

MINUTES

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION

Tuesday, April 22, 2008, 4:00 p.m.

Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, Iowa

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

Commissioners present: Paul Kohl, Louise Kames, Geri Shafer, Sue Riedel, Paul Hemmer, Ellen Henkels, Amy Weber

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Liz Willems

Others Present: Greg Orwell

Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2008.

Motion by Kohl to approve minutes as corrected, second by Shafer. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 Art on the River: Photographs and descriptions of the works of sculpture selected by the jury were distributed to the Commission. Louise Kames served as a juror and she explained how the selections were chosen. She noted that the jury thought the process was very organized and well planned. 68 works of sculpture were submitted for the competition. Ten works and one alternate were selected. Motion by Henkels to accept the Jury's selections for the 2008 Art on the River, second by Shafer. Motion passed 7-0.

Review FY2009 Operating Support Funding Requests: Chairperson Weber suggested that each Commissioner be given an opportunity to comment on each application prior to recording the scores for each applicant.

Legion-Aires Drum & Bugle Corp. (Colts):

Paul Kohl said that the Prescott school partnership had an impact on community and showed leadership. Louise noted that the grant narrative specially addressed the rating criteria. Geri Shafer noted that she appreciated that the Colts provided economic impact figures. Ellen Henkels stated that they provided a good explanation of their impact on the community. Sue Riedel noted that a large portion of the operating budget is spent outside of Dubuque and on transportation expenses. The educational component of the Colts programming is a plus. The Colts letter to the Commission was distributed. There was consensus that the organization is eligible for funding.

Four Mounds:

Amy Weber recused herself from participating in the discussion of Four Mounds.

Geri Shafer noted that the narrative did not fully address the rating criteria. Louise agreed. Ellen stated that the organization is a “cultural” organization based on its work in historic preservation. Sue agreed however she noted that the facility and budget is mostly used for social service programs. Motion by Riedel that Four Mounds is an eligible organization. Second by Shafer. 4 approved the motion (Kohl, Kames, Shafer & Riedel) 2 opposed the motion (Henkels and Hemmer). Weber abstained.

Dubuque County Fine Arts Society

Discussion was that the applicant qualifies as an arts organization. It was suggested that it would be helpful to see the organization’s long range plan. Henkels motioned the Fine Arts Society is an eligible organization. Second by Riedel. Motion approved 6-0. Paul Kohl abstained.

Dubuque County Historical Society

Riedel motioned that the Dubuque County Historical Society is an eligible organization. Second by Kohl. Motion carried 7-0.

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra

Riedel motioned that the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra is eligible, second by Kames. Motion carried 7-0.

Dubuque Arboretum

Kohl motioned that the Dubuque Arboretum is an eligible organization. Second by Riedel. Motion carried 6-1. Kames opposed the motion.

Dubuque Museum of Art

Kames motioned that the Dubuque Museum of Arts is eligible, second by Shafer. Motion carried 7-0.

Fly by Night Productions

Shafer voiced concern there is no long range plan in place and the organization is showing decreasing revenues. Motion by Riedel that organization is eligible, second by Henkels. Motion carried 7-0.

Dubuque Arts Council

Riedel motioned that Dubuque Arts Council is an eligible organization. Second by Shafer. Motion carried 6-0. Hemmer abstained.

Grand Opera House

Shafer motioned that the Grand Opera House is an eligible organization, second by Hemmer. Motion carried 7-0.

Northeast Iowa School of Music

Hemmer questioned whether NISOM is eligible since it is an “educational institution.” The program criteria states educational institutions are not eligible under this program.

Weber stated that NISOM is not a traditional educational institution, their mission is music. Riedel explained that they don't get tax breaks as a school would, their primary purpose is to teach lessons and for performances. Shafer noted that it is generally accepted practice with non-profit organizations that there be a separation between the executive director and president of the board . Riedel motioned that the Northeast Iowa School of Music is an eligible organization. Second by Kohl. Motion carried 7-0.

Bell Tower Productions

Shafer expressed a concern about the lack of separation between the President of the Board and the Executive Director. Kohl motioned that the Bell Tower Productions is an eligible organization, second by Shafer. Motion carried 6-0. Riedel abstained from voting.

Commissioners reviewed their rating sheets. Scores were reported and tabulated. Paul Hemmer abstained from rating Dubuque Arts Council. Paul Kohl abstained from rating Dubuque County Fine Arts Society. Sue Riedel abstained from rating Bell Tower Productions. Amy Weber abstained from scoring Four Mounds Foundation.

Commissioner	COLTS	Four Mounds	DBQ County Fine Arts	DBQ County Historical Society	DBQ Symphony Orchestra	DBQ Arboretum	DBQ Museum of Arts	Fly by Night Productions	DBQ Arts Council	Grand Opera House	NE Iowa School of Music	Bell Tower
Hemmer	90	70	100	80	100	80	100	85	pass	100	60	100
Henkels	80	55	85	70	100	50	90	88	95	95	60	98
Kames	80	62	80	97	97	62	95	87	94	90	92	90
Kohl	88	70	pass	93	93	85	93	90	87	93	76	88
Riedel	75	60	95	95	95	60	90	85	95	90	80	pass
Shafer	75	65	75	95	95	75	95	85	95	95	80	90
Weber	85	pass	80	95	90	80	95	85	95	85	80	85

Grant applicants average score in rank order.

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra	95.71
Dubuque Museum of Art	94.00
Dubuque Arts Council	93.50
Grand Opera House	92.57
Bell Tower Productions	91.83
Dubuque Historical Society	89.29
Fly-by-Night Productions	86.43
Colts Drum and Bugle	81.86
Dubuque Fine Arts Society	81.33
Northeast Iowa School of Music	75.43
Dubuque Arboretum	70.29
Four Mounds	63.67

OLD BUSINESS:

Progress report on Commission Goals and Priorities:

Weber and Shafer discussed plans of this subcommittee. They will review the funding awards that have been made over the last few years, and use information from those

organizations to build a case for the importance and value of arts funding. The goal is to have a case statement prepared prior to the City Council goal setting in late summer.

Information Sharing:

Business of the Arts, Loras College Arts and Culture Series is on Friday, April 25th.

Next meeting May 20th, 4:00 p.m. Amy Weber suggested that the commission consider various funding scenarios for the operating support program, such as possibly reducing the maximum funding amount.

Meeting to review Special Project Grants on Tuesday, June 10th at 4:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Riedel, second by Kohl.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Willems

These minutes passed and approved on May 20, 2008.

Paul Kohl, Secretary

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