

Minutes

## ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

October 24, 2017

Lacey Board Room, Carnegie Stout Library

**The meeting was called to order by David Schmitz at 4:06 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.**

**Commissioners present:** Mary Armstrong, Ali Levasseur, David Schmitz, Gina Siegert

**Commissioners tardy:** Sue Riedel, Ellen Henkels

**Absent:** Matthew Gregory

**Staff present:** Debra Alleyne

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 28, 2017.** Motion to accept minutes by Commissioner Levasseur, seconded by Commissioner Siegert. Motion carried 6-0.

### NEW BUSINESS

**1. Guest speaker from Athletes in the Arts**

American College of Sports Medicine, Loyola University of New Orleans and Drum Core International combined are members of Athletes in the Arts. Dr. Stephen Rock, a doctor of sports medicine from Medical Associates, presented on the group. The group's mission is to integrate the science of sports medicine into the practice of performing arts. He compared the people engaged in the performing arts to athletes. He talked about the ways in which the practice of many sports adhere to OSHA standards for the health of the athletes and how inadequate attention is paid to the similar standards for those participating in the performing arts in categories like sound exposure, repetition, exertion and injury. Many medical, dance, voice teachers and doctors are currently involved in this research. Health & Wellness of performing artists is often essential to their livelihood and overall longevity in their industry. Providing access to middle/high school kids and performing arts teachers on the topic of selfcare will impact the wellbeing and economy of our future artists. The commission was very interested to learn more about this topic and encouraged Dr. Rock to further his research locally. The website for more information is [www.acsm.org](http://www.acsm.org)

**2. Stephanie Schmitz - The Illumination Project:**

Mrs. Schmitz addressed the commission and outlined the project and its genesis. She is the co-owner of a building in the Millwork District and came to the commission to talk about her intention to use her property to create a sculptural, interactive, light-based, art installation. After she attended the Community and the Implementation of Public Art workshop hosted by the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs in conjunction with Art on the River in June, she became inspired to convert her space. She first met with Alleyne to talk about her idea, gain feedback and ask if there were any city requirements. Alleyne directed her to the Planning Department based on the nature of the project and

the potential protrusion into the right of way. Mrs. Schmitz consulted with the planning department about her intentions for her project. They advised her based on the sculptural and light-based elements according to city codes and ordinances. She contacted Alleyne again to be included on the commission's agenda to gain further insight from appointed, local arts representatives. Mrs. Schmitz distributed documents that gave examples of projects in other cities similar to what she intends to complete on her property. She described the idea for her project and asked the commission for rigorous feedback. The commissioners reviewed the printed material asked several questions related to community engagement, structural integrity, and artistic quality. They made recommendations and encouraged her to reach out to the members should she require further assistance or advice. Mrs. Schmitz hopes to complete the project around May 25<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners all thought this was a positive and creative idea that would springboard more art, accessible to the public, spearheaded by local community members and artists. They noted that this project may inspire others to create art in other areas in the community. Based on the information provided to the commission, Chair Henkels moved that the commission support the project presented and Commissioner Riedel seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

### **3. Arts on the River:**

Alleyne reminded the commission that the CIP for the Art on the River program outlasted it's expected 10 years into 12 years but was finally depleted. Alleyne, along with the Economic Development department were in the process of including this expense to the budget request for FY19 and moving forward. Alleyne and the commissioners discussed feedback from artists over the years and what is currently best practice for temporary exhibits. The commissioners discussed a variety of scenarios that included: expanding exhibition times; updating stipends; potentially changing the number of exhibited pieces per exhibit; requesting a budget increase; finding matching partners; comparing the cost of purchasing artwork to the temporary exhibit that we currently have, etc. Commissioner Schmitz recommended that we request an increase of the current expenditure by 3% per year not to exceed 9% for the next three years as the cost of doing business increase and that this recommendation be brought to Economic Development Director Maurice Jones for consideration. Commissioner Schmitz made this motion and Commissioner Armstrong seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **4. Art Business Luncheon**

Alleyne updated the commission on the progress of the event. Alleyne told the commission that the space was booked for 100 seats encouraged them to reserve their places, like and share Facebook, and contact those they feel should be in attendance. The Business of the Arts evening event is intended for upcoming musicians and artists. Commissioners were encouraged to send out posters of both.

##### 5. 2018 Planning Meeting:

The commissioners expressed a desire to spend time creating a strategic plan for the body at a commission retreat in 2018. They discussed meeting in an inviting atmosphere for idea generation.

##### Action Items

- Commissioner Schmitz will meet with Alleyne and Teri Goodmann about Master Plan
- Alleyne will create a Survey Monkey to send to Arts and Business Luncheon attendees. Commissioner Siegert will assist in distribution of survey after events.
- Commissioner will review time in 2018 and agenda for a commission retreat
- Alleyne will set a time for Finance Task Force for financial forms review for operating support grants.
- Alleyne is looking for Commission member represent on the Arts and Business Committee moving forward.

**ADJOURNMENT** Commissioner Armstrong motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Riedel at 6:10 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup> Five Flags Center and December 12<sup>th</sup> location TBA

Respectfully submitted:

Debra Alleyne

Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator

These minutes were passed and approved on

November 14, 2017

  
Gina Siegert, Secretary