

MINUTES
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 31, 2010
Library Auditorium 3rd Floor, Carnegie-Stout Library,
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, IA 52001

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Marina O'Rourke, Sue Riedel, Julie Steffen, and Geri Shafer. Commissioners absent: Paul Hemmer. Staff present: Jan Stoffel, Jerelyn O'Connor.

Approval of Minutes of July 27, 2010. Motion by O'Rourke and seconded by Kames to approve the minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

New Business: Annual Planning Session

Geri Shafer provided an introduction to the planning session format detailing the commission's past history with goal setting and approach for today's session.

Arts Index Study and Arts and Economic Prosperity Study: In addition to the written report Jan Stoffel provided a summary of the Arts Index Study. Dubuque was one of 100 communities nationwide selected to participate in the pilot study Local Arts Index through Americans for the Arts. This study will evaluate the health, vitality and character of the arts and culture in the community of Dubuque but not its economic impact. The study will be conducted over the next 18 months and although there is no charge, it will require staff time. Since we are participating in the Arts Index Study, Dubuque was provided the opportunity to do a scientific, highly regarded arts economic impact study customized for the City of Dubuque at a discounted rate of \$2,900. Jerelyn O'Connor presented some possibilities for funding this study. The consensus of the commission was that completing the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study will be extremely valuable to the City, Council, arts and culture non profits, and private partners to use in fundraising, grantmaking, advocacy, and benchmarking. Motion by Riedel, Second by Henkels to recommend to the City Council that the City contract with Americans for the Arts to conduct the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study and to allocate the \$2,000 budgeted in FY 2011 for commissioner professional development towards the study because the study will provide benefit to the City and Arts and Culture organizations throughout the community. All approved.

Geri Shafer suggested that commissioners review the suggested research tool and provide any input or suggestions to Jan within two weeks.

Review and Discussion of Prepared Value Statements

Julie Steffen provided an overview. With the Commission's mission statement in mind, each Commissioner was asked to prepare a values statement about their vision for arts and culture in Dubuque. Each Commissioner shared their value statements. Julie noted that there was a significant amount of overlap dealing

with the themes of integrity, partnership, open process, accessibility and education, abundance and variety of the arts.

2010-2011 Commission Priorities

Geri Shafer facilitated the discussion on Commission goals. The main priorities from the 2008 Goal Setting are (1) Advocacy and visibility, (2) Grant making and (3) Access to the arts for all. Geri stated that she wants to define what staff's role is and what the Commission's role is. It was suggested that the Commission's role should be expanded as the leading action/policy/networking organization for the arts. After extensive discussion, there was consensus to keep these three main priorities. Geri Shafer suggested that we review and refine these priorities at the September commission meeting.

Arts and Humanities Month

Arts and Humanities Month Proclamation will be on September 20 city council agenda. Geri Shafer will accept on behalf of the Commission. Marina O'Rourke will arrange for dancers to perform prior to the City Council meeting. Julie Steffen offered to write an article for Juliens Journal. Ellen Henkels said she will write a guest editorial for the Telegraph Herald to publish in October.

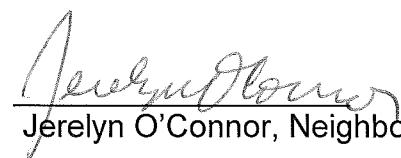
Information Sharing

Jan Stoffel provided the Commission an updated contact sheet and a calendar of the Commission's activities for the coming year.

Adjournment

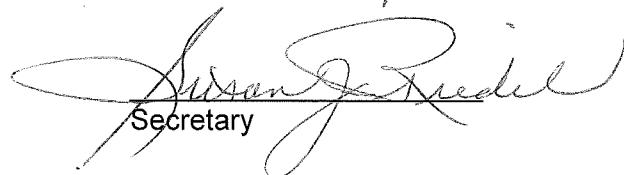
Riedel moved and Kames seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m. The next meeting will be held on September 29, 2010, at 4:30 p.m., at the Carnegie Stout 3rd floor Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerelyn O'Connor, Neighborhood Development Specialist

These minutes were passed and approved on September 28, 2010


Susan Riedel
Secretary