

Minutes
COMMISSION ON THE ARTS
Council Chambers
City Hall, 515 Clark Avenue
Monday, June 3, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Steve Sullivan. Members present were Tom Lockhart, Troy Rutter, Natalie Robinson, and Deanne Brill. Staff member Tasheik Kerr was also present.

Public Forum

No one was present for Public Forum.

Approval of May 6, 2019 Minutes

Moved by Tom, seconded by Natalie, to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2019 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Fall Special Project Grant Hearings

Steve noted that the Commission had made an amendment to its process to allow Ames Town and Gown an opportunity to present its project. Bill Dilla and Bruce Calhoun of Ames Town and Gown apologized for missing the May COTA meeting. Bill informed the Commission that it was an organization oversight. Bill indicated the audience breakdown that was included in Special Project Grant application had pertained to the organization's Annual Grant. Bill provided the Commission an updated audience count and breakdown. As part of the organization's 70th season, Bill announced Ames Town and Gown have contracted with a group called the Russian Renaissance to perform in Ames. In addition to playing traditional Russian instruments, the group will be conducting a concert in September. Along with the concert will be an accordion master class. Ames Town and Gown would like to extend the Russian Renaissance stay by one day in order to present to either a middle school group or grade school. In addition to a musical experience, the students will be exposed to a cultural experience.

Tom inquired about the attendance of the event. Bill responded that it might be an assembly for the entire middle school or individual classes. An estimated 50 to 100 grade school students might participate. Tom also inquired whether college students and parents would be allowed to attend. Bill responded that it is up to the school administrator to allow parents to attend. Bruce Calhoun noted that Ames Town and Gown has a liaison in the elementary school program, so they anticipate a good turnout. Steve asked about the commitment from the middle school to host the event. Bill responded that Ames Town and Gown anticipate not having a commitment until the school year starts. He noted that Ames Town and Gown has a backup plan if the event does not work out as planned.

In response to Steve's inquiry into what the funds will be used for, Bill noted that Russian Renaissance require an additional \$500 outreach fee plus another night of lodging. There is no fee

for the event. Bill also added that the format will a concert/lecture format.

Troy reminded Ames Town and Gown to keep the accounting of participants for the special event application separate from its Annual Grant accounting.

Fall Special Project Grant Recommendation

Steve noted that in order to stay within COTA's timeline the Commission would make their recommendation at this meeting. He noted the request is for \$880. It is the only Fall Special Project Grant request. The Commission has set aside \$5,560 for Spring and Fall Special Projects.

Tasheik announced that the decision is unanimous; the Commission recommended fully funding Ames Town and Gown.

Upcoming Important Dates

Steve announced that the Commission's next meeting is August 5, 2019. There will be no July COTA meeting. The 2018/19 Annual Grant and Spring 2019 Final Reports are due by 5:00 p.m. July 12, 2019.

Adjournment

Tom moved the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 5:12pm.