any one organization. Ongoing.

World Music Day –Cmr. Rigoletto reported the subcommittee had a wrap-up meeting last week, the event was very successful with more than 1500 attendees. Future considerations include research into having a production company manage the event and sponsorships. Greater emphasis is needed to find support (both administrative and financial). Cmr. Sussna suggested we charge admission; Director Fellows pointed out that among the founding concepts of World Music Day is to provide music free of charge. Chair Maher said all the commissioners should be more involved in this event.

#### IV. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

Publications Committee: Chair Maher and Cmr. Sherblom gave an updated timeline for after Thanksgiving to finish reading the draft, and Lora will be informed to set a date for another discussion meeting.

Marker Committee: Cmr. Sherblom stated there are illegible blue (State of NJ) markers at several Hunterdon locations and these are the ones members of the public repeatedly ask about. Director Fellows indicated that NJ currently has neither funding nor staff to manage a marker program. She suggested that Bob Craig at SHPO could be contacted to request that the Commission be permitted to remove and store the damaged markers on the State's behalf. The Commissioners agreed with this approach.

Cmr. Sherblom will continue to identify and outline a pilot area and address the Marker Program as a pilot project, working on it one area at a time. Cmr. Cronheim offered to join the Marker Committee.

Electronic Manuscript Publication – Cmr. Sherblom will attend the Hunterdon County Historical Society meeting Nov. 12.

#### V. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/ COMMENTS n/a

VI. OLD BUSINESS Work on the Court Street Park Gazebo is almost complete; Frank Bell will provide an update at the November meeting.

#### VIII. NEW BUSINESS n/a

#### VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence: various upcoming event/program/meeting announcements in the folder on the table.

#### Announcements:

- J Cmr. Rigoletto: Pyrenesia has a show on Nov. 18 at Birdhouse Center for the Arts in Lambertville.
- J Chair Maher: Kingwood Twp. Historical Society's meeting on Oct 26 will feature historic bridges; also the Presbyterian Church on Race St. in Pittstown has a program featuring an African Children's choir on Oct. 30 (Mon), and the Matheny School has an art show & a professional dance performance coming up.
- J Director Fellows: Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Kingwood going to be considered by the NJ State Review Board nominated for the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places on Nov. 9 in Trenton.
- J Cmr. Cronhiem: attended a meeting to ensure a diverse representation of women as cabinet choices in the next NJ gubernatorial administration; both major candidates were present.
- J Cmr. Oldroyd has been participating in Art in the Barn, a free art collective, in Tewksbury. She is also working on cultural relevance in art with the al systema method of teaching the arts. She would like to know if anyone else is working on this type of initiative that makes the arts relevant to culturally diverse populations in Hunterdon.
- J Chair Maher stated that Director Fellows will have an annual report for the Commission at the November meeting to help us plan for 2018; Director Fellows mentioned that it is time to update the strategic plan.
- J Chair Maher: Reminded Commissioners that the meeting on Nov 30 is at the Reading-Large House, 119 Main St. Flemington, and to think about the meeting time and get back to her in the next 7 days.

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Maher asked for a motion to adjourn. Moved: Cmr. Sussna  
Seconded: Cmr. Sherblom; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hanna