

**Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting - 4:30 pm, Wednesday, February 24, 2021**  
Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822  
THIS MEETING HELD TELEPHONICALLY

**Dial in number:** 720-399-1558 or 877-658-5107

**Passcode:** 438836

**Present:** Chair Gayle Maher, Don Sherblom, Carol Cronheim, Haeree Park, Nikki Shepardson, Maeve Pambianchi  
Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Analyst Trainee Lauren Lembo, Clerk Nancy Hanna.

**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 January 27, 2021 MINUTES:** Approved as corrected, Moved: Vice Chair Cronheim; Second: Cmr. Park; All in favor.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT N/A**

**III. Chair's Report:** Acknowledges the annual report sent by Analyst Trainee Lembo and the Cultural & Heritage Commissioners for all of their contributions and efforts put forth during 2020.  
Executive Director Fellows, Vice Chair Cronheim, and Chair Maher discussed via several emails the Strategic Plan, for which a follow-up conversation will occur in the spring at a regular Commission meeting.

## **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Carrie Fellows**

COVID- 19 Remote Operations: The County continues to work remotely and in the office on a rotating schedule until at least April 1st. The Historic Courtroom and workshop room are being used heavily by the County Purchasing Division and the Board of County Commissioners.

NJ State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) Updates: The 2021 Local Arts Program (LAP) grant awards will be included in a Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting agenda for March. Following BOCC approval, award letters will be sent to grantees. We received an email from NJSCA that their overall funding increased by 60% for 2021. No details regarding FY2022 have been provided yet.

NJ Historical Commission (NJHC) updates: FY2021 contract is due at the end of March, will be included on a BOCC meeting agenda.

NJ Historic Trust Grant (NJHT): Received the pre-qualification package from the NJHT. County Architect Frank Bell and Purchasing Division are reviewing it. The process ensures that contractors who bid on funded projects have the necessary skills and experience. On March 2, Clarke Canton and Hintz (CCH) and County Architect Frank Bell will meet to complete the field survey of the Historic Courthouse, given that it was postponed due to election activities.

Historic Preservation Grant: Administered by Bill Millette. It is due 3/31 and more information is on the Planning website.

## **V: REGRANT REPORT – Lauren Lembo, Analyst Trainee**

Local Arts Program (LAP) Grant: Awaiting BOCC approval for award letter and agreement/contract distribution to grantees. The associated ADA plan for the NJSCA is due this week. An updated ADA plan must be submitted every three years in conjunction with receiving NJSCA funds.

County History Partnership Program (CHPP) Grant: Also awaiting BOCC award approval, as well as FY2021 contract approval.

County Special Projects Grants: Four (4) applications were received from the same applicants as last year (Carla Cielo, Roxey Ballet, Hunterdon Art Museum, and Raritan River Music).

## **VI. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS**

### Marker Committee & Related:

- Cmr. Sherblom talked with GIS Director Patricia Leidner for assistance with the HuntHistory.org marker site. The most difficult part will be connecting the GIS database with the website URL. Cmr. Sherblom sent her all of the content information, and she will follow up with IT and Executive Director Fellows.
- Recommends including a QR code to the sign riders.

Public Places for Performances - Vice Chair Cronheim asked if there is a GIS database for public spaces that art organizations can use, Executive Director Fellows will follow on that.

History Essay Contest: Still on hold.

Guest Speakers: Will be discussed when we meet for the Strategic Plan. Executive Director Fellows indicated that NJSCA has made certain uses of the LAP grant flexible, so Analyst Trainee Lembo will be lining up workshop speakers for ADA, Diversity, and Audience Tracking themes; the areas in which most of the regrantees struggle. Chair Maher also suggested doing virtual lectures to attract more audiences from all over the country. Vice Chair Cronheim said virtual lectures are effective in reaching larger audiences.

Document Storage: On hold

## **VII. COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATES/ COMMENTS** – No report

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS** – No report

**IX. NEW BUSINESS** – Analyst Trainee Lembo, who also serves as a board member of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey (ASNJ), discussed plans for a speaker series collaboration between the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission and the ASNJ. The goal would be to educate the public on different aspects of Hunterdon County history and archaeology via a free virtual lecture series featuring approximately four to five guest speakers. It would be presented live and posted as recordings on YouTube. In the future, tours could be conducted at county history sites. Cmr. Sherblom expressed interested in reaching out to Chris Matthews regarding the Vought House. There will be a follow up by Commissioners of ideas for possible presenters at the next meeting, after which the ASNJ will recruit speakers from its membership.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE** Vice Chair Cronheim is waiting for Ann Marie Miller from ArtPride NJ to clarify the NJ state arts budget, and provided a brief overview of Governor Murphy's budget for FY2022 for arts and history in the state. Executive Director Fellows forwarded an email received from Rikki Massand on an upcoming online workshop and lecture by Nicole Belolan. Ms. Belolan was the co-host for the historic housekeeping workshop at the Historic Courthouse in 2019. The meeting is free but registration is required. An email was forwarded from the Board of County Commissioners from The Hunterdon Art Tour (THAT) seeking support for their 2021 tour. Executive Director Fellows requested a motion from the Commissioners to provide support of THAT in the amount of \$600.00 from the Cultural & Heritage Trust fund. Discussion to support. Moved: Cmr. Pambianchi; Second: Cmr. Sherblom; All in favor.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Hanna

**Next meeting: March 24, 2021 4:30pm**

## **Cultural & Heritage Commission Meeting Dates 2021**

February	24
March	24
April	28
May	26
June	30
July	28
August	No Meeting
September	22
October	27
November	No Meeting
December	01