

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting - 4:30 pm, Wednesday Nov. 20, 2019
Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

Present: Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom, Carol Cronheim, Maeve Pambianchi, Haeree Park, Nikki Shepardson; Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Clerk Nancy Hanna. Public: Nancy Hunt, Chair High Bridge Historical Committee.

Absent/ Excused: Todd Lambrix, Program Specialist Christopher Spangler.

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

I. APPROVAL OF Sep. 25, 2019 MINUTES:

Motion to approve Sep. 25, 2019 minutes as corrected; Moved: Cmr. Cronheim, Second: Cmr. Pambianchi, motion carried.

II. Public Comment: N/A

III. CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair Maher attended the Economic Development Summit on Oct 11. Director Marc Saluk described activities/goals - attracting industries, tourists and improving walkability. Freeholder Director Lagay was honored for her work. Freeholders announced creation of the Hunterdon Tourism Partnership which will be run by an independent Board of Directors. Chair Maher requested that the County's rich history be included in the tourism effort. Director Fellows mentioned that the Film Commission's new sizzle reel debuted at the Summit and is available on <https://filmhunterdon.com/about>

2020 Meeting Dates. Members voted to hold their reorganization meeting on Jan. 22, 2020. Moved: Cmr. Cronheim Second: Cmr. Sherblom; all in favor.

Nominating Committee: Cmr. Cronheim, Shepardson, and Pambianchi will serve on the nominating committee for electing 2020 Chair and Vice Chair; they will also seek qualified candidates for 2 vacant seats on the Commission. All Committees include the Chair and Executive Director.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

NJ State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) Local Arts Program (LAP) Grant

Received 12 applications for 2020 funding, nine for General Operating Support (GOS), and three for Project Support.

- Total amount sought by regrantees: \$69,975
- Total available to regrant: \$50,000
- 2020 Contract due in SAGE 12/30/2019
- Panel review scheduled for 12/9/2019 at 9:30am

NJ Historical Commission (NJHC) County History Partnership Program (CHPP) Grant:

Received 5 Applications for 2020 funding, four for General Operating Support (GOS), and one Minigrant Application (\$1000)

- Total amount sought by regrantees: \$21,000
- The total available to regrant \$15,195
- Panel review scheduled for 12/11/2019 at 11am

County Special Projects Grants: Forms in Process for 2020.

NJ Historic Trust Grant (NJHT) Application:

- County of Hunterdon was recommended full funding in the amount of \$747,000 for Phase One of its two- phase project for restoration and upgrades to the historic courthouse. There is a 1:1 match required from the County.
- County architect Frank Bell and Director Fellows will attend a mandatory training session for this grant on 1/15/2020.

Historic Preservation Trust Grant / Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee (POSAC)

The three applicants who were not recommended for funding have not followed up with additional information about their requests, giving them a third chance to submit detailed responses to questions, although POSAC gave them that opportunity.

Other Administration

- Department Head responsibilities are taking a great deal time.
- Working on budget requests for 2020
- Christopher Spangler submitted his resignation; he has accepted another position.
- The NJ250 Meeting will be held electronically on January 8, 2020.

V. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

History Essay Contest: Award meeting dates TBD for 2020 pending the Freeholder meeting dates. Staff are continuing to send a monthly email to schools as a reminder.

Marker Committee: Cmr. Sherblom continues to work on marker text. He is working with Justin Montgomery from RVCC re interfacing the history markers via the hunthistory website. Chris Spangler will connect Director Fellows, with Mr. Montgomery and students involved with the project. He was directed to ensure that the work completed complies with county specifications. Spangler's report indicates that students created an FTP site and that hunthistory has a landing page with "under construction" and the Commission's logo. Students are learning how to code and add a sidebar to Google map applications. Examples will be sent to IT. Spangler missed a meeting with RVCC professors regarding potential for student writers to develop enhanced online marker content, so the meeting must be rescheduled.

Marker policy: voting postponed till January meeting.

The public meeting for the marker project will be held in April 2020 date TBD

VI. FREEHOLDER UPDATES/ COMMENTS – Freeholder Director Lagay's term ends on Dec. 31. Her final meeting as a Freeholder will be Dec. 17, 2019 in the historic courthouse.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. OLD BUSINESS –

Document Storage: No updates.

Guest speakers:

- Susan Wallner will speak on Feb. 8, 2020 and show the documentary "You'll Have the Sky" on Anne Morrow Lindbergh at 2:30 pm (snow date Feb. 15, 2020).
- Ann Gordon is scheduled to speak on March 14, 2020 at 1 pm (snow date March 21, 2020)

Creative Assets Inventory – We hope to move the inventory to the C&H website by 12/31.

IX. NEW BUSINESS – N/A

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

Cmr. Cronheim: Women's Equality Day is scheduled for Aug 27, 2020 in Trenton. Next date for the quarterly meeting of the NJ Women Vote committee is Thursday, Dec 5, 2019, 10am in East Jersey Olde Towne. Public school programs will take place on Feb 9, 2020 and the Women's March in New Brunswick will be on Sept.26, 2020.

Cmr. Pambianchi: "All is Calm, the Christmas Truce of 1914" received funding from Verizon, which will cover ticket costs for veterans; proceeds from a Gift fund drive will go to Veterans' Haven North. Met with Director Fellows, Fire Marshal Bruce Fuller and Chris Spangler about requirements to use the historic courthouse for a reenactment of the Susan B. Anthony trial in May...

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Maher requested a motion to adjourn; Moved: Cmr. Cronheim, Second: Cmr. Pambianchi, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Hanna

Next meeting/Reorganization: Jan. 22, 2020, 4:30pm