

MINUTES
Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)
Wednesday, October 23, 2019 Parks and Recreation Office, Lincoln Park

Commissioners Present: Gary Ambrosier, John Cooper, Sarah Dishong, Donna Fullerton, Dean Harris, Matt Janson, Honora Thompson, Ron Cloyd, Kristian Hartter

Commissioners Absent: Kelley Raymond

Others Present: Lee Borden, Ed Gardner, Anna Stout, Lorie Gregor

Chair Sarah Dishong called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Gary Ambrosier moved to approve the minutes of the September 25 meeting. Donna Fullerton seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Museum: Ed Gardner gave his final report for Two Rivers Chautauqua

The Art Center: Lee Borden gave his final report for the Summer Art Camp

2020 Calendar: Lorie handed out the 2020 calendar

OLD BUSINESS

Cultural Plan Celebration: Lorie will create an agenda for this meeting

Creative Brainstorming: The current logo will remain as is. Creation of a new logo will be taken into consideration during the rebranding of the City in 2020 per Elizabeth Fogarty.

Airport Art: Lorie has made multiple attempts to reach out to the airport. No response.

Write On!: Gary reported that Write On! is on track. No submissions have been received. We may need all hands on deck if we get a lot of submissions. Deadline is December 5.

Champion of the Arts: The Commission has not received any nominations. Deadline is November 4. We have received 22 submissions for artwork.

Grant Adoptions: Grant adoptions were reviewed.

REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Two Rivers Chautauqua: Honora and Matt gave their evaluation (see attached).

Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra: Tabled due to Kristian leaving early.

Art Festival – Tables due to Kelley's absence

GVOST: Lorie, Ron and Dean all reported a successful tour. Artist wrap-up scheduled for November 14.

Redlands Roundabout: There will be a public meeting to talk concepts for future artwork in the Redlands Roundabout on November 12 from 5:00-6:00pm at Broadway Elementary School Cafeteria. Funding would need to be publicly raised.

Anna Stout, City Council liaison encouraged the Commission to attend the Comprehensive Planning meeting.

The next regular meeting of the GJCAC will be 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 13, at the Hospitality Suite. As there was no further business, Sarah declared the meeting adjourned at 5:50p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Gregor

Organization: Museum of Western CO.

Name of Program: History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua

Date of Event: Sept 13-14 2019

Attendance Date: Sept 13, 2019

Number of attendees: Approximately 200-300

Number of Participants: 3

Describe Event: Each performer was on stage taking on the persona of a character from the "Baby Boom Years." We began with a young chautauquan taking on Woody Guthrie. We continued with Julia Child and ended with Walt Disney. Each performance lasted approximately 45 minutes as each character regaled the audience with their life story.

Strengths of Event: Each performer did an amazing job taking on the persona of each character. Karen Vuranch (Julia Child) went so far as to study vocal inflections and mannerisms. All had clearly spent a great deal of time studying and preparing.

What I enjoyed most is the Q&A of each performance. The performers had a chance to answer questions both as themselves and as their character. The Woody performer didn't know all the answers, but did a great job playing off his life on the road as contributing to his memory lapse. I thought it was really clever.

While I didn't think that David Skipper (Walt Disney) did a great job actually becoming his character, he was able to share some amazing Disney anecdotes and answer every question with a great level of detail.

Overall fantastic evening.

Weaknesses of Event: Doug Sorter acted as the MC for the evening. He seemed horribly unprepared for the job. He was just reading off a sheet (seemingly for the first time) and mispronounced names, misrepresented the performers, and was just generally clumsy. He also presented one of the sponsors as just the city of GJ instead of recognizing our commission.

I also didn't like the evaluation forms they wanted us to fill out. They wanted one for each performer and it was quite extensive. I don't think anyone really wants to do that much writing on their lap.

Suggestions for Improvement: They really need to get an MC that cares about the event as much as the performers. I'd also severely shorten the evaluation forms or

maybe offer a raffle prize to increase participation. If they keep it that long, they might want to consider passing out clipboards.

I also thought the sound could have been improved quite a lot. I got the impression that the kids were running the sound. I applaud that, however, they need better training in how to effectively place a lavalier microphone. If the microphone is hidden (and placed properly) and the transmitter is hidden, it adds a sense of realism to the event.

GJCOAC Logo usage: I didn't notice a whole lot. It was definitely on the website and the program brochure. As mentioned above, Doug quoted us as "the city of Grand Junction" while missing the commission part.