

MINUTES

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, April 24, 2013, Hospitality Suite, Lincoln Park

Commissioners Present: Miranda Ashman, Judy Dyrud, Charity Finnigsmier, Jeremy Franklin, Gisela Flanigan, Jennifer Hancock, Diane Kress Hower, Darcy Johnson, Lancer Livermont, Emily Pfeifer

Commissioners Absent: Randall Cupp

Others Present: Lorie Gregor

Chair Gisela Flanigan called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Charity Finnigsmier moved to approve the Minutes of the Mar. 20, 2013 meeting. Miranda Ashman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

New Member Darcy Johnson was introduced and welcomed by the other Commissioners.

Final Grant Presentation: Talking Rhythms, GJCAC grant \$500: Celeste Herron thanked GJCAC for the grant, showed a video and described the programs presented by the 3 percussionists at Dual Immersion Academy and Rocky Mountain Elementary School. Because they plan large capital expenditures, Talking Rhythms is seeking their 2013 grant funding elsewhere.

Two Rivers Exhibit: Entries from 21 artists have been selected. The exhibit will be hung in 2 hallways with the theme of Wildlife and one of Life in the Grand Valley. Lorie Gregor, Lancer Livermont, Miranda and Darcy will hang the exhibit, which will be on display for 6 months.

OLD BUSINESS

Education Committee: Jennifer Hancock reported that Education Committee members who were able met on Jan. 30. The Education Committee has agreed that the essay contest should begin earlier to increase entries. They will meet again to decide questions such as contest eligibility, timelines, and possibly soliciting prizes from local businesses. Emily Pfeifer volunteered to publicize the contest to friends in the home school community.

Colorado Creative Industries (CCI): After attending a local presentation by CCI, Gisela said we should encourage all of our community nonprofits to apply to CCI and the state (Colorado Common Grant) as well as GJCAC. CCI offered Gisela any assistance she requests, including their grant application form and attendance at our meeting by board member Allison Sarmo. The Commissioners agreed that her information and opinions would be welcome. Lorie will invite her.

Because CCI grants now must be project based, GJCAC is no longer eligible for CCI funding to re-grant to other organizations. However, when Gisela asked about a hypothetical grant to fund a study on the economic impact of the arts on a community, they said it would be eligible. The Commissioners agreed we should apply and do this study.

After discussion about this economic impact study, Education Committee tasks, editing our own grant application, and sponsoring a reception for our nonprofits, Gisela said our first priority is to apply for the CCI grant to fund the economic impact study. Lorie, Jennifer and Diane Hower will

work on writing the grant. Our second priority is rewriting the GJCAC grant application. Gisela said the ad hoc committee for this can edit the Goals, Objectives and Criteria on a Google document. She will schedule meetings of this committee and the Education Committee by email.

GJCAC Grant Issues

Chatfield Elementary: Lorie informed them that GJCAC approval of their shortened arts camp depended on including all original disciplines in the 2 days. They said they will include pottery, batik and performing arts. The Commissioners approved this change in the grant execution.

Riverside Educational Center: Because Xcel Energy is sponsoring a science-technology-engineering-mathematics (STEM) program, Riverside asked about scheduling STEM this fall and the GJCAC-funded arts program next spring (partially after our deadline). The Commissioners suggested having the arts program this fall and STEM in spring. Lorie will take the message back to Riverside.

Caprock Academy sent a photograph of the potter's wheel, which had not been used and still had packing materials attached. The Commissioners again stressed that Caprock should use the wheel and borrow someone else's kiln or build a reku fire pit kiln. Lorie will convey our suggestions and recommend that they give a final presentation at our next meeting.

Grand Junction Senior Theatre: GJCAC's \$1250 grant was intended to fund tickets and a bus for formerly homeless veterans and Mesa County Partners. The performance happened before the theatre's board met about accepting our grant. Only 40 people used the free tickets, not 100 as in the grant application, but the board accepted the grant. Lorie asked their representative what they intended to do with the balance of the funding and when they planned to tell GJCAC. He followed with a letter apologizing and declining the entire grant. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to keep these events in mind if Senior Theatre applies again someday, but not to disqualify them from applying. Lorie will send a letter of support, thanking them for recognizing their mistake and encouraging them to apply in the future. What to do with the \$1250 was tabled for later decision.

Chipeta Elementary sent copies of thank-you letters from students to Carlos and Andrea Elias for their performance at the school, which was funded by our grant.

Mesa County Public Library Foundation sent a letter thanking us for the grant for their upcoming Culture Fest.

Grant Program Evaluations: The Commissioners agreed that it was a good idea for GJCAC to give feedback to our grantees. The adopting Commissioner might write a formal evaluation letter including other Commissioners' comments after his/her oral report. Because of limited time, the Commissioners agreed to table this proposal for further discussion at next meeting.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Messiah Choral Society, GJCAC grant \$1000: Jeremy Franklin gave a positive report. He saw and heard a lot of marketing and suggested they also do a Facebook page, which they agreed to try next year. GJCAC was mentioned in the pre-performance lecture and the program's donor list; our logo was not included. Approximately 400 people attended the performance, which went well. Jeremy said the free annual Messiah is perfect for our grant funding because it is a gift to the community. Gisela added that it builds a sense of community within the volunteer chorus.

Colorado Mesa University “CO₂” Colorado Biennial Poster Exhibition, GJCAC grant \$2000: Charity gave a positive report. She said organizer Eli Hall did an excellent job, the room was perfect for the posters, and turnout was large and enthusiastic. Jeremy and Miranda also attended and found the exhibit highly impressive. Jennifer asked about the resulting catalog or poster mentioned in the grant; Charity will contact them to find out.

Meeting: GJCAC will meet Wednesday, May 22, 4:00 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation office.

As there was no further business, Gisela declared the meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Dyrud