

Minutes
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION
November 26, 2013
Lacy Boardroom, Carnegie-Stout Library

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Henkels at 4:33 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels, Katherine Kluseman, Marina O'Rourke, Jessica Teckemeyer and Julie Steffen. Sue Riedel and Gina Siegert were unable to attend.

Staff present: Jerelyn O'Connor

Members of the public in attendance: Steve Silberman

Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2013. A motion was made by Teckemeyer and seconded by O'Rourke to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Review Commission Goals and Priorities and determine next steps.

Commissioners Teckemeyer and O'Rourke discussed their meeting with the city manager regarding proposed correspondence to City Council on recommending a Master Arts Plan for the city. Importance of this became apparent to commission after discussing a proposal for a major public art sculpture, the Ripple. Consensus of the commission was to focus on advocating for development of a master arts plan. Motion by O'Rourke, second by Kluseman to make "Advocating for a Master Arts Plan as the top item under Priority 1: Advocacy/Visibility. Motion passed 5-0.

Commission goals and priorities are as follows:

Priority I: Advocacy/Visibility: Expand Commission's role as a leading action/policy/networking organization for the arts.

- A. Advocate for establishing a Master Arts/Cultural plan for the city.
 - Identify funding streams
 - Research cultural arts plans
 - Research other community models for guidelines for public art
- B. Engage the community in its development towards a culturally rich city.
- C. Continued advocacy on local and state levels
 - Market the Arts Mean Business campaign

- Commissioners write letters to the editor TH
- Monitor grant programs at Department of Cultural Affairs
- Inform governor and other legislators of art activities in Dubuque
- Obtain Council Proclamation for National Arts and Humanities month
- Provide leadership for communication strategies among arts groups in the city.

C. Find opportunities for arts leaders to participate and cooperate with community planning and development leaders (Chamber, GDDC, Main Street, ECIA, etc.)

- Propose and encourage that arts advocates be included in civic leadership positions throughout the City of Dubuque
- Keep Arts Mean Business on top of mind information for the business and economic development community
- Utilize Americans for the Arts for resources on business partnerships
- Make a strong link between the arts and tourism.

D. Continue to send consistent message to Council on funding needs

- Make an increased budget request for grant support and arts staff as needed.
- Make arts funding an issue in upcoming council elections
- Art on the River

Priority II. Grant making: Ensure appropriate criteria exist and policies are in place for grant making.

- Monitor effectiveness of utilizing grant programs to promote community engagement and inclusiveness.
- Provide tools and opportunities to grant applicants to improve grant writing.

NEW BUSINESS

Funding Request for Master Arts Plan

O'Connor discussed with the Commission the budget improvement request for funding for a Master Arts Plan. She mentioned that the Commission had already requested an increase in the Operating Support and Project Grant programs and asked Commission to rank those requests. Motion by Kluseman, second by O'Rourke to rank the request

for funding for the Master Plan as top priority, followed by increased funding for the Operating Support and Special Project Grant programs. Motion passed 5-0.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Commission asked whether there are awards for outstanding public art programs as they believe the Art on the River program deserves recognition beyond Dubuque. Teckemeyer mentioned the Public Art Review which is an annual recognition by Americans for the Arts. O'Connor mentioned that the Iowa Arts Council has asked Dubuque to host the 2014 Public Art Network meeting. Iowa Arts Council also published an article in their newsletter on the Art on the River Program. There was a suggestion to contact Forecast Public Art to request that the feature Art on the River.

O'Rourke announced the dates for The Nutcracker.

INFORMATION SHARING

The following information was shared:

1. Staff prepared a nomination of Roy Buol for the Public Leadership in the Arts Award with supporting letters written by Dan Lobianco, Dubuque Main Street Ltd. and Geri Shafer, former Chair of the Commission.
2. NISOM shared information on the Arts and Humanities Month Celebration and speech by Greg Sandow.
3. There's a Dubuque screening of the Indie Film, The Other One in early December at Mindframe Theater.
4. O'Connor provided an update on the 2014-15 Art on the River.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Henkels, seconded by Kluseman to adjourn. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. As next regular meeting would be on December 24, Commission suggested cancelling the December meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Jerelyn O'Connor

These minutes were passed and approved on December 17, 2013.


Secretary