



ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, March 26, 2024

TIME: 3:33 PM

LOCATION: Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central Ave., Dubuque, IA 52001

Regular Meeting

Commissioners Present: Nicholas HALDER (chair); Paula NEUHAUS (recorder); Shirley DAVIS-ORWOLL; Tom ROBBINS; Doug DONALD;

Commissioners Absent: Noelle CHESNEY (vice-chair); Sue RIEDEL

Staff Present: Bonnie SPURLING (Arts & Cultural Affairs Manager); Mike WILLIAMS (Intern)

Public Present: Ali LEVASSEUR (Julien Dubuque Film Festival, DubuqueFest);

Jenni PETERSON-BRANT (DubuqueFest)

HALDER called the meeting to order following staff assurance of Iowa Open Meeting compliance at 3:33 PM.

Roll Call & Review of Minutes

Roll call was skipped due to familiarity between Commissioners present, City staff and public present at the time of roll call.

ROBBINS moved to approve minutes from February 27, 2024 with corrections provided BY NEUHAUS and HALDER, seconded by DONALD. Vote: *Unanimously affirmed. **Motion carries.***

Status Reports from Staff

SPURLING reports for Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs:

Creatives Café occurred March 7th and was successful and well attended with over 70 local creatives in attendance.

Laura Merrick is continuing work with NEA grants, recent work including extending project deadlines and assisting with final reports.

Updates From Master Plan Working Groups

None

Old Business – Commission Strategic Plan Goals – Reporting and Discussion

None

Old Business – Other

None

New Business – Capacity Building Grant Updates

NEUHAUS and SPURLING present nearly complete Capacity Building grant. NEUHAUS advises slight changes to timeline could be made.

ROBBINS notes that education institutions are not eligible and suggests researching the Tracy Family Foundation grant.

DONALD motions to accept Capacity Building grant, seconded by DAVIS-ORWOLL. Vote: *Unanimously affirmed. Motion carries.*

Art on the River Juror Selections

SPURLING presents 11 juried sculptures for upcoming Art on the River exhibit, along with two alternate sculptures.

DAVIS-ORWOLL motions to include adjustments to sculpture lineup as initially chosen by jury, seconded by DONALD.

Vote taken: *Unanimously affirmed. Motion carries.*

Public Comment/Correspondence

LEVASSEUR advises of DubuqueFest will again be held the same weekend as Art on the River, this year 98 visual artists applied to festival. LEVASSEUR now seeking volunteers and applicants for music and performers.

PETERSON-BRANT informs of annual pottery event by group Twenty Dirty Hands taking place October 18-20. PETERSON-BRANT heading to Des Moines for upcoming artist networking and business development retreat.

Events and Engagement Reporting from Commissioners

LEVASSEUR informs of upcoming Julien Dubuque Film Festival April 24 -28, showing 170 films.

Adjournment motioned by DAVIS-ORWOLL seconded by DONALD at 4:24 PM.

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 2023, at 3:30 PM at the Multicultural Family Center

Respectfully submitted:

Bonnie Spurling

Arts & Cultural Affairs Manager, City of Dubuque

These minutes were passed and approved on _____ April 23, 2024

Witnessed By _____ *Nick Halder* (signature)

Nick Halder (printed)

Chair (officer position)