

MINUTES

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION

Tuesday, January 23, 2007, 4:30 p.m.
Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, Iowa

Meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Sue Riedel, Ellen Henkels, Louise Kames, Geri Shafer

Absent: Amy Weber, Paul Kohl, Mark Wahlert

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Kevin Firnstahl

Approval of Minutes of November 28, 2006

Motion by Shafer to approve with spelling correction, Second Henkels, passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2008 Special Projects Grant Application

O'Connor presented a draft of suggested changes/corrections in the FY 2008 Special Project Grant application that resulted from the July meeting.

The language related to an organization being a 501(c)(3) and from the city of Dubuque as an eligibility requirement was clarified. This will not preclude organizations and artists from partnering with a local, eligible 501(C)(3) groups.

Funding for special projects will be restricted to two consecutive years.

The Commission agreed to leave the purchase of equipment as an ineligible element.

Should the question "Is the grant funding needed to sustain the proposed program" be left in the application? It was suggested to substitute the word accomplish to the word sustain.

Motion by Shafer to accept changes as discussed, Second by Kames, passed 4-0.

FY 2008 Operating Support Application

O'Connor reviewed the Operating Support application and the past issues the Commission has had with applications regarding eligibility and funding amounts. Further delineation regarding an organization's operating budget with regard to its primary mission was discussed as well as the relationship to the City's arts and cultural goals. The Commission had previously approved rating criteria but had not actually

ranked the applications; the commission made a determination on whether or not the organization met the eligibility criteria.

It is expected the funding requests will far exceed the funding availability. Rewording of the funding award formula was discussed with possible revision of the \$50,000 and 6% caps. Consideration was given to adding the statement *Actual awards will be based on the number of eligible applicants* after the *annual budget for fiscal year* line item. It was agreed to table this item until the next meeting to allow O'Connor to put together additional data from past applicants and funding formulas.

Due to a conflict with the Cultural Advocacy Days and desire to complete grant revisions in February, the Commission agreed to reschedule the next meeting to 4:00 p.m. February 13.

Proposed Grant Schedule and Workshops.

Commission agreed with the proposed grant schedule pending city council approval of changes.

FY 2008 Special Project Grant Timeline

March 8	Applications available
March 20	Applications workshops, Library, noon and 5 p.m.
May 10	Applications Due
May 22	Applications Ranked and reviewed by Commission Commission recommendations to City Council
June	Grant Award
July	Funding disbursed
September 08	Closeout and final report

OLD BUSINESS

Strategic Plan Staff Reports

Kames distributed draft survey for arts and cultural organizations for review and discussion. This survey speaks to the City's Long Range Planning process and the unmet needs within Dubuque's arts and cultural organizations. The survey will be distributed after the next grant round. A final draft of the survey will be presented at the February meeting.

O'Connor distributed the Long Range Planning Commission's approved revisions to the Cultural Arts Goals section of the Comprehensive Plan. There will be a city council work session, and public hearing over the next few months before the updated comprehensive plan is adopted. .

Shafer reviewed the arts and economic prosperity index and creative industries report for Americans for the Arts. Seven organizations have reported and follow up with other organizations will be done. The goal is to complete the study in 2008.

No Commissioners were able to attend the last Cultural Alliance meeting so there was no report. The Alliance will have a table at the February 20, 2007, Downtown Business PM event.

Reports from Wahlert and Weber were postponed.

INFORMATION SHARING

O'Connor reminded Commissioners of the City Council's February 15 budget hearing, which will include the arts budget. Dinner is at 6 p.m. in the Library rotunda with the hearing at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Thank you letter from Clarke College was acknowledged.

Cultural Advocacy Days – Arts and the Iowa Workforce

Commission discussed the upcoming Cultural Advocacy Days.

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Riedel noted that Cyndi Pederson has been named the acting director of the Iowa Arts Council. Riedel suggested inviting the newly named director to Dubuque in conjunction with an Iowa Great Places visit or the Commission could sponsor an activity. The Commission concurred.

Congratulations to Commissioner Henkels for being honored by the Dubuque Co. Fine Arts Society.

Motion to adjourn Shafer, Second Kames, passed 4-0.

Adjourn: 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Firnstahl, Staff Secretary

These minutes passed, approved and adopted on February 13, 2007.

Louise Kames, Secretary

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