

MINUTES

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

REGULAR SESSION

Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 4:30 p.m.
Board Room, Carnegie Stout Public Library
360 W. 11th Street, Dubuque, Iowa

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

Commissioners present: Sue Riedel, Louise Kames, Amy Weber, Mark Wahlert, Geri Shafer, Paul Kohl

Excused: Ellen Henkels

Staff Present: Jerelyn O'Connor

Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2007

Motion by Wahlert to approve minutes as corrected, second by Shafer. Motion passed 7-0.

**Old Business
Strategic Plan.**

Commissioners discussed how they wanted to proceed with a goal setting session this year. There was discussion about utilizing an outside facilitator or perhaps a city staff person. Amy Weber suggested that perhaps the planning session could be a more informal brainstorming session with the commissioners. Commission will finalize plans at the next meeting.

New Business

Americans for the Arts Conference – Amy Weber provided report to Commission on the Americans for the Arts Conference. There was a great deal of information on cultural districts and Amy discussed possible application to the Warehouse District. Amy has already had some preliminary discussions with Dubuque Main Street, Ltd. She also attended session on how to work with your local government. Americans for the Arts rolled out their most recent Arts and Economic Prosperity calculator. The theme is “Arts mean Business to your Community.” Amy will e-mail her conference notes to the rest of the Commission. She also suggested that there could be more detailed discussion/follow up at the August goal setting session.

Art on the River Celebration and Auction – Jerelyn O'Connor provided a summary of the upcoming June 29 Art on the River Celebration and Auction. Also, the Call for Sculptors for the 2007 Art on the River has gone out. Proposals are due July 26.

Annual Report

Commissioners provided suggestions about information that should be included in the Arts Commission FY 2007 Annual Report. Suggestions included providing information on the impact of the arts funding, Dubuque Cultural Alliance, October 2006 Arts and Culture Month, Art on the River, economic indicators, overview of history of commission, list of commissioners, and information on funding shortfall compared to funding requests. Commissioners who are interested may attend "work session" on preparing annual report on Wednesday, July 5, 9:00 a.m. at City Hall.

Information Sharing

O'Connor mentioned that the executive committee of the Dubuque Cultural Alliance has discussed a possible change in meeting structure. The last general meeting did not have a quorum. There was a planned election of officers earlier this summer that did not occur. The Commission discussed an interest in supporting the Dubuque Cultural Alliance, particularly with regard to its role as an arts advocacy organization. Commission also discussed that the Alliance has been a strong arts advocate in the recent past and noted their success in leading the Arts and Humanities month celebration. Commissioner Sue Riedel will contact Dubuque Cultural Alliance chair John Woodin to discuss further.

Mark Wahlert stated that the Dubuque County Fine Arts Society is looking for a temporary and eventually a permanent location for the Nash Gallery. Sue Riedel suggested that they might want to contact developer Tom Kane who has a proposal to acquire Nativity School.

Mark Wahlert noted that this is his last meeting and he stated that he has enjoyed working with the commission. Commissioners expressed appreciation to Mark for all of his contributions.

Next Meeting: Commission agreed to move the next meeting to Monday, July 30 at 4:00 p.m. This changed schedule will allow the commission to review the jury selections for the 2007 Art on the River.

Motion to adjourn by Wahlert, Second by Weber. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerelyn O'Connor

These minutes passed and approved on July 30, 2007.

Louise Kames,,Secretary

