

**New Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting - 4:30 pm, Wednesday, March 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  
Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Analyst Trainee Lauren Lembo, Clerk Nancy Hanna.  
Absent: Nikki Shepardson, Maeve Pambianchi

**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 February 24, 2021 MINUTES:** Approved, Moved: Vice Chair Cronheim; Second: Cmr Sherblom; All in favor.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT N/A**

**III. Chair's Report:** Announced that Cmr. Park has stepped down from the Commission Committee. Chair Maher, Vice Chair Cronheim, and Director Fellows will meet to discuss Commission membership and will get back to the Commissioners.

**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 2nd. The Director of the Health Department Karen Demarco indicated that cases in Hunterdon County are on the rise due to the variants, and county employees continue to follow the required protocols.

NJ State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) Updates and New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC): all reports are up to date in SAGE.

NJ Historic Trust Grant (NJHT): Under review and preparing for public hearing after receiving the bids. County Architect Frank Bell will join the Cultural & Heritage Commission meeting in April to provide more updates on the Historic Courthouse project.

The Hunterdon Art Tour (THAT): A Purchase Order for a total of \$600 was issued to support Artist Entry Fees. Director Fellows read a letter of thanks she received from Catherine Suttle, one of the event committee organizers, expressing gratitude for the Cultural & Heritage Commission's support.

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

Local Arts Program (LAP) Grant: Awards letters were sent to the FY2021 grantees. Presently, we are waiting for the signed agreements and the revised budgets which are due on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

County History Partnership Program (CHPP) Grant: Award letters were sent and grantee contracts with revised budgets are also due on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

County Special Project Grants: In the process of reaching out to potential review panelists for an end of April or beginning of May review meeting.

NJSCA: Allocated \$5,000 specifically for county Teen Arts programs in 2021. This is the first year Hunterdon County has held a Teen Arts program since 2009. Instead of adjudications, Hunterdon's Teen Arts includes educational and performance events by Acme Screening Room, Flemington DIY, Hunterdon Art Museum, Hunterdon County Library, and Roxey Ballet. Each are receiving \$1,000 to host in-person, virtual, or hybrid events. Chair Maher asked about the program dates. Analyst Trainee Lembo said programs will take place from May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> and individual program information will be posted as links on the Cultural & Heritage Commission's website, as details become available. Grantees will use their present community connections and social media to reach out to students. County students may participate in the state-level NJ Teen Arts by visiting the state website directly.

**VI. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS**

Marker Committee & Related:

Cmr. Sherblom emailed GIS Director Patricia Leidner. Director Fellows spoke with her and she recommended a landing page that links to the marker map and HuntHistory.org via the Cultural & Heritage Commission website.

Cmr. Sherblom, emailed the subcommittee about the new Tourism marker bill. Concern was expressed regarding the Division of Tourism's disconnection from historical background information, and the NJHC not spearheading the project.

History Essay Contest: Still on hold.

Document Storage: Chair Maher commented on the recent Hunterdon County Historical Society (HCHS) Newsletter which listed a number of artifact/document donations. She suggested this may be a good time to reach out again to Dave Harding re the Commission's desire to support document storage. There may be other ways the Commission can partner with HCHS. She reported that Charlie Fisher announced his retirement as president of the HCHS; Janice Armstrong has been named HCHS president and Lora Jones stepped down from the board.

Archaeological Society of New Jersey (ASNJ): Analyst Trainee Lembo re-mentioned the ASNJ YouTube channel with guest speaker videos. Regarding a Speaker Series collaboration with the Cultural & Heritage Commission, Cmr. Sherblom will contact Chris Matthews about a possible presentation about the Vought House. After April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Analyst Trainee Lembo will reach back out to the ASNJ board and membership to recruit guest speakers for an end of summer or beginning of fall Speaker Series.

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

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS** – No report

**IX. NEW BUSINESS** N/A

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

- Vice Chair Cronheim announced NJSCA Critical Needs 2021 Awards went to Hunterdon Art Museum and Roxey Ballet.
- NJ Arts and Cultural Recovery Fund Awards also granted to Hunterdon Art Museum and Roxey Ballet.
- Chair Maher mentioned that Lora Jones is editing a book by Philip Fleming on King's Mill in Franklin Township (c. 1729).
- Vice Chair Cronheim announced federal COVID-19 relief given to The Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, a for-profit organization. They will be included in the Cultural & Heritage Commission's mailing list.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Hanna

**Next meeting: April 28, 2021 4:30pm**