

Indianola Public Arts Commission
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, October 25, 2023
City Hall Council Chambers,
110 N. 1st Street, Indianola, IA

Members Present: Bob Kling, Justin Nostrala, Tim Wilson, Grant Darrah (via Zoom), Monica Weinman (via Zoom)

Also Present: Jackie Raffety

Bob called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The claim for payment to Festivalnet.com for the Art Festival was approved. (motion Tim, second Grant)

The minutes from the September 28 meeting were approved. (motion Tim; second Monica)

Discussion followed on enlisting additional citizens in the work of the Commission. Bob reported that City Manager Ben Reeves recommended that we create committees, rather than asking City Council to authorize new positions. There was general agreement that this might be an easier way to recruit additional talent. Monica raised a concern about adding to Jackie's workload, but Jackie assured her the bulk of communication could be handled by committee chairs. Committees were identified as: Art Festival, Grants, and Other Projects. Bob will develop a job description for Art Festival committee volunteers, Tim and Grant will work on a job description for the Grants committee and Justin and Monica will review the North River Arts Council's Public Art Master Plan to identify potential projects for discussion. Tweaking and reviewing drafts will constitute most of the work at the Commission's November 9 work session.

Bob shared a possible arts-focused trip coordinated through the North River Arts Council. Commissioners are invited and possibly it will be opened to the public; the trip is tentatively scheduled the weekend of April 25-27, 2024, leaving and returning from and to Osceola via Amtrak. Bob shared handouts of the possible activities as well as costs and lodging details.

There was no Treasurer's Report.

Tim shared that he had spoken during the public comment period at City Council's October 9 meeting about the need for planning and action in preparation for the connection of the Summerset Bike Trail to the Des Moines trails (and by extension, the other 400+ miles accessible from there). He made clear his comments were his own and not those of the Commission, though there are clearly opportunities for arts-related elements as part of the development).

The group agreed to a work session on Thursday, November 9 at Brickhouse Tavern starting at 6:30.

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 30, having moved the date to avoid Thanksgiving.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47.