

MINUTES

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION

Tuesday, March 25, 2008, 4:00 p.m.
Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, Iowa

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Paul Kohl, Louise Kames, Geri Shafer, Sue Riedel
Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Liz Willems

Approval of Minutes of February 26, 2008.

Motion by Riedel to approve minutes as corrected, second by Shafer. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Americans for the Arts Conference will be June 20-23rd in Philadelphia. There are budgeted professional development funds for one staff person and one commissioner to attend. Ellen Henkels and Geri Shafer expressed interest in attending. The Commission decided that Ellen Henkels will attend representing the Art Commission. Jerelyn O'Connor will also attend. Geri Shafer had made previous plans to attend at her own expense.

2008 Art on the River – The Call for Sculptors prospectus has been mailed out. Entries are due April 15. Up to ten pieces will be selected by a blind jury process. The Art on the River Committee (which includes three Arts Commissioners) has overseen the whole process. After the jury has made their selections, the selected works will be presented to the Arts Commission for approval. Jury members consist of sculptor Tom Stancliffe, Louise Kames, and a third juror to be recommended by Tom Stancliffe. Jury will meet the week of April 21st. The Commission agreed to hold their next meeting as scheduled on April 22. If necessary, a special meeting will be held the following week to review the jury selections for Art on the River.

2007 Art on the River - The Commission brainstormed on ways to market the works of sculpture. The Art on the River Committee has received negative comments from artists about the auction and are proposing that we more aggressively market the works to the business community. Commissioner Riedel suggested that we identify businesses to contact for purchasing the sculptures for display at business or for donation for public display. In the letter to businesses it could target the benefits of owning the sculpture or in the case of a donation have a plaque identifying the artist and the donor. The Commission

also suggested that Jerelyn talk to different business groups and service organizations such as Rotary to increase awareness of the program and the opportunity to purchase the works. Another suggestion was to create a new City Channel 8 program on the value of public art, ask Paul Hemmer about a radio feature on public art, and to expand marketing outside the immediate area.

OLD BUSINESS:

Progress report on Commission Goals and Priorities: Hosting the Iowa Arts Council grantwriting workshop was completed in March. The workshop was very successful and had received very positive comments from the attendees. It was noted there's a need to target younger artists in Dubuque. Another Commission priority is to work directly with American for the Arts to explore other funding sources. By having a Commissioner and Jerelyn attend the conference in Philadelphia in June may help identify funding sources. An ongoing top priority is to prepare the case for why arts are important to economic development and to quality of life in Dubuque. A message was relayed from Amy Weber that she will get the subcommittee together soon to work on this priority.

The status of the Iowa Community Cultural Grant Application: The City of Dubuque was awarded a \$12,330 ICCG grant for the "Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Position." The application scored very well. Four Dubuque organizations received ICCG funding totaling \$70,200. Next step in the process is to develop a job description.

Motion to adjourn by Riedel, second by Kohl. Approved 4-0
Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Willems

These minutes passed and approved on April 22, 2008.

Paul Kohl, Secretary

City Clerk _____
City Council: _____
City Manager: _____
File: _____

