

MINUTES

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – Parks and Rec Admin Office

Commissioners Present: Matthew Janson (Chair), Robbie Breaux (Vice Chair), Scott Beilfuss, Pamela Blythe, Hank Braxtan, Ron Cloyd, Julie Matthews, Porcia Silverberg, Cynthia Zaitz

Commissioners Absent: Robbie Helm, Kelley Raymond

Others Present: Haley Van Camp, Jonathan Wheatley

COMMISSION REPORTS

Chair Matt Janson called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. Ron Cloyd moved to approve the July 24, 2024 meeting minutes, Julie Matthews seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

BUSINESS

Sara Spaulding, Director of Communications and Engagement for the City of Grand Junction, gave an overview of the photograph submissions for the 2025 City Calendar. The calendars will be printed and distributed before the end of the year, and artists who are selected for the calendar will be recognized at an upcoming Council meeting.

Darin Kamstra with Jazztopia gave a final report presentation about the recent Jazztopia Jazz Workshop to the Commission.

Discussion was had regarding the submitted proposals for the 4th and 5th Street mural designs. There was a consensus that the Commission would like to recommend the top four ranked artists based on the Commissioners votes.

Haley Van Camp provided an overview of the current Grant Guidelines including the changes made in the last few meetings. Brief discussion was had regarding the guidelines, and ideas for the future, such as aligning the goals with the Cultural Strategic Plan. It was also discussed that it would be beneficial to create a working group to go through submitted grant applications before the deadline to ensure completion. Robbie Breaux will head the working group. The Commission also discussed that they would like the matrix criteria and process to be brought back at a future meeting to review and discuss.

Haley explained they would like the Commission's help with contacting organizations outlined in the Cultural Strategic Plan to receive updates on accomplishments of the plan. Staff will send out a spreadsheet that has all of the organizations outlined in the plan, and other arts and culture organizations, and contact information for the Commission to work on simultaneously.

There was also discussion on what type of annual report the Commission would like to present to City Council. There was a consensus that a concise, well-formatted, and aesthetic document would be created to be presented to the City Council in-person. The document would highlight grant data and accomplishments from the Cultural Strategic Plan.

Haley provided an update on the Champion for the Arts program and explained that at the June 2022 GJCAC meeting, the Commission decided to cancel this program. Robbie indicated Grand Valley Creative Alliance was interested in taking over this program, and there was no further discussion on the item.

CITY STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES

Haley reminded the Commission that the month of October is the National Arts and Humanities Month, and a Proclamation will be read at the October 2 Council meeting. The Commission is encouraged to attend, and Matt will accept the proclamation on the Commission's behalf and say a few words.

Haley provided an update on the 24 & G Rd, Horizon Drive and G Rd, and 24 ½ and F ½ roundabouts and the aRT Mural program. Discussion was had regarding other ways to market the current calls for artists to reach more artists as well as making the programs more top-of-mind in the community. Staff provided a brief update on the Market on Main, and the Commission briefly discussed the purpose of the Commission being at the Market was to promote the Commission's initiatives.

COMMISSION UPDATES

Ron gave a brief statement about how working on his own artwork and pushing himself to be better inspires him.

The next regular GJCAC meeting will be held Wednesday, September 25 at 4 p.m. at the Hospitality Suite at Stocker Stadium. As there was no further business, Cynthia Zaitz moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m., Robbie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Van Camp