

## MINUTES

### Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, May 22, 2013, Hospitality Suite, Lincoln Park

**Commissioners Present:** Miranda Ashman, Randall Cupp, Judy Dyrud, Jeremy Franklin, Gisela Flanigan, Diane Kress Hower, Darcy Johnson, Lancer Livermont, Emily Pfeifer

**Commissioners Absent:** Charity Finnigsmier, Jennifer Hancock

**Others Present:** Lorie Gregor

Chair Gisela Flanigan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Miranda Ashman moved to approve the Minutes of the Apr. 24 meeting, Diane Hower seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Las Colonias: Traci Wieland** presented the current master plan for Las Colonias Park, including landscaping and many other amenities for everyday and special event use by residents and visitors.

**Creative District: Allison Sarmo** of Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) discussed the advantages of having a Creative District downtown and requirements for state certification through CCI. In the recent certification process only 2 applicant cities received full certification of a Creative District. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the CCI application process seemed onerous. If Grand Junction were to apply to CCI, it would make sense for profit-making businesses or groups to take the lead, because they would derive the most benefit. Lancer Livermont suggested that the city could act independently to designate a creatively focused urban district, which would run from St. Mary's Hospital east to 12<sup>th</sup> Street and south to Las Colonias. This would then include Colorado Mesa University and the Art Center, which would be excluded if a creative district comprised downtown only. The City could highlight the district with signage and create tax incentives without CCI certification. Allison is presenting at the next meeting of the local non-profit Major Arts and Cultural Organizations (MACO). For-profit organizations can be invited and surveyed for their interest in CCI certification. Gisela said if no other group expresses interest in taking the lead, the Commission can then discuss presenting Lancer's idea to City Council.

**Westaf – Creative Vitality Index:** Previously GJCAC discussed applying for a CCI grant to fund a study on the economic impact of the arts. Westaf sent bids for a Creative Vitality Index survey. CCI was not really interested; it appeared we would not receive grant funding for this. Lorie Gregor will contact other area stakeholders that could benefit from the Creative Vitality Index (Visitors and Convention Bureau, Downtown Development Authority, etc.) to see if they might budget for it.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Grant Adoptee Final Reports:** Previously GJCAC discussed giving written feedback about funded events. The Commissioners made minor editing suggestions to the current evaluation form, which Lorie will revise and send to all Commissioners for written evaluations.

**Art Grant Budget:** Lorie sent the Commissioners copies of the revised budget section of our grant application form. The Commissioners thanked Lorie and said it was greatly improved. Judy Dyrud and Emily Pfeifer suggested adding "Intellectual Property Rights" to the list of sample expenditures. The budget form and its examples will be discussed in detail at our grant writing seminar, including notes about rechecking the math and the kinds of expenditures we do not fund.

## **GJCAC Grant Issues**

**Grand Junction Senior Theatre** received Lorie's letter agreeing to their decision not to accept our \$1250 grant. Because they lost money on their production, the Theatre board sent another letter requesting \$630 of the grant to cover the free tickets for veterans and Mesa County Partners (used by a smaller number of patrons than originally planned in the grant). Diane moved to approve giving them the \$630, Jeremy seconded, and after discussion the motion passed with all Commissioners present voting in favor except Judy, who recused herself.

**Riverside Educational Center:** Lorie said they agreed to have the GJCAC-funded arts program in the fall of 2013 and the Xcel-funded STEM program in spring 2014.

**Caprock Academy:** Lorie said they did not respond to the Commission's repeated requests to use the grant-funded potter's wheel and give a presentation on it. Lorie informed Caprock Academy that they are ineligible for future funding from GJCAC.

## **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**City Hall Exhibits:** Lancer circulated photographs of the 2- and 3-dimensional artwork of new artists for the City Hall roster. The Commissioners approved the work and the artists.

**Grand Junction Downtown Partnership Art and Jazz Festival,** GJCAC grant \$3500: Miranda gave a very positive report. She said the festival was excellent and had good organization and good recognition of GJCAC.

**Super Rad Art Jam,** GJCAC grant \$2400: Miranda gave a very positive report. GJCAC was well recognized, and the show demonstrated that many of these kids are quite talented.

**Mural Art:** Miranda followed up on artists of murals that former Commissioner Jephtha Sheene had seen at the Denver airport. Miranda was not able to reach the artists directly. She said they are heavily managed and will not come to Grand Junction.

Mesa County Partners asked Lorie about organizing an activity of mural painting by the kids in the program. Lorie gave detailed information about mural painting events and suggested that Partners apply for a grant from GJCAC.

**Committee Meeting:** The committee to revise the Goals and Objectives section of our grant application will meet Thursday, June 13, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Parks and Recreation office. Before the meeting committee members will add suggestions to the Goals and Objectives on a shared Google document.

**Regular Meeting:** GJCAC will meet Wednesday, June 26, 4:00 p.m. at the Hospitality Suite.

As there was no further business, Gisela declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Dyrud