

MINUTES OF THE GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE -
FEBRUARY 23, 1994

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT; Andrews, Brown, Castleberry, Freitas,
Hemmerick, Leinaweaver, Sanders and Smedley

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Crumbaker

GUESTS: Steve Mandel, Quentin Jones and Bruce Lohmiller(local
sculptor)

Betty moved that the agenda be ^{AMENDED} ~~abridged~~ to include discussion on
the Summer Arts Festival first, Phil seconded, motion carried.

Ann moved that the minutes of the Jan. 1994 meeting be approved
as corrected and Richard seconded.

Quentin Jones said they were looking for advice and counsel
concerning the "Grand West" which has been renamed "The Grand
Junction Performing Arts Festival" - - it runs in summer
(tentatively scheduled for the last weekend in July) for 3 days
promoting music, dance and theatre. They've established
themselves as a bonified non-profit organization, have increased
their ethnic representation and numbers in attendance. The
Symphony has always opened the festival (which they may not be
able to do this year due to insufficient funds - Norwest Bank
has funded them in the past). Coordination has fallen to the
same 3 guys; Mr. Jones, Terry Wakefield and Dr. Michael Gerlach -
their goal was that it be a free event and a quality event. He
asked if we consider it an important event? He then asked if we
thought it was important enough to make it happen? Sandra asked
if it's a people problem - he said yes, it is strictly volunteer
and the same 3 people who always do it don't have the time to
commit this year. Betty suggested that we address whether we are
going to support this and if so, in what manner? She asked if
Ursula would be interested in chairing a committee to coordinate
this (adding that she could help in a limited capacity). Mr.
Jones said the sooner we respond, the better. He mentioned they
did think about the staff person we've been trying to get hired
to possibly coordinate this Festival. Ursula is setting up a
meeting for discussion and Sandra said she'd contact Mr. Jones
concerning the upcoming City Council meeting so they could
support this by attending.

Richard said there would be a (2 for 1) notice in the Daily
Sentinel promoting The Business and the Arts Award project.
Other notices were sent to ~~13~~ ³⁵ different arts groups. There will
be follow-up reporting.

Ann Sanders said she contacted a Latino Art teacher who's
interested in serving on the Commission.

Michael said the After School Art Programs are underway. Clifton
Elementary is starting an 'artist-in-residence' program - -

they're looking for artists to preside over workshops in dance, electronics, media, painting and writing.

Ann moved to table the Criteria for Grants discussion until our staff person is hired. Ursula seconded - motion carried.

Phil said the Missoula Theatre seems to be very professional with a conservative budget. Besides 2 performances, there would be 3 specialty workshops in the schools. He moved that we provide \$500.00 in support. Betty seconded. Ann felt there were too many loose ends and until they find an accounting sponsor that we should not. Sandra called for a motion of \$500.00 support contingent on them finding solid sponsorship. Co-sponsorship was discussed. Phil's motion was voted down with 1 abstention. Ann moved that we write a letter to Sandy and Eleanor saying we want to support Missoula Children's Theatre if and when they acquire a sponsor. Phil is writing the letter.

Sandra said there was a cancellation of the Feb. 14 Workshop by the Council which was supposed to help decide and investigate the hiring of a staff person. She mentioned Mark told her it would not be on the agenda after all. He said 2 positions (a clerical staff person and a coordinator), are needed. Mark Achen still said this is very necessary and should be on the Mar. 14 agenda. Discussion as to why it had to be a city staff person ensued. Betty suggested persistence in the form of a letter to Mark Achen. Ann asked if there was any one else on the council we could approach. Ron Maupin should get a copy of this letter of urgency. Ursula suggested calling council members. Betty is going to talk to Jin Baughmann. Ursula is going to talk to Linda Afman. Sandra will be checking with Mark on the effectiveness of these tactics.

Richard asked if we were going to nominate today. Betty suggested we elect a chair, a vice-chair and a secretary. Richard moved to amend the agenda to include nominations. Ann moved that Sandra Brown be carried over as chairperson for 1994. Nominations were closed and vote unanimously passed. Phil nominated Betty a.k.a. "Cassie" Castleberry for Vice-chairperson. Nominations were closed and the vote unanimously passed. Cassie nominated Paula Andrews for secretary, nominations were closed and the vote unanimously passed.

Michael reported the Artist Forum met again with better attendance. The name of the art group is to be JABOA (Just A Bunch Of Artists) and they decided their focus would be on the Visual Arts. Inclusion of members open to any artists. Individual artists are in the process of forming a network guild.

Subcommittees would be a way to find other people who want things accomplished -- let them pursue their goals -- keeping commission members involved and informed. Cassie moved that Michael start up a subcommittee called "Focus Group on Artistic Values". This was seconded and passed. Sandra suggested we wait and see about

the possibility of a new commission member being the liason.

Cassie asked if she could attempt a news release to announce the 1994 Commission position appointments and include the formation of JABOA.


Paula reported the Avalon is still waiting for the contract to come back from the state and they've been discussing getting a reputable consultant. Sandra passed out the letter requesting our financial assistance on this matter and Cassie moved that we support the Avalon Theatre with \$2000.00, Paula seconded. Motion was defeated. Cassie then moved that we fund the \$2000.00 contingent on them supplying the Commission with a detailed budget report - discussion continued - Cassie withdrew her motion. We decided to call an emergency meeting for March 9 after Sandra contacts Pat Gormley concerning this matter.

At the next meeting it was requested that we discuss possibilities of a subcommittee that keeps the Council informed.

We will also take up Ursula's letter at the next meeting.

Next regular meeting will be held on Wed. March 23rd at 4:00 p.m.
Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Andrews
Secretary