

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
8:30 am, Wednesday April 24, 2019
Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

Present: Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom, Carol Cronheim, Maeve Pambianchi (via phone); Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Program Development Specialist Christopher Spangler, Clerk Nancy Hanna.

Absent/ Excused: Haeree Park, Todd Lambrix

O.P.M.A. At 8:30 am, Chair Gayle Maher declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

I. APPROVAL OF Feb. 27, 2019 and Mar. 27, 2019 MINUTES:

- Feb. 27, 2019 Minutes; Moved: Cmr. Cronheim; Second: Cmr. Sherblom; motion carried (abstained: Cmr. Pambianchi)
- Mar. 27, 2019 Minutes; Moved: Cmr. Pambianchi, Second: Cmr. Sherblom; motion carried (abstained: Cmr. Cronheim)

II. CHAIR'S REPORT

New Candidate for Appointment: Chair Maher, Executive Director Fellows and Cmr. Cronheim previously met with Commissioner applicant Dr. Nikki Shepardson and discussed her qualifications to serve on the Commission. Dr. Shepardson is an Associate Professor at Rider University and is involved with the Hunterdon Art Museum, Red Mill, Young Composer Contest, and serves as a judge for NJ History Day. She has lived in Clinton Twp. for 20 years. Motion to recommend Dr. Shepardson to the Board of Chosen Freeholders (BOCF) for appointment; Moved: Cmr. Sherblom, Second Cmr. Cronheim; motion carried.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2019 NJ State Council on the Arts:
 - Received all Local Arts Program (LAP) re-grantee agreements except for two.
 - LAP funds support Hunterdon Helpline's Salsa Night (\$1,000), Flemington Community Partnership's Central Jersey Jazz Fest (\$2,500) and the Div. of Parks Music Under the Stars (\$1,000).
 - Met with Mary Eileen Fouratt (Cmr. Pambianchi attended) earlier this month and shared the draft of the Strategic Plan with her. Mary Eileen complimented the Commission's progress.
- 2019 NJ Historical Commission - County History Partnership Program (CHPP):
 - 80% of 2019 funding has been received
 - 2019 Re-grantee contracts received; checks have been mailed out.
 - The 2021-2022 application was submitted to the BOCF for approval. Program Specialist Spangler assisted in creating a survey for constituent organizations to determine the level of history regrant funding needed; the survey also solicited information about the efficacy of previous Commission workshops, and the type of training still needed. The results were summarized and included with the grant application.
- County Special Projects Grant:
 - The Commission received 6 applications.
 - The review panel meets on May 8.
- NJ Historic Trust Grant Application (for historic courthouse):
 - Director Fellows is working with County Architect Frank Bell.
 - The BOCF approved Clarke Caton Hintz (CCH) as consultant for the building assessment and grant preparation; Fellows and Bell provided background information, rationale, and previous planning documents to CCH.

- Director Fellows requested that the Commission approve a resolution of support for the Historic Trust Grant. Moved: Cmr. Cronheim; Second: Cmr. Pambianchi; all in favor.
- Partner Agencies & Community Arts/ History Projects.
 - Attended ANJCCHA meeting on March 12.
 - Hosted Leadership Hunterdon on March 15, providing an overview of cultural activities.
 - Attended a March 28 meeting at the Chamber of Commerce on county tourism initiatives.
 - Commissioners were asked to list potential film locations for the nascent HC Film Commission.

IV. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

Marker Committee: Nothing new to report at this time.

History Essay Contest: Chair Maher, Cmr. Cronheim, Cmr. Sherblom, Director Fellows, and Program Specialist Spangler will meet following today's meeting to discuss the progress of the Essay Contest. Commissioners were sent 4 samples of essay contests from around the country to review. Spangler is working to organize a meeting to incorporate input from experienced teachers.

Strategic Plan: Chair Maher, Director Fellows, and Cmr. Cronheim met 3 times and communicated via email to work on the Commission's Strategic Plan. They shared a draft and reviewed the vision, mission statement, goals and strategies. The document will be redistributed for review prior to the May meeting.

V. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/ COMMENTS – N/A

VI. OLD BUSINESS –

Document Storage: This is an ongoing project. Cmr. Sherblom discussed several considerations such as digitizing the material and posting the collection information on the website.

Guest Speakers: Chair Maher mentioned that Cmr. Cronheim previously suggested Susan Wallner (who wrote a book on Anne Morrow Lindbergh) as a speaker. Cmr. Cronheim will reach out to the author to check her availability. Cmr. Sherblom previously suggested Deborah Kops who wrote a book on Alice Paul aimed at young audiences as a possible speaker.

Publications Committee: A final draft of the Commission's Publications Policy was distributed in the meeting packet for review.

Creative Assets Inventory: The next meeting will take place on Monday, April 29. Director Fellows will attend.

Sponsorship: The Commission sponsored a Flemington Community Partnership (FCP) "Let's Sit Together Flemington" chair for \$250 from the Commission's Trust. The chair is located in front of the courthouse.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – N/A

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE N/A

- Cmr. Cronheim stated an art exhibit at the Clawson House is now open.
- Director Fellows said Roxey Ballet offered to host a Commission Meeting at their studio.
- Upcoming Commission meeting start times will be 4:30 pm for May, June, and July.
- Chair Maher requested that a letter of congratulations be sent to Woodglan School for NJ History Day.
- Cmr. Pambianchi has requested use of South Hunterdon High School's auditorium for Franklin Theatre Works' play, "All is Calm" in December.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Cmr. Cronheim moved to adjourn; Second: Cmr. Sherblom; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Hanna

Next meeting June 26, 2019, 4:30pm