

Minutes
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION
December 11, 2012
First Floor Meeting Room
Carnegie-Stout Library

The meeting was called to order by Vice - Chair Ellen Henkels at 4:35 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Sue Riedel, Gina Siegert, Julie Steffen.

Commissioners excused: Paul Hemmer and Marina O'Rourke

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Jan Stoffel

Approval of Minutes of October 23, 2012. Motion made by Riedel, seconded by Kames to approve minutes as read. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Special Project Grant focus groups report.** Staff held two focus groups in November 2012 to gather ideas about community engagement through the arts and determine how to translate those ideas into our grant special project grant program. Participants included those not previously surveyed about the arts grants, including those involved in other grant making throughout the city, those involved in the art community in some way, those whose constituents come from diverse groups, and business and civic leaders. Care was taken to include a gender, age ethnic and socioeconomic variety of participants. Commissioners discussed the results and what suggestions and comments would be most useful in improving the special project grants. Riedel suggested that follow up be made with participants once the grant has been revised. Kames suggested sharing the entire list of comments with all of the participants.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Staff Recommendations of changes to Special Project Grant.** Staff shared a draft of new grant guidelines, based upon the focus group information, previous Commission discussions, and extensive research of other municipal grant programs and best practiced throughout the country. Suggestions made by the Commissioners will be incorporated into a second draft that will be reviewed at the next meeting.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

1. Ellen Henkels said that she, Jerelyn O'Connor and former Commissioner Geri Shafer attended the All America City 2012 meeting. She mentioned that there was significant discussion about the Historic Millwork District and Dubuque's social and cultural vibrancy.

INFORMATION SHARING

1. Staff shared the new City of Dubuque Arts brochure. Copies are available for distribution with an online version posted on the web soon.
2. The Iowa Arts Council will be posting an interim grant program soon. It will make grants in January 2013, with a new program starting after July 1.
3. The City of Dubuque Expo will no longer be held in April of each year. The City will develop a new format that will be held in the fall.
4. The Jury has been chosen for the 2013-2014 Art on the River. Entry forms for the new exhibit will be available on January 2, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Riedel, seconded by Kames to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 22, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Searles for Jan Stoffel

Jan Stoffel
Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator

These minutes were passed and approved on

January 22, 2013

Sue Riedel
Sue Riedel, Secretary