



## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

### Regular Monthly Meeting - 4:30 p.m., Wednesday May 24, 2023

This meeting was held in person at the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

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**O.P.M.A.** At 4:30 p.m., Chair Cronheim declared the meeting open and properly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Attendance:** Commissioners: Chair Cronheim, Vice Chair Maher, Erin Delgado, Robin Lapidus, Dan Shea, Donald Sherblom; Absent: Nikki Shepardson  
Staff: Executive Director Natalie Zaman, Clerk Nancy Hanna, Planning Director Frank Bell.

#### I. **Approval of April 26, 2023, Minutes**

- Motion to approve the April 26, 2023, minutes made by Vice Chair Maher, seconded by Donald Sherblom. All in favor.

#### II. **County Commissioner Update and Comments**

N/A

#### III. **Chair's Report**

Chair Cronheim welcomed new Commissioners joining the Cultural and Heritage Commission.

#### IV. **Grants**

Natalie Zaman reported:

##### **Local Arts Program (LAP) Grant.**

##### **2023 Grant:**

- All contracts finalized and approved, and first payments released.
- One re-grantee declined their grant; funds were not released so are now back in the LAP budget. A plan for expending these funds will be shared at the June meeting.
- Interim conversations are being scheduled with the 2023 re-grantees. These conversations will take place throughout June.

##### **2024 Grant:**

- Forms are being updated; they will be posted this month or early next month.

##### **County History Partnership Program (CHPP) Grant**

##### **2023 Grant:**

- Interim reports have been sent out and are due back June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The Commission's Interim Report to the State is due on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

##### **2024 Grant:**

- Forms are being updated; they will be posted this month or early next month.

##### **Special Project (SP) Grant**

- Seven applications were received for the 2023 Special Project grant. Natalie Zaman asked that the discussion and vote be moved to the end of the meeting.

#### **2023 HCC&HC Meeting Dates**

Feb 22, Mar 22, Apr 26, May 24, Jun 28, Jul 26, Sep 27, Oct 25, Nov29  
(The HCC&HC does not meet in August and December)



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### V. Commission Programs & Projects

- **Historic Marker/HuntHistory.org:** Donald Sherblom explained the HuntHistory.org project and its significance to the new commissioners. The HuntHistory.org subcommittee will meet on June 6, 2023.
- **HuntArt.Org** Natalie Zaman will meet with Economic Development on June 1, 2023, to discuss logistics and what is needed to begin building the HuntArt.org website. This includes working with a graphic designer to create engaging visuals for the site.
- **Technical Assistance:** Technical assistance workshops are live on the Cultural & Heritage pages of the County website. We will send out an email out to organizations this week to continue to promote them. Our first workshop on Volunteer Engagement with Michele Francesconi of New Jersey Cares was held on May 23, 2023. 13 people were in attendance representing 9 organizations. We have two other workshops coming up:
  - Board Development with Allison Trimarco, June 13, 2023
  - Marketing and Digital Media with Michael Pilla, September 20, 2023
- **Dancing on the Green:** Natalie met with Roxey Ballet and Economic Development to discuss venues for this program; this is not a “performance” with seats and tickets, but more of an experience that can be interactive or passive. Marc’s concern was that to have a successful launch and keep it going, we need a built-in audience, which we have on the beer/wine trail. He reached out to several and Old York Cellars is very enthusiastic (they have a built-in audience and rain contingency); Visited them at the end of April, beginning of May and are very excited help launch this program and will provide the space for it and rehearsals. This project addresses several points in the latest strategic plan including the promotion of the arts in nontraditional spaces, collaboration between government, local businesses, and arts non-profits, connecting non-profits to new potential income streams and audiences.
  - The program will take place on October 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 14<sup>th</sup> (date and rain date but they do have indoor and covered areas); this should take place in the vines and on the grass.
  - Natalie has also been in touch with Kathleen at THAT to incorporate visual art.
  - Marc Saluk and Mark Roxey may come to our June and/or July meeting to talk about this program and other initiatives.
- **Teen Arts:** Artwork will be delivered to state festival tomorrow; 4 students will be attending. The State Festival will take place at Middlesex Community College on May 30, 31 and June 5, 2023. On June 6, 2023, we are hosting a meeting to begin planning the revival of the Hunterdon County Teen Arts Festival which will take place in Spring 2024 festival. Teachers who ran Poetry Out Loud plan to attend.
- **AEP6 Survey:** We have collected 916 surveys to date! Reminders will be sent out to organizations to complete the organizational survey. This phase of the project will be completed on June 23, 2023.

### VI. Old Business: N/A

### VII. New Business

Natalie Zaman asked the Commission to discuss the match for the 2024 County History Partnership Program (CHPP) grant. A motion was made by Vice Chair Maher and seconded by Chair Cronheim to maintain a match for the CHPP grant; applicants must provide the match as cash, or in kind or a combination of cash and in kind. All in favor.

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### **VIII. Announcements & Correspondence:**

- The Spring 2023 Edition of Preservation Magazine
- The April 2023 Newsletter of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey
- The Spring 2023 Heritage Review, The Newsletter of the Morris County Heritage Commission
- An invitation from Hunterdon Art Museum for their Ham It Up event on June 4, 2023

### **IX. Public Comment: N/A**

### **X. 2023 Special Project Grant:**

The Cultural & Heritage Commission reviewed and discussed the seven Special Project applications and the notes and recommendations of the review panel and made recommendations to be brought before the Board of County Commissioners. Recused: Erin Delgado and Robin Lapidus. A motion was made by Chair Cronheim and seconded by Donald Sherblom to bring said recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners to finalize awards. All in favor.

### **XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Cronheim requested a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn made by Donald Sherblom, seconded by Chair Cronheim. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hanna

**Next meeting: June 28, at 4:30 p.m. in person**

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