

MINUTES  
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Lacy Board Room

Carnegie-Stout Public Library  
360 W. 11th St., Dubuque, IA

**Meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.**

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Marina O'Rourke, Geri Shafer and Sue Riedel.

Commissioners excused: Paul Hemmer Julie Steffen

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Ján Stoffel

**Approval of Minutes** of August 31, 2011. Motion by Riedel, seconded by Henkels to approve minutes with three slight changes. Motion carried 5-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Discussion of public input during grant review process and the Arts and Culture Operating Funding Program.** Riedel moved and Shafer seconded to table the discussions until the next meeting when all Commissioners can be present. Motion carried 5-0.
2. **FY12 Special Project Unobligated Funds.** The consensus of the Commission was to decide on a recommendation for the use of the funds later in the year and consider as needed. Some possible uses of the funds were identified:
  - Fund FY13 Special Project grants
  - Cash match for grants
  - Marketing the Americans for the Arts studies
  - Opportunity for Bee Branch art involvement or other special project of the Commission.
  - Fund part of the Arts and Cultural Affairs position lost through ICCG
  - Production of an art video

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **FY13 operating budget requests.** O'Connor reported that the arts and culture operating budget is due soon. Commissioners discussed what recommendations they would make to the City Manager and Council for budget improvement packages. While it was recognized that the City budget is tight, the need for continued and additional support is needed to support the momentum of art initiatives in the City. The following budget improvement recommendations were made:
  - It was moved by Riedel and seconded by Kames to recommend funding an additional 10 hours/wk for the Arts and Cultural Affairs position in light of the loss of funding from the Iowa Cultural Community Grant program and the likelihood of little funding in the future due to state budget cuts. Motion carried 5-0.Commission has also endorsed the staff request for funding for the position this current budget year since the Iowa Community Cultural Grant was not received.



- It was moved by Riedel and seconded by Henkels to recommend a 10% increase in the \$200,000 budget for Operating Support of arts and cultural organizations in Dubuque.
- It was moved by Riedel and seconded by O'Rourke to request money to market the Americans for the Arts surveys. Motion carried 5-0

#### ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION.

- Commissioners wondered about the original brochure of the public art in the Grand River Center that was published in 2003-2004. It should be updated and publicized. Scott printing produced it. Stoffel will explore.
- Commissioners requested that the information regarding an entertainment tax offered by Hemmer be distributed electronically well in advance of the next meeting.

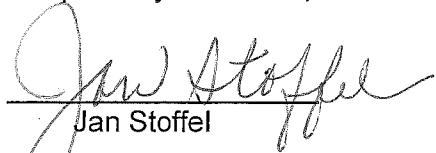
#### INFORMATION SHARING

- Shafer reported that over 100 people were in attendance at the last Art Gumbo monthly mini-grant program.
- Dia De Las Americas, a special project funded by through the Special Project grant program, will occur on October 8, 2011.
- Kames reported on the Iowa Arts Council Starving Artists conference. There was discussion about Dubuque hosting this conference in the future.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Shafer moved and Riedel seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on October 25 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lacy Board Room at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library, 360 W. 11th St., Dubuque, Iowa.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jan Stoffel

These minutes were passed and approved on

October 25, 2011

  
Louise Kames, Secretary

