Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners present: Ellen Henkels Louise Kames, Paul Kohl, Sue Riedel, Geri Shafer. Staff Present: Jerelyn O’Connor, Jan Stoffel

Approval of Minutes of November 24, 2009. Henkels pointed out a typo in the document. Motion by Henkels, second by Riedel to approve minutes as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS
1. Public Art Planning. Stoffel explained background on Master Art Planning and presented sample plans from Clive, IA, Clearwater, FL, and Allen TX. She reported that in a discussion with Bruce Williams, the Public Art program officer for the Iowa Arts Council, that Dubuque could take it to the next level in City arts planning by having a comprehensive plan that could address efforts in the Historic Millwork District, the Arts and Entertainment Corridor and encompass projects within the economic development, park and recreation, sustainable City and engineering, to name a few. He suggested we enlist the assistance of a credentialed Master Art Planning Consultant.

Henkels agreed that a plan such as this would keep up the momentum of the City’s investment in the arts during the last few years but wondered where funding would come from. Sue agreed that funding was an unknown and that a professional, specialized consultant would be needed. Kohl would like to see a youth in art component of any plan in light of schools potentially cutting arts and music budgets. Shafer added that a plan like this could encompass more detailed planning for Pyatigorsk Park. Members recognized that the Arts Commission would be just a part of this big picture but that it could provide leadership in pushing this idea ahead for the City. Henkels moved and Shafer seconded that a case statement be developed showing the importance of this type of planning to the City.

An opportunity for funding part of this plan would be through the Iowa Arts Council, but a consultant would have to be selected in order to apply. After reviewing the RFP process with O’Connor, agreement was that there was not time to apply in this grant cycle.

OLD BUSINESS

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

INFORMATION SHARING.
1. Paul Hemmer was congratulated on his retirement and the contributions he has made to the Dubuque arts community
2. Shafer reminded Commissioners that the Operating Grant Review would take place at the next meeting on March 23. The Review guidelines were discussed.
3. Shafer reported that the Commissioners' budget improvement requested was not recommended at the February 8 Council budget hearing. Shafer attended that meeting and thanked the Council for their continued commitment to the arts.

4. Henkels submitted a report on her attendance at Cultural Advocacy Day in Des Moines on February 17th.

5. O'Connor reminded Commissioners that the early bird deadline for registering for the 2010 Americans for the Arts Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD, on June 25-27 was on March 19. The present budget is adequate for Stoffel and one other person to attend. If Commissioners are interested in attending, they should contact O'Connor.

ADJOURNMENT
Kames moved and Shafer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on March 23.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Jan Stoffel

These minutes were passed and approved on

[Signature]
Sue Riedel, Secretary