

## MINUTES

### ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION  
Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 4:00 p.m.  
Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library  
360 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Dubuque, Iowa

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**Meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.**

Commissioners present: Amy Weber, Geri Shafer, Paul Kohl, Ellen Henkels,  
Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor, Liz Willems

**Approval of Minutes of September 25, 2007.**

Motion by Henkels to approve minutes, second by Kohl. Motion passed 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Arts and Culture Month Update:**

Proclamation

John Woodin, chair of Dubuque Cultural Alliance and Amy Weber jointly accepted the proclamation from Mayor Buol declaring October as Arts and Humanities Month in Dubuque, Iowa.

State of the Arts Report: Amy Weber presented the State of the Arts Report to the City Council. The Commission will send out the the report and the proclamation to area arts organizations. Amy will draft a cover letter to the arts organizations.

Cultural Alliance Event October 19<sup>th</sup>:

This event featured guest speaker, Cyndi Pederson, Director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. There was good attendance and it provided an opportunity for local arts representatives to meet the director. Amy suggested sending a thank you note to the Cultural Alliance for hosting the event.

2007 Art on the River Opening:

There was a review of the Art ion the River Opening Event. The event drew a large crowd, timing of the event/reception was well received. Mayor pro tem Pat Cline gave opening remarks and Louise Kames spoke on the program and Ellen Henkels presented on Art in the Community. Ellen also conducted a guided trolley tour of the newly installed sculptures. She noted that those on the tour particularly enjoyed meeting the artists.

Ellen Henkels informed commission that she would like to create a pamphlet for Dubuque's 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration cataloging and featuring the "Art in the City". She intends to apply for grant funding for the printing costs.

Review Commission Priorities & Finalize:

This item was tabled to next meeting – since three commissioners were absent. Henkels moved to table item to next meeting, second by Kohl. Approved 4-0

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Iowa Arts Council Grant Writing Workshop:

Amy Weber discussed possibility of commission hosting an Iowa Arts Council Grant Writing Workshop early next year. This workshop will provide a general overview of grant writing as well as specifics on the Iowa Arts Council grant programs. Hosts need to secure a location, publicize the event, and ensure a minimum of 15-20 participants. Commission discussed possible locations and dates in January-February. Sue Riedel offered use the Belltower Theater. Geri Shafer will research Iowa Arts Council grant deadline dates. It was suggested that workshop would be an opportunity to share information on local grant programs as well.

Conferences and Regional Art Shows for the Year:

Amy Weber informed commission that Art on the River budget includes funding to attend a regional art show to promote the program. Also, there is funding (professional development) for a commissioner to attend the Americans for the Arts Conference.

Dubuque Cultural Night:

Amy informed the commission that Dubuque Main Street Ltd. received a Mediacom Cultural Grant to promote Dubuque Culture Night in March 2008. There is a committee meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Conference Room A – City Hall for anyone interested in planning this event. Amy will email dates of upcoming meetings.

FY2009 Budget Request:

Geri Shafer provided information to the Commission about discussions/planning she has been involved in to create an Arts and Cultural Affairs/Public Art Program. She has developed a framework for the creation of this program and has submitted that to the City Manager. She has also met with Assistant City Manager Cindy Steinhauser and staff member Jerelyn O'Connor. There is a proposal for the City to consider funding a half time position, or contracted position, to serve as an Arts and Cultural Affairs consultant. Consensus of the

commission is to defer further discussion on fy09 budget requests until the next meeting. O'Connor distributed copies of the budget narrative.

**INFORMATION SHARING:**

The Art on the River Program received the Russ and Ruth Nash Cultural Corridor Award at the Dubuque Main Street Annual Meeting.

Amy shared information on Winter Farmer's Market which is opening November 3 at 1044 Iowa Street. It will be open every Saturday 9-12 a.m. until April. Volunteers are welcome.

**ITEMS FROM COMMISSION:**

Geri Shafer suggested that the Arts Commission should recognize Walter Peterson's commitment to Arts through the years.

Geri Shafer provided a summary of the League of Women Voters candidates forum related to candidates positions on arts funding.

John Michalski who is running for state representative is gathering small groups of artists to get the feel for the needs.

Paul Kohl announced the Loras College Symposium on The Business of the Arts is planned for April 9, 2008. Jim Welu is the keynote speaker and there will be breakout sessions afterwards.

**Next Meeting will be November 13, 2007**

Motion to adjourn by Shafer second by Henkels. Approved 4-0  
Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Willems

These minutes passed and approved on October 23, 2007.

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Paul Kohl, Secretary

