

Arts & Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting # 1 Sept. 2nd 2009

Present: Darrin Vits, Cathy James, Mary Anne Duve, Jayne Rose, Rick Munson, Christy Zepezauer, Josh Albrecht, Rev. Larry Jones, Mayor Burke. _____ Meeting called to order at 6:08pm.

Introductions: Cathy James – manager of DMB, SMB, RRJB and avid musician, Darrin Vits – works with St. Mary's school on various music projects, Christy Zepezauer-Director of Woodlawn Arts Academy with a fine arts degree in dance & theatre, Rick Munson- retired photographer and volunteers at the Next picture show. He has ongoing projects with the Loveland Community Bldg, Jayne Rose is an artist- painter, Visitor Jack Hughes formally of Dixon, now living in South Dakota, Mary Anne Duve-concerned citizen-supporter of the arts, Rev. Larry Jones-works at the Dixon Correctional facility- Professor at SVCC and has a degree in music ed., Josh Albrecht-Dixon Main Street- Interested in Historic Preservation, Dixon Public Arts Project- Statue of John Dixon.

Discussion topics:

First order of business is to fill the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Per discussion with Mayor Burke, the treasurer will work with the city in setting up a budget consisting of line items for accounts receivable and expenses, work with purchase orders and finance statements and will give finance reports at meetings. The Mayor will work to allocate monies in the next fiscal year for this commission. Cathy James has volunteered to be "Interim" secretary until someone permanently fills the position.

Task- Contact everyone who has been appointed to the committee and inform them of the open positions, then have members respond regarding their interest.

Second order of business: is picking a permanent meeting night.

Task-Contact members regarding their choice of meeting night.

Third order of business: How do we proceed with operations as a committee?

Task-Investigate the possibility of meeting with another cultural arts committee to see how they operate. Mayor Burke made mention of the Decatur Arts Committee. We may be able to have a couple of their representatives come to one of our meetings. **Also**, contact members to pick three projects they would like the committee to work on.

Other discussion: Question was raised about finding grant writers to assist with the funding of projects. Mayor Burke stated that the city has money available for grant writing and he knows a lady in the Sycamore- DeKalb area that writes grants for the city once we tell her what we want done. Jack Hughes has grant writers in his company also. There are grants through the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council, but the deadlines for applying for these have come and gone for this year. There was mention of a Congressman who visited the next picture show said something about grant writer in Washington. The committee can also work on establishing an annual fund raising project.

The next meeting will take place at the Public Safety Building at 5:30pm on Thursday Oct.15th, 2009. For the next meeting, Jayne will post on the website. Mayer Burke will write up an agenda and send it to the paper. Cathy will get all members e-mail addresses from the city and will send out a copy of the minutes, a copy of the proposed ordinance and a topic sheet with polling questions to be answered by the committee members before the next meeting.

Announcements: The Woodlawn Arts Gallery Juried Arts Show will take place on Fri. Sept. 4th, from 6-8pm with a reception followed by storytelling from 8-10pm for adults only. Sat. the 5th, storytelling for kids will be from 12-5pm.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Minutes submitted by Cathy L. James.

