

MINUTES

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, September 25, 2007, 4:00 p.m.
Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, Iowa

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Sue Riedel, Louise Kames, Amy Weber, Geri Shafer, Paul Kohl, Ellen Henkels, Paul Hemmer

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor

Approval of Minutes of September 4, 2007.

Motion by Shafer to approve minutes, second by Riedel. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of planning session – define next steps

Chairperson Weber provided summary of planning session held on September 4. Weber summarized that based on that planning session the commission has adopted the following as priorities for 2007-2008.

2007-2008 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission Priorities

- Complete and present the First Annual State of the Arts Report to City Council.
- Compile Arts & Economic Prosperity information. Share with the community and non-profit organizations through a press release.
- Continue partnership with Dubuque Cultural Alliance to create a more unified arts community.
- Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Iowa Arts Council with a local celebration / recognition of the arts locally.
- Work directly with Americans for the Arts to explore other funding sources. Potential funding for First Friday events and others.

- Further research other funding sources available to municipalities.
- Coordinate efforts to start a gallery tour / opening each month, First Friday event. Work with Main Street Limited & Dubuque Cultural Alliance to develop.
- Support Art on the River's second installation and events.
- Complete another funding cycle for special projects and operating support grants.
- Encourage accessibility to the arts through partnership with other community organizations.
- Provide a grant writing workshop to promote quality of grants received and to assist arts organizations with writing and budgeting skills.
- Serve the Dubuque community as arts advocacy group.
- Prepare the case for why arts are important to economic development and to quality of life in Dubuque. Complete the first request for an increase in funding the Commission's annual budget.

Commission further discussed these priorities and agreed with this summary. Geri Shafer discussed the importance of the commission's role in arts advocacy. Motion by Riedel, Second by Henkels to approve the above listed priorities for 2007-2008. All approved.

Arts and Culture Month – October 2007

O'Connor shared a draft of a city proclamation declaring October as Arts and Humanities Month in Dubuque, Iowa. Louise Kames suggested adding "artists and performers" to the final paragraph. Commission also reviewed the draft of the October 2007 State of the Arts Report. Commission approved the report and it was decided that Chairperson would present an overview of the report to the City Council at the October 1 meeting. Appreciation was extended to commissioner Louise Kames for all her work on the report.

Information Sharing

The Dubuque Cultural Alliance will host an event on October 19, the 2nd annual Arts and Culture Month reception. Cyndi Pederson, the new Director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs will be the featured speaker. The opening event for 2007 Art on the River is Thursday, October 4, Alliant Amphitheater.

Motion to adjourn by Paul Hemmer, Second by Ellen Henkels. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerelyn O'Connor

These minutes passed and approved on October 23, 2007.

Paul Kohl, Secretary