

**MINUTES**  
**Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2024, Hospitality Suite**

**Commissioners Present:** Ron Cloyd (Vice-Chair), Pamela Blythe, Robbie Breaux, Julie Mathews, Jan Moorman, Mark Oldham (arrived 4:50pm), Kelley Raymond, Cynthia Zaitz, Erica Zajackowski (arrived at 5:12pm)

**Commissioners Absent:** Matt Janson (Chair), Porcia Chen-Silverberg

**Others Present:** Hank Braxton (arrived 4:10pm), Robbie Helm, Emily Krause, Ken Sherbenou, Haley Van Camp, Jonathan Wheatley, and guests Michelle Boisvenue-Fox, Julia Crocetto, Shawn Cwalinski, Melody Jones, and Mary Watson

Vice Chair Ron Cloyd called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

Robbie Breaux mentioned there was a typo in the last paragraph of the minutes, as it listed the next GJCAC meeting date was January 17 instead of January 24. Pamela Blythe moved to approve the minutes with an amendment to update the date to January 24. Robbie Breaux seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Melody Jones with Western Colorado Writer's Forum, Michelle Boisvenue-Fox with Mesa County Libraries, Shawn Cwalinski with Grand Junction Centennial Band, Mary Watson with TEDxGrandJunction, and Julia Crocetto with Grand Valley Creative Alliance all presented their final report presentations to the Commission.

Jonathan Wheatley opened the floor for comments and/or questions regarding the 24 Rd & G Rd Roundabout Final proposals and discussion ensued. Cynthia Zaitz made a motion for the Commission to move forward with Jeff Bates' final proposal and it was seconded by Julie Mathews. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote with one commissioner abstaining.

Haley Van Camp gave an update regarding grant recipients from the 2023-24 grant cycle. About half the organizations that received funding in the 2023-24 cycle have yet to fill out their final report and present. Discussion was had that there was value in organizations completing the final report document, but the presentations may not be as necessary. Jonathan Wheatley suggested that the Commission goes through the grant requirements and guidelines before applications for the next cycle open to update/change any items necessary to fix the inconsistencies.

Haley Van Camp mentioned that the application deadline for the 2024 grant cycle is next Thursday, February 1. Grant trainings were held December 14 and January 11 to help organizations feel comfortable with the application process, and three organizations were represented at those trainings. Grant applications will be distributed to the Commission the week of February 5. It was confirmed that \$70,000 was available for the 2024-25 grant cycle. Haley also wanted the Commission to be aware that

there have been a few organizations that have expressed concern with the 2024 grant cycle dates because their 2024 events fall before the March 31, 2024 start date of the 2024-25 grant cycle. Staff had taken the approach that they will follow the rules of the grant. The Commission agreed that it was the responsibility of the organizations to plan ahead to make sure the event/project/program they would like to request funds for falls in the outlined grant cycle dates and exceptions should not be made to any organization.

Jonathan Wheatley gave an explanation on the grant process and that the Commission will make recommendations, and City staff will bring any concerns. Jonathan also explained the marketing tactics in place for the grant.

Discussion was had regarding how the grant funding helps. Small organizations rely on this on an ongoing fashion, because they don't have the capacity to apply for larger grants. Ideas such as discussing this with organizations so they are aware that the Commission is also interested in funding new organizations as opposed to the same projects year after year were discussed.

Jan Moorman expressed concern that MusicSpark's Living Hispanic Heritage Through Music project was not in compliance with the grant cycle dates as the event was set to happen after March 31. Jonathan Wheatley assured that they would be contacted.

It was confirmed that next meeting date was Monday, February 26 at 3:45pm for the 2024 grant applicant presentations with a backup day on Tuesday, February 27. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28 at 4pm.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Haley Van Camp briefly went through the new Public Art Agreement process and form and highlighted the updated sections. Jan Moorman expressed concern that the City is not specific enough in the Sales section. A suggestion was also made that the agreement should be filled out digitally only. The Commission agreed it made sense to designate a couple spaces on the Art Agreement form for pre-approved artwork in case of a sale.

Haley Van Camp gave an update on the Artist Directory on the City of GJ's website. An email was sent out to all 416 artist contacts on January 4 asking all artists to please respond by February 29, and to review their listing and let us know of any changes before Feb 29. We indicated that if we do not hear from them by Feb 29, they will be removed. They can always resubmit their information. A reminder email will be sent out a couple days before to remind artists.

Kelley provided an update on the Commission having a presence at the Market on Main this summer and mentioned there was positive feedback from the DDA after meeting with Dave Goe (DDA). Jonathan expressed that the time commitment would rely on the Commission and not on City staff. Discussion was had about the logistics of the booth and what the Commission could provide. Kelley Raymond is willing to have more conversations with Dave at the DDA about the Commission's presence at the Market. Vendor applications open February 12, and it was decided to continue the discussion at the February 28 Commission meeting.

## REPORTS

Haley Van Camp reported on the Westlake Skate Park Mural and mentioned it was completed November 17. Haley also reported the final ram was installed in the Redlands Roundabout on January 12 and it is now complete. Both projects have received positive feedback overall.

Haley Van Camp reported the Chair and Vice Chair positions are one-year terms, so there will be an item on the February meeting agenda for the Commission to vote on a Chair and Vice Chair.

Due to time, Ron Cloyd suggested a motion be made to table the Lee Bowerman petition and Champion for the Arts Discussion to the February meeting. Kelly Raymond moved to table those two items, Cynthia Zaitz seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Robbie Breaux mentioned someone from Grand Valley transit reached out to her about the possibility of the Commission helping put artwork on buses. Jonathan suggested Robbie have them reach out to City staff, and it can be brought to the Commission in a future meeting.

Jonathan mentioned Cynthia Zaitz would like to have a discussion in a future meeting to discuss the possibility of making Native America art more prominent in future roundabout artwork or other public City artwork. Jonathan also asked the Commission if there were additional agenda items they would like on future meetings besides this topic. There were no other discussion topics and it was confirmed that the grant guidelines, Market on Main, Native American art in future roundabout/public art in addition to the Lee Bowerman petition and Champion for the Arts discussion would be on February's agenda.

Pamela Blythe moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m., and it was seconded by Erica Zajackowski. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Van Camp