

## MINUTES

### Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) October 24, 2012, Parks and Recreation Administration Office, Lincoln Park

Commissioners Present: Miranda Ashman, Randall Cupp, Judy Dyrud, Charity Finnigsmier, Gisela Flanigan, Diane Kress Hower, Lancer Livermont, Jephtha Sheene

Others Present: Lorie Gregor

Chair Gisela Flanigan called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. After brief discussion, Lancer Livermont moved to strike from the Sept. 25 Minutes a discussion that was preliminary in nature; to retain a final comment by Gisela; and to approve the Minutes with this change. The motion was seconded by Miranda Ashman and carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Final Grant Presentation: Hudson Reed Ensemble “Revolutions” at Grand Valley Performing Arts Festival**, CMU Moss Performing Arts Center, July 13-14, GJCAC grant \$2000: **Loren Wilder**, who created this dance piece for initial presentation in Aspen, turned in a written list of expenditures. She thanked GJCAC and the Festival and said she was honored to work with the local dancers, who were professional and well choreographed. Although her Revolutions piece was intended to stand alone, the Festival added a variety show of several different pieces as a second act. Communications and rehearsal organization became difficult, the tech crew and stage were not always available, and Loren felt the time was inadequate to fine-tune the show. She felt “good but not great” about the performance. She said she loves Grand Junction and would bring her work here again, but would negotiate in advance enough time with the stage and crew.

**Final Grant Presentation: Artspace & Open Studios Career Center project**, Apr. 12-May 17, GJCAC grant \$1000: **Linda Brotman-Evans** reported that this project provided vocational rehabilitation through art to students aged 16-21 with poor academic achievement, developmental disabilities and/or other challenges. Instruction included drawing, realistic and abstract painting, sculpture, printmaking and paper constructions. Linda showed examples of the student artwork. A full show was not held, but artworks were displayed around the school. Linda said the project empowered the students and some had not received recognition for any kind of work before. Some gained an interest in careers like tattoo art and computer graphics. The coordinators developed benchmarks of career-potential development that were adopted by the Career Center. The instructors were asked back, and in the future the project may spread elsewhere.

**Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) Meeting Space:** Grand Junction Visitor Center Coordinator **Melanie Wiseman** announced that VCB’s conference room is open for use by nonprofits and community groups. Also, the main Visitor Center space of 1000 sq. ft. (with displays) can be used for small gatherings, performances and presentations. Chairs and space are available for presenters and 20-30 attendees. Melanie stayed for the rest of the meeting.

**Metropolitan Opera at the Regal Cinema:** **Melinda Wilson** distributed packets of local opera news. A highlight is the live simulcast screening of 12 full Metropolitan Opera performances on Saturday mornings at the Regal Canyon View Cinemas. On 5 of the dates “Breakfast & an Opera” buffets will be served at The Egg & I restaurant with a pre-opera information session and discounted tickets to the simulcast. Evening encore showings are on Wednesdays, also at a

discounted price. At Gisela's suggestion, Melinda said they would prepare an announcement to send to Lorie Gregor for Diane Hower to post on the GJCAC Facebook page. Lorie and the Commissioners took flyers to distribute, and Melanie will insert flyers in the VCB newsletter. Melinda expressed interest in the work of GJCAC and stayed for the rest of the meeting.

**Colorado National Monument Art Show:** Lorie asked if the Commissioners would like to jury this art show for exhibition at City Hall. The Commissioners agreed to do so unanimously. Diane asked if she could enter her work and Gisela said she could, as long as she does not participate on the jury. The show will be Oct. through Dec. 2013. Lorie will initiate the process.

**Art Donation:** Lorie said Mr. and Mrs. John McCord wish to donate several sculptures to the city. She showed slides of the 8 pieces:

1. A cowboy facing his horse, bronze, height ~2 ft., interior only because of wood base
2. 3 tall American Indian singers, granite, ~2-1/2 ft.
3. Adult and infant penguins, serpentine, ~1-1/2 ft.
4. Polar bear, Carrara marble, ~3 ft.
5. Bear, serpentine, ~2 ft.
6. Frog, serpentine, ~8 inches
7. Trout, serpentine, ~2 ft.
8. Mother and child, ~1-1/2 ft.

The city would include a plaque about the donation at each sculpture site. Lancer moved to accept the donation, Miranda seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Lorie will do a press release about it. The McCords have also donated art to St. Mary's Hospital and others. Locations for the sculptures discussed.

Lorie passed for signature a thank-you card to Greg Mikolai of Rocky Mountain PBS, who videotaped the winners of GJCAC's creative writing contest as they read their essays at the Oct. 5 City Hall exhibit opening. He is making copies for each of the winners.

**Media Interviews:** Lorie reminded the Commissioners that all contacts by media for any reason should be referred to Gisela or Lorie.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Champion of the Arts:** Lorie has not received any nominations and asked the Commissioners to spread the word. A few people have said they want to nominate, but have not submitted the form. Diane will give Lorie the address of the School District 51 Events webpage for further publicity. She said she will put another blurb, ideally with pictures, on our Facebook page; Lorie will supply the information. The Champion of the Arts decision will be made at the next GJCAC meeting Nov. 26.

**City Hall Exhibit:** The current exhibit has beautiful artwork and the Oct. 5 opening was a success. Gisela thanked Lorie for the refreshments and the Commissioners who assisted with setup. Gisela said Mesa County Library also has creative writing contests with only 4-5 entries and therefore our contest was a good start. We will set an Education Committee meeting in early 2013. Lorie suggested bringing an iPod to the next City Hall opening for recorded music if we cannot get live entertainment.

## **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Western Colorado Writers Forum Poetry in the Streets III**, GJCAC grant \$2500: Jephtha gave a positive evaluation of the poetry reading Sept. 28 outside downtown Wells Fargo. Although it appeared that most of the 35 seated attendees were also readers, many other people could hear them up and down Main St. mall because of good amplification. The diverse styles and presentations included a drummer who played during some readings. GJCAC's support was acknowledged. The event, planned for an hour, lasted around 2 hours.

**Artspace & Open Studios Career Center project**, further discussion: Diane referred to her Commissioner's report at the June 27 meeting and said Linda Brotman-Evans did a wonderful job in her Event Organizer's report. She said some of her own observations when she attended were not consistent with what Linda said. However, the Commissioners agreed this was a good pilot project. The artwork samples were impressive, as were the students' long-term attendance and the project's growth potential for the community. Lorie can find out if it does grow and report back to GJCAC.

Jephtha said she enjoyed a small gallery at the Denver airport with interesting videos about how street artists worked. Miranda said we could find those artists and invite them to do murals here, perhaps get business owners to support graffiti art murals downtown. She said many graffiti artists want to do their art in authorized settings (e.g., Mural Jam). Miranda will investigate the idea further.

The next meeting of GJCAC will be Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Parks and Recreation Office.

Gisela adjourned the meeting at 6:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy M. Dyrud