



## ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES

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**DATE:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024

**TIME:** 3:30 PM

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

### **Regular Meeting**

**Commissioners Present:** Nicholas HALDER (chair); Noelle CHESNEY (vice-chair); Tom ROBBINS; Doug DONALD; Sue RIEDEL; Shirley DAVIS-ORWOLL

**Commissioners Absent:** Paula NEUHAUS (recorder)

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

**Public Present:** Alvin HARRISON; Emily ROTH

HALDER called the meeting to order following staff assurance of Iowa Open Meeting compliance at 3:35 PM.

### **Roll Call & Review of Minutes**

Roll call was taken to introduce Commissioners and City staff to the public that was present.

ROBBINS moved to approve minutes from March 26, 2024, with corrections, seconded by DONALD. Vote: *Unanimously affirmed. Motion carries.*

### **Status Reports from Staff**

SPURLING reported that the application deadline for the Arts & Culture Operating Support was on April 12. There were 19 total submissions. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing eligibility with the review and scoring to follow by the review panel.

SPURLING reported that the City Council approved the new Arts & Culture Capacity Building Grant. Materials were made public on April 2 with applications due on May 10.

SPURLING reported that she had contacted the selected artists for Art on the River 2024 – 2025. Upon doing so, three artists indicated that their pieces were no longer available. Staff secured the two alternate selections, which left one remaining spot. SPURLING proposed substituting a different submitted sculpture from one of the selected artists whose original piece was no longer available. Discussion followed between the Commissioners.

RIEDEL moved to substitute the two sculptures, seconded by DAVIS-ORWOLL. Vote: *Unanimously affirmed. Motion carries.*

### **Updates From Master Plan Working Groups**

**None**

### **Old Business – Commission Strategic Plan Goals – Reporting ad Discussion**

Grant subcommittee will continue its work to finalize the remaining pieces to the Arts & Culture Operating Support and Capacity Building materials.

### **Old Business – Commission Strategic Plan Committee Work**

Discussion took place to reevaluate Commissioner assignments to the various objectives in the current Commission's strategic plan. The following assignments were made:

- 1. Evaluate and adapt Arts & Culture (infrastructure) staffing and placement with City organizational chart, Commission structure, and budget to maximize community impact.**
  - A. Evaluate and adapt City Arts & Culture staffing and placement within City organizational chart to maximize community impact.**
    - Donald, Halder, Riedel
  - B. Evaluate and adapt Commission structure to maximize community impact.**
    - Chesney, Davis-Orwoll, Donald
  - C. Evaluate and adapt City Arts & Cultural Affairs budget to maximize community impact.**
    - Donald, Halder, Riedel
- 2. Continually strengthen and evaluate Arts & Culture grant programs to maximize community impact.**
  - A. Conduct a robust review and evaluation of all City of Dubuque Arts & Culture Grant Programs to maximize community impact.**
    - Halder, Neuhaus, Riedel
  - B. Annually evaluate and strengthen the City of Dubuque's Arts & Culture Operational Grant Program to maximize community impact.**
    - Halder, Neuhaus, Riedel
  - C. Annually evaluate and strengthen the City of Dubuque's Arts & Culture Special Projects Grant Program to maximize community impact.**
    - Halder, Neuhaus, Riedel

**New Business**

None

**Public Comment/Correspondence**

Discussion took place between the public that was present and the Commissioners about the various granting opportunities provided by the Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.

**Events and Engagement Reporting from Commissioners**

None

Adjournment motioned by CHESNEY seconded by RIEDEL at 3:59 PM.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 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 \_\_\_\_\_ May 28, 2024

Witnessed By \_\_\_\_\_ Nick Halder (signature)  
Nick Halder (printed)  
Chair (officer position)