

MINUTES  
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, February 22, 2011  
Library Auditorium 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Carnegie-Stout Library,  
360 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Dubuque, IA 52001

**Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.**

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Marina O'Rourke, Sue Riedel, Geri Shafer, and Paul Hemmer. Julie Steffen joined the meeting by conference call. Staff present: Jerelyn O'Connor.

**Approval of Minutes of January 25.** Motion by Henkels and second by Riedel to approve the minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Conflict of Interest Policy. At the Commission's request, Crenna Brumwell, Assistant City Attorney, provided an explanation of the City's Conflict of Interest Policy. Generally a conflict arises if there is a financial interest or a family interest. Regarding an indirect interest, the recommendation is to err on the side of disclosure of the potential conflict. After disclosing the conflict, it is recommended to step away from the table. Crenna also provided an explanation of expartie communication and detailed the three steps to prevent expartie communication.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Discussion about incorporating public art in the Bee Branch Parkway Project. Louise Kames provided samples of several examples across the country where functional artistic elements were incorporated in various public improvement projects such as a pedestrian overpass, gateways, bridges, streets, benches, and paving. Kames moved that the Commission recommend to the City Council that functional public art be integrated into the Bee Branch Creek Parkway project. Possibilities include decorative paving areas, gateways, and bridges. Second by Hemmer. All approved. The Commission further suggested that the existing Art on the River Committee could serve in an advisory capacity on incorporating artistic elements in the Bee Branch Creek Parkway Project.
2. Commission Priorities Update: Advocacy/Visibility. Geri Shafer told the Commission about the budget public hearing and the need to increase arts funding. There were two arts budget improvement requests, 1) a request to increase funding for the Arts Coordinator position from 10 hours a week to 20 hours a week. 2) A request to increase the operating support funding by 10%, or a \$20,000 increase. The City Manager did not recommend either of the budget improvement requests. Geri Shafer suggested contacting board members of the various arts organizations to request that they contact City Council members about increased funding for the arts. The final budget public hearing is scheduled

on March 10. Sue Riedel suggested inviting Mary Cownie, the new Director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, to Dubuque, perhaps to the Art on the River opening.

**INFORMATION SHARING:**

1. O'Connor provided an update on Art on the River. Applications are due February 28.
2. O'Connor stated that several arts organizations are providing audience surveys for the Economic Impact Study. 250 surveys are due by the end of March.

**ADJOURNMENT**

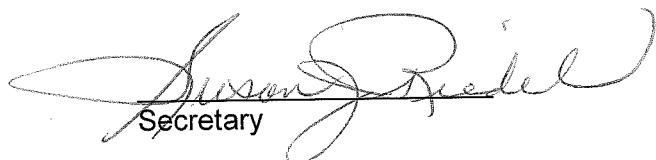
O'Rourke moved and Riedel seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Motion passed 7-0. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, at 4:30 p.m., at the Carnegie Stout Library. Commission suggested meeting in the board room for future meetings if it's available.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerelyn O'Connor, Neighborhood Development Specialist

These minutes were passed and approved on 3/22/2011

  
Sue Riedel  
Secretary