

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
8:30 am, Wednesday Feb. 27, 2019
Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

Present: Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom, Haeree Park, Carol Cronheim; Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Program Development Specialist Christopher Spangler, Clerk Nancy Hanna.

Absent/Excused: Todd Lambrix, Susan Miller-Oldroyd, Maeve Pambianchi

O.P.M.A. At 8:30 am Director Carrie Fellows declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

- The nominating committee was unable to meet prior to the annual meeting to select officers for 2019.
- Cmr. Maher was asked to stay on as Acting Chair until a vote can be held.

I. APPROVAL OF Jan. 30, 2019 MINUTES: Moved: Cmr. Park; Second: Cmr. Sherblom; motion carried.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT –

- Acting Chair Maher discussed the proposed meeting schedule with the Commissioners. A decision was made to take a vote to alternate Wednesday meeting times between mornings (8:30 AM) and evenings (4:30 PM), switching time each month. The Commission will consider adjustments between morning/evening meeting times in a future meeting to accommodate Commissioner availability.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2019 NJ State Council on the Arts Local Arts Program (LAP) grant Final Report filed. The purchase order for the final grant payment was received via SAGE
- 2019 NJ Historical Commission County History Partnership Project (CHPP) grant Final Report filed. The purchase order for the final grant payment was received via SAGE
- The Board of Chosen Freeholders (BOCF) approved the Commission's recommended award amounts for grantees on Feb. 19. Representatives from several grantee organizations attended the meeting. Cmr. Cronheim suggested in the future that grantees should take pictures with the BOCF members and post them in their newsletters to increase visibility for the Commission.
- CHPP Declaration of Intent for the 2020-2022 grant round is due on March 15. The Commission will base its request on funding amounts requested by current applicants and estimated by potential future applicants.
- Cmr. Cronheim inquired about the NJ Historic Preservation and NJ Cultural Trust Grants and recommended the Commission submit an application.
- 2019 Operating Expenses budget is due March 8.

IV. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

Publications Committee: Met on Feb. 11 and will meet again on Feb. 27 to continue the discussion on the publications policy.

Marker Committee: Cmr. Sherblom reached out to Marc Saluk by e-mail and is meeting with Computer Science Academy in early April to partner on making a smartphone application to increase interaction with the history markers. This is an ongoing project.

History Essay Contest: Specialist Spangler reached out to Janice Armstrong and will have a preliminary meeting on March 8 to discuss the Essay Contest. This will be followed by meetings composed of current and retired teachers as well as representatives of the Commission. Several ideas were put forth by Commissioners to improve the Essay Contest.

Creative Assets Inventory: No further information was provided.

Strategic Plan: Cmr. Maher stated that this is a priority of the Commission for 2019. She advised that a 3-year outlook is necessary for the overall Strategic Plan.

V. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/ COMMENTS – N/A

VI. OLD BUSINESS –

Electronic Manuscript Publication: Nothing new to report. This item will remain on the agenda.

James Gigantino Program: Feb. 9 was a success, and received very positive feedback from attendees.

Comr. Sherblom suggested Deborah Kops as a future speaker to discuss her book on Alice Paul.

World Music Day: The Commission discussed the feasibility of continuing WMD given the departure of Commissioner Rigoletti who brought a unique expertise to the production of such an event. In addition, there was discussion about the realities of limited staff time given other mandates and responsibilities of the Commission. Comr. Cronheim put forth the following motion, “I move the Commission discontinue World Music Day, to more effectively deploy our limited resources to benefit a wider audience in Hunterdon, reallocating World Music Day funding to provide additional support to diverse performance and audience opportunities.”
Moved: Comr. Cronheim; Second: Comr. Park; all in favor.

VII. NEW BUSINESS –

- Commissioners discussed a video on an Arts Access program about an artist with a disability that Comr. Park previously shared. The story aired on CBS News on Feb. 21.
- Hunterdon ESC has stated they plan to run an abbreviated version of a Teen Arts program this year.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE N/A

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Moved: Comr. Sherblom; Second: Comr. Cronheim; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Hanna

Next meeting: March 27, 2019, 4:30pm