

Minutes

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

December 18, 2018

Five Flags Center,
405 Main St, Dubuque, IA 52001

Commissioners present: Tyler Daugherty, Ali Levasseur, Paula Neuhaus (arrived 4 pm), David Schmitz

Commissioners Absent: Gina Siegert, Mary Armstrong, Sue Riedel

Staff present: Debra Alleyne

David Schmitz called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Motion to accept minutes

Minutes for the November meeting were unavailable.

Update from Staff

Debra Alleyne provided the Commission with an update on her status as Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator. Debra has accepted a new position and submitted her official letter of resignation to the City Manager. Her last day of employment with the City will be January 3, 2019.

Debra met with Ali and David to review the status of all her current projects. Jill Connors in Economic Development and Cori Burbach, Assistant City Manager, will be our points of contact until Debra's successor is named.

The Commission expressed its gratitude to Debra for her hard work and positive contributions to the City and arts and cultural community over the last 3+ years.

Recap of Arts and Business Luncheon

The 3rd Annual Arts and Business Luncheon was held on December 13 at the Grand River Center. Debra reported that between 60-70 community members registered for the luncheon. The featured speaker was Stephanie Pruitt, chair of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville. During the afternoon, Debra conducted a Facebook Live session with Stephanie, during which she answered questions from students. Finally, an evening event was held at the Smokestack, during which Stephanie addressed making a living as an artist.

David commented that he attended both the luncheon and evening event. The content of both presentations was excellent. Ali also felt that Stephanie was a great choice as speaker. Stephanie's presentation continued to communicate the importance of Business and Arts working together, supporting each other.

Arts and Culture Master Plan Subcommittee Report

The Master Plan Task Force has not met since October. However, working groups are continuing to form and meet, in some cases. Geri Shafer is working to form the last workgroup, called Capacity and Investment. The next Task Force meeting will be held in January.

Grants Subcommittee Report

Tyler and Paula met with Debra to review potential changes to the FY19 Operating Support and Special Project grant guidelines and application forms. Paula was unsure of how comprehensive of a review of the guidelines and applications the Commission wished to undertake this year. The question is whether to make substantial changes, or to simply update and ensure consistency, to the materials this year.

David offered that the grants had been substantially updated in past years, with a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion added and the new financial reporting form. Given those changes, and that we have a goal of releasing the guidelines in January, he proposed limiting the changes this year. Ali and other commissioners present agreed.

The grants subcommittee will work with Debra, or other City staff, to update the materials before our next meeting.

Art on the River Subcommittee Report

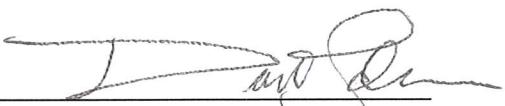
There was no Art on the River report.

Update on Winter Art in the Park

David provided an update on the Winter Art in the Park snow-sculpting event, which will be held in Washington Park on January 26, 2019 in conjunction with the Dubuque Museum of Art. This is the second year for the event. The City of Dubuque holds the license for the competition, with Winter Fun, Inc, and is assisting with publicity and media. The committee, which includes Debra and Tyler, has been meeting monthly since around August. There are currently four teams registered, including two from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Teams of up to three artists will compete for prizes, including People's Choice and Best in Snow. The Museum of Art has also engaged Wicked River Productions to assist with lining up food vendors.

Respectfully submitted
David Schmitz

These minutes were passed and approved on 22 MARCH, 2019.



David Schmitz, Chair

