

## MINUTES

### GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE

September 28, 1994

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Paula Andrews                      Ursula Hemmerich  
   Sandra Brown                      Jeanne Killgore  
   Cassie Castleberry                Richard Leinaweaver  
   Phillip Freitas                      Ann Sanders

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Karen Kiefer

GUESTS PRESENT: Deniese Kohles, Ron Maupin, Richard Sims.

The regular meeting of the Commission on Arts and Culture was called to order by Chair Sandra Brown at 4:00 p.m. Killgore moved, Freitas seconded, that the minutes of the August 24, 1994 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried unanimously.

AFTER SCHOOL ARTS PROGRAM: Deniese Kohles presented a request to the Commission for \$3000 in funding for the 1994-1995 school year, explaining that this would pay for artists and materials at the various schools, and that the program continues to try and add three to four new schools each year. Castleberry moved, Andrews seconded, that the Commission allocate \$3000 for the After School Art Program for '94-'95. Leinaweaver moved, Sanders seconded, that this be tabled until later in the meeting under a category to be called "Action Items" on the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL FACILITIES DISTRICT: City Councilman Ron Maupin, also a member of the board of the Museum of Western Colorado, and Richard Sims, Executive Director for the Museum both spoke in favor of the Commission's endorsing the cultural district ballot question. Maupin noted that the City Council supports the Museum and that they feel it is appropriate for the Commission to do so as well. In answer to a question from Freitas, Sims explained that the Museum does indeed want the endorsement of the Arts Commission, admitting that they had been tardy in seeking this support. Sims presented numerous arguments in favor of the ballot issue, in response to comments at the last Commission meeting. He stated that he would welcome the new cultural district board's recommending criteria for the 80% of the sales tax revenues which the museum will receive should the election pass. In answer to a question from Brown, Maupin explained that it has not yet been decided if the City will be putting a sales tax increase to fund parks and recreation projects on the next City election ballot, but that he doubted if cultural facilities would be included in it, if that happened. Maupin asked that the Commission reconsider writing a letter endorsing the cultural district issue, and Castleberry moved that the Commission write a letter of support for the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District ballot question. Sanders suggested that this also be tabled until later in the meeting so the Commission could discuss the issue privately, and the motion died for lack of a second.

**BUSINESS IN THE ARTS AWARD:** Leinaweaver reported that both of last year's representatives from the Chamber of Commerce were willing to serve on this committee again in 1995, and that the committee recommends purchasing sculptures as prizes which are already completed prior to giving the two or three awards next year, and the committee also recommends locating the 1994 sculpture award to Norwest Banks on the North Avenue Norwest Bank property. Maupin asked about the intent of the Commission's giving a Business in the Arts Award, noting that people would not be able to tell what the sculpture is for when driving by the bank on North Avenue, as opposed to placing the award at a downtown location, such as Two Rivers Convention Center, with a plaque on it, which has a great amount of pedestrian traffic. Sanders suggested, with regard to the purchase of awards for 1995, that it is important to have people who are knowledgeable chose the sculptures. After further discussion Sanders moved, Hemmerich seconded, that the Commission accept the report and recommendations of the Business in the Arts Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**CULTURAL ARTS COORDINATOR REPORT:** The Coordinator's Report for September and the Financial Report for August were presented for review, as well as a proposed budget for 1995 which totalled \$48,000. Sanders moved, Leinaweaver seconded, that the proposed budget for 1995 be approved. After some discussion Castleberry moved, Leinaweaver seconded, that the motion be amended to increase the line item Business Recognition by \$500 to \$3500. The motion carried unanimously. Sanders moved, Freitas seconded, that \$3000 be taken out of the line item Grants to Arts Organizations and be shown as a separate line item entitled After School Arts Program. The motion carried unanimously. The original motion as amended carried unanimously.

**SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL FACILITIES DISTRICT:** Leinaweaver moved, Castleberry seconded, to reconsider the original motion concerning a letter in support of the cultural district ballot question. The motion carried unanimously. Leinaweaver moved, Killgore seconded, that the Commission write a letter in support of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District ballot question to the Museum and the media. The motion carried, Brown opposed. Leinaweaver offered to draft a letter to County Administrator Mike Casey recommending criteria for appointing a new cultural district board and allocating the discretionary revenues which will be generated if the ballot issue passes. He was instructed to present the letter to the Commission at their next meeting for approval. (Hemmerich and Castleberry left the meeting.)

**COLORADO COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS GRANT:** Sarmo requested approval for an application to the Colorado Council for the Arts for general operating support funding for 1995, and Leinaweaver moved, Sanders seconded, that the grant application to CCA for general operating support funding be approved. The motion carried unanimously. Leinaweaver suggested compiling a calendar of grants and other deadlines for the Commission's internal use.

**WESTERN COLORADO CENTER FOR THE ARTS:** Leinaweaver reported that the Art Center voted to support the cultural district ballot question and that they had hired a fundraiser (Lena Elliot). He noted that his attending Art Center meetings was not particularly productive, suggesting instead that he could keep up with Center activities through periodic informal meetings with President Quentin Jones, if the Commission had no objection. No objections were raised.

**MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATER PRODUCTION:** Freitas reported that 180 children had auditioned for *The Wizard of Oz*, 58 were cast, and rehearsals for the October 1st performances are going well.

**JUST A BUNCH OF ARTISTS:** Brown reported that JABOA dealt with getting art work to and from the Colorado Consortium of Community Arts Councils' conference, and Leinaweaver suggested working on a tour of local artists' studios and/or art galleries. This idea will be placed on a future agenda.

A request from Michael Smedley for \$500 to cover repair, rental, and replacement of his computer printer, which the Commission's past secretary had been using and which was somehow broken in transport to the Commission's new office in July, and also to cover work which Smedley has done on the Sourcebook earlier this year was discussed. Leinaweaver moved, Killgore seconded, that Michael Smedley be paid \$500 for his consulting services and his broken computer printer. The motion carried unanimously.

Nominating someone for the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts was discussed, but Sanders explained that such a nomination required numerous letters in support of the nomination which could not be gathered in time to meet the October 3rd deadline. She suggested placing this item on the May, 1995 agenda for next year's award process.

**AFTER SCHOOL ART PROGRAM:** Leinaweaver moved, Killgore seconded, that the Commission commit \$1500 to fund the After School Art Program from their 1994 budget and consider the rest in their 1995 budget, as well as ask for a specific breakdown from Kohles as to how the funding will be spent. The motion carried with three in favor, two opposed, and one abstention.

Killgore noted seeing an excellent wall mural in Montrose and suggested considering commissioning something like that in downtown Grand Junction. Brown thought the idea should first be included in the updated *Strategic Cultural Plan*, which the Commission will soon be doing.

The next meeting of the Arts Commission is Wednesday, October 26, 1994.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison Cowan Sarmo  
Cultural Arts Coordinator