

**Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission
MINUTES**

Regular Monthly Meeting - 4:30 pm, Wednesday September 22, 2021

Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse, 71 Main St., Flemington, NJ 08822

This meeting held in the Commission offices, 1st floor, Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse

Present: Cmr. Don Sherblom, Cmr. Maeve Pambianchi (by phone); Cmr. Nikki Shepardson, Staff: Executive Director Carrie Fellows, Assistant Program Analyst Lauren Lembo, Clerk Nancy Hanna.

Absent: Chair Gayle Maher, Vice Chair Carol Cronheim

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

I. APPROVAL OF July 28, 2021 MINUTES: Quorum not met; held over until October meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT N/A

III. Chair's Report: No report

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Carrie Fellows

Operations: Staff continue to follow all COVID-19 protocols set by Administration. We will continue to adapt as directed by the County and advised by the Department of Health.

Due to water infiltration in the Warden's House from Tropical Storm Ida, the Tax Board is temporarily occupying the Commission's workshop room. County Architect Frank Bell is working with Clarke Caton Hintz team to define a temporary repair until the stonework is repointed in Phase 2 of restoration.

NJ 250: Quarterly update meeting was held virtually on August 3 (details on their website). As member of the Advisory Council, Executive Director Fellows reviewed a presentation from one of the scholars chosen to provide a lecture on themes outlined in the Interpretive Framework.

NJ State Council on the Arts (NJSCA): Executive Director Fellows created a theoretical budget based on the meeting attended by Hunterdon County Commissioner J. Matthew Holt, Director Fellows, Assistant Program Analyst Lembo, Vice Chair Cronheim, and NJSCA Program Officer Mary Ellen Fouratt. \$125,000 will be allocated to regrants in FY2022, of the \$200,000 to be received.

NJ Historical Commission (NJHC): \$40,000 to be awarded in FY2022 for County History Partnership Program (CHPP).

NJ Historic Trust: County Architect Frank Bell will do a report at the October Commission meeting.

American Rescue Plan Funds: Department Heads have met with the Executive Team to discuss potential uses for these funds, which total over \$12M for Hunterdon County (first disbursement).

Tropical Storm Ida: County offices were closed Sept. 2, although senior staff were working remotely to manage damage and mitigation efforts. Our OEM team and GIS divisions worked together to release a damage survey for residents, which OEM is tracking.

V: REGRANT REPORT – Lauren Lembo

Local Arts Program (LAP) Grant: FY2022 award ask ceiling increased to \$15,000, and the match requirement has been suspended.

Applications are due October 25, and the review panel will meet in November. The virtual LAP workshop is tomorrow Sept. 23.

County History Partnership Program (CHPP) Grant: FY2022 award ask ceiling increased to \$10,000. Applications are due November 1; the workshop is on Sept. 28; panel review will be held in November.

County Special Project Grants: Payment was submitted last week.

Historic Marker proof update: Due to multiple rounds of substantial design errors in the proofs received, the Purchase Order was canceled, and a different company will be asked to provide a quote and design proofs.

NJHC/Sankofa Collaborative African American Heritage Trail: An update was provided for the Cherry Hill Cemetery historic marker and the Hunterdon County site draft is being finalized. A conference will be held on October 28 to showcase list of places.

VI. COMMISSION PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

Marker Committee: Cmr. Sherblom presented new language for the Bonnell Tavern Marker. A vote will occur via email for Commissioner approval.

History Essay Contest: Still on hold

VII. COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATE/ COMMENTS – Hunterdon County Commissioner J. Matthew Holt acknowledged the work of the Cultural & Heritage Commission at the last Board of County Commissioners meeting.

VIII: OLD BUSINESS

Document Storage: No news

Guest Speakers and Archaeological Society of New Jersey (ASNJ) Speakers: The ASNJ speaker series collaboration is scheduled virtually for Sunday, October 17 at 6:30pm.

IX. NEW BUSINESS Executive Director Fellows received a Zoom license and discussed virtual options for future meetings.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE: Cmr. Sherblom sent an email for an event at the Vought House on October 2 at 10:00 am.

XI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – No comments

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Hanna

Next meeting: October 27, 2021 4:30pm – In the Commission offices, 1st floor, Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse