

Minutes

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

September 22nd, 2015

Lacy Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marina O'Rourke at 4:35 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Marina O'Rourke, Sue Riedel, Ellen Henkels, Jessica Teckemeyer, Gina Siegert and Matthew Gregory.

Staff present: Debra Alleyne

Public attendance: Crescentia Volz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of August 28th 2015: Henkels made a motion, second by Riedel to receive and file the minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Member Introduction

The commissioners introduced themselves to the newly appointed Matthew Gregory at the meeting and he was then invited share a bit of his background with the group. At 4:50 pm he was sworn in and was officially welcomed into his appointment.

2. Arts and Humanities Month

O'Rourke volunteered to make the proclamation to the City Council and requested that Alleyne made sure that they were included on the City council agenda for October 5th. Discussions about which grant recipient should be approached to perform at the proclamation followed and each commissioner made recommendations. There was finally consensus on approaching the Colts to do a small demonstration prior to the proclamation as is customary. The commissioners discussed the content of the statement to follow the proclamation. O'Rourke encouraged commissioners to attend. Riedel suggested that the statement recognize and show appreciation for the funding provided by the city council that allows the commission to fund local arts organizations. Siegert suggested that the statement focus on the growth of partnerships and the new age for arts and culture in Dubuque with the Master planning process being underway.

3. Master plan flier

The commissioners were upraised of the 5 point plan that both Alleyne and Siegert created to help with public understanding of the Master plan. Teckemeyer asked about the distribution plan and was told by Alleyne that the graphic design work was scheduled to begin once the commission had the opportunity to see the points and make recommendations. Next, the Economic Development Director, Communications Director and City Manager would OK the final draft before printing and distribution. Henkels questioned the timing of the flier suggesting that perhaps it be disseminated when the master plan was complete. Alleyne reminded the commission that there was an upcoming cluster of workshops scheduled and that prior, more comprehensive knowledge of the purpose of the master plan could help glean more fruitful responses. The newly appointed commissioner Gregory indicated that there were elements of the flier that were still confusing to him and could be a source of confusion for the recipients. As a result, Alleyne and Siegert scheduled time the following day to include notes from the commission.

4. Grant Review and Discussion

Alleyne addressed the commission and proposed that some significant stipulations be applied to grant recipients moving forward. She stated that there should be some conditional responsibilities attached to organizations who wish to receive funding during the next granting cycle. Participation in city arts initiatives, serving on arts committees and attending workshops designed to inform applicants about the grant application process were some recommendations put forward. Discussion about the proposed stipulations followed and commission members raised many questions. Teckemeyer, Siegert and Henkels expressed concern that this may be a strain on the organizations. Riedel exited the meeting at 6:10pm. Because the extent of the stipulations was neither comprehensive nor immediately necessary the discussion was tabled. O'Rourke and Teckemeyer suggested that Lord Cultural Services should be called upon to make recommendations on if or how this would be instituted. Further discussion of the grants was also tabled due to time constraints. Henkels excused herself at 6:25pm

ITEMS FROM COMMISION

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

The member of the public in attendance, Crescentia Volz, asked about the master plan flier and urged Alleyne to use language that would be accessible to the varied education levels that exist within the city. She also asked that participation in city initiatives and serving on art committees, such as the Art On The River committee, not be exclusive to grant recipients as recommended by Alleyne but be open to the public. She also suggested that AOTR be included in the Dubuque art crawl, Fall Into Art.

ADJOURNMENT – Gregory made a motion to adjourn, second by Siegert. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted:
Debra Alleyne
Economic Development Coordinator

These minutes were passed and approved on

December 15, 2015

~~Susan Riedel~~
Gina Siegert, Secretary
Susan Riedel, Commissioner

