

MINUTES
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 23, 2010
Library Auditorium 3rd Floor, Carnegie-Stout Library,
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, IA 52001

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Paul Hemmer, Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Marina O'Rourke, Sue Riedel, Geri Shafer and Julie Steffen. Staff present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Jan Stoffel.

Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2010. Corrections were submitted. Motion by Riedel and seconded by Henkels to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Vision Statement.** Hemmer submitted the following Vision statement for the consideration of the Commission: "By supporting our stated values the Dubuque Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commissioners will continue to support and encourage an ever expanding, energetic, vital and creative arts community." Henkels thought the proposed statement did a good job of stating what we actually do. Kames suggesting moving "vital" as the first word in the series to read: "...to support and encourage a vital, ever expanding, energetic and creative arts community. " It was moved by Henkels and seconded by O'Rourke to accept the Vision Statement as amended. Motion passed 7-0. Shafer suggested that the Mission, Values and Vision Statements be included in correspondence from the Commission and published on the Arts Commission page at the City of Dubuque website.
2. **Commission Priorities Updates.** Shafer reported that in December she will be meeting with Molly Grover and Keith Rahe from the Dubuque Chamber to discuss the establishment of a Business Arts Committee. Steffen, O'Rourke and Kames will serve as the Grant Review Subcommittee to meet with staff during December 2010.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. It was moved by O'Rourke and seconded by Hemmer to cancel the December 28, 2010, Commission meeting due to the date being in such close proximity to the holidays. Motion passed 7-0.

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Shafer reported that Americans for Arts is offering a free webinar for members, *How and Why Business Supports the Arts*. Stoffel has arranged to offer the seminar to Commissioners and members of the art community on December 8, 2010, at 2 pm in Conference Room II in the City Hall Annex. Shafer reported that the Election Overview report from Bob Lynch, president of Americans for the Arts, was very good. The central idea was that arts aren't about subsidies, but that the arts really help to drive the economy. She will email the link to Commissioners, send out some key talking points, and she encouraged all commissioners to be as active as possible. Hemmer will try to arrange a Rotary presentation advocating for the arts.

Prescott School Mural.

Hemmer and O'Rourke questioned the proposal from Prescott School regarding the location of the mural on the 8th street side of the Iowa Street parking ramp and wanted the record to reflect that while they were supportive of the project in general, they were opposed to locating it on 8th street. Hemmer mentioned that as a representative of the Grand Opera House, they would prefer to see a commissioned mural featuring all of the arts. Hemmer felt that the images on the proposed mural did not have anything to do with Dubuque and that Clarke University students, working with Prescott art teacher Scott Lammer, on the project should advise the elementary students on more appropriate and artistic images. Kames stated that its connection to Dubuque is that it's an artistic expression of children from Dubuque. It is a second grade project dealing with second grade interpretations. It would not be appropriate for Clarke students to change that interpretation. Kames suggested that caution should be exercised in censoring locations of public art. For example, adjoining property owners are not consulted about the locations of Art on the River sculptures. Riedel noted that the city has had many successful public mural projects over the years without input from the Arts Commission. She also noted that the project establishes a sense of community, will be a source of pride for the young artists and fits well with the City's priorities of supporting the goals of Every Child/Every Promise. Hemmer reported that his Board was opposed to locating the mural on 8th Street because it was not in keeping with the historical importance of the buildings in the area. Hemmer, as a private citizen and Director of the Grand, will take his concerns to the Parking Division. His concerns did not reflect the Commissions' thoughts as a whole.

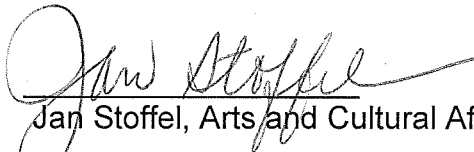
Henkels, Steffen, and Stoffel attended the Eastern Iowa Cultural Corridor Development Eat-n-Greet in Maquoketa on November 11. Henkels reported that arts advocates from Dubuque, Davenport and Maquoketa attended. Bob Osterhaus from Maquoketa suggested forming an Eastern Iowa Cultural Corridor, similar to the successful Iowa City/Cedar Rapids Cultural Corridor. The Eastern Iowa version could be based upon a "Grant Wood trail" and Mississippi River theme, and how that could be branded. The primary purpose of this entity would be for marketing, advocacy and to encourage artist programming among the communities of the Quad Cities, Dubuque and every organization in between. The group will meet again and perhaps have a presentation from the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids group.

INFORMATION SHARING: Commission members noted the wide array and excellent artist offerings during the holidays in Dubuque, including the Chapter SIX Christmas at the Grand on November 28, the Nutcracker Ballet starting the 11th of December, the play Another Night Before Christmas at the Bell Tower starting December 3, and the Symphony's Holiday Pops Concert on December 3-5.

Adjournment

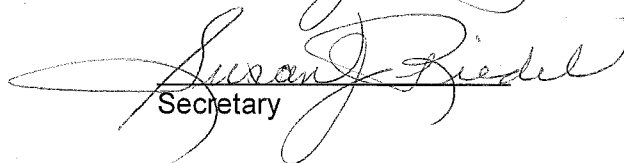
O'Rourke moved and Henkels seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Motion passed 7-0. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 4:30 p.m., at the Carnegie Stout 3rd floor Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan Stoffel, Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator

These minutes were passed and approved on January 25, 2011



Secretary