

MEETING MINUTES

Governing Body: Arts Advisory Board
Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2023
Time of Meeting: 5:30 pm
Place of Meeting: Airport Conference Room



Call Meeting to Order — Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm (Blakely)

Roll Call — Present: Linda R. Blakely, David Byrd, Pam Grundstad, Chris Sutton and guest Jennifer Hanson, Executive Director, Boone Chamber of Commerce

Approval of Agenda — The Board approved the meeting agenda (motion Grundstad; second Sutton. Vote: Unanimous).

Approval of Minutes — The Board approved minutes of the August 10, 2023 Board Meeting (motion Grundstad; second Byrd. Vote: unanimous).

Arts Board-Chamber of Commerce cooperation — The Board held a lengthy discussion with Jennifer Hanson regarding how the two entities can discover opportunities to work together in ways that benefit our city.

Ms. Hanson shared the vision and focus of the Chamber, with its primary purpose to revitalize the downtown and be an advocate, promoter and resource for small businesses. She also explained the benefits of Chamber membership. Ms. Hanson confirmed the Arts had a membership as a city entity, but that the Arts would not be listed or recommended separately on the website.

Ms. Hanson mentioned that the Chamber web site has a Community Calendar which is open for anyone to post an upcoming event.

The role of the Arts Advisory Board was discussed at length. Ms. Blakely asked Ms. Hanson if the Chamber would feature the Arts like they do other organizations to help bring exposure to the Arts Board. Ms. Hanson agreed to do so.

The events that took place at the August 21 City Council meeting were discussed at length, in particular the council's action on a grant request from a Des Moines filmmaker that came to the Arts Board several months ago. The Arts Board recommended that the City help fund the project and opponents of

the film attended the August 21 City Council to voice their concerns. Numerous statements were made in opposition to the project — statements that were presented as documented fact but were actually not true. The Arts Board asked for clarification from Ms. Hanson regarding her reason for reaching out to Iowa Falls and if the misinformation presented by Councilman Stines at the August 21st meeting was miscommunication, or Councilman Stines misrepresenting the facts. Ms. Hanson denied speaking with anyone at Iowa Falls, but did state she had reached out to a Facebook Group questioning the validity of ‘paying’ for a movie to be produced.

The Arts Board clarified for Ms. Hanson the facts of what had taken place, and asked for the Chamber’s assistance in dispelling any future inaccurate information about a project that has the potential to benefit the City of Boone.

Next Meeting — Due to the lateness of the hour, the Board approved a motion to table the Financial Overview, Boards and Committees, Grants and Events for consideration at the next meeting. (motion made by: Sutton; second Byrd. Vote unanimous).

Board Comments — There were no additional Board comments.

Public Comments — There were no public comments.

Motion to adjourn — The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm (motion Sutton; second Byrd. Vote unanimous).