

MINUTES

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, May 28, 2025 – Lincoln Park Barn

Commissioners Present: Robbie Breaux (Chair), Julie Matthews (Vice Chair), Hank Braxtan, Dora Fang, Libbie Early, Nora Hughes, Kristin Mercer, Porcia Silverberg (via TEAMS), Amy Wall, Cynthia Zaitz

Commissioners Absent: Pamela Blythe

Others Present: Haley Van Camp, Courtney Webb (Steadvast Valor Foundation)

Chair Robbie Breaux called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. Julie Matthews moved to approve the April 23 meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Amy Wall, and the motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

Discussion was had regarding the top three rated artwork proposals for the Monument Connector Trail Shelter project. In order to continue improving the selection process, there was a consensus that for future projects, the top two to three proposals will be brought to the Commission, presented without scores, and the Commission will make a recommendation from the presented proposals. There was a consensus to move forward and recommend Sean Yarbrough's proposal for the Monument Connector Trail Shelter project.

There was brief discussion around the Conex box mural project and the submitted proposals. To allow location and content adjustments by City staff, there was a consensus to recommend the top 12 ranked proposals for the project.

Haley Van Camp explained there were additional 1% for the arts funds for Fire Station 7, and that the Fire Department would like to use those funds by contracting Jeff Bates to create fire-themed bike racks for the front of the station, and to partner with Appleton Elementary to create a community piece of artwork representing the history of the station. The Commission was in support of these ideas and there was a consensus to have the Fire Department move forward with both of them.

Courtney Webb, chair of the Steadvast Valor Foundation, presented information about the Honor Chair they would like to place at the Lincoln Park Stadium as a remembrance for the more than 81,500 American service members still missing in action, and the proposed locations. The Commission was in full support of the project and supported both proposed locations.

Discussion was had regarding the Public Art goals and strategies of the Strategic Cultural Plan and how to identify accomplishments of these goals. To help continue the assessment, Haley will provide additional information on the City's public art map at the next meeting.

CITY STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES

Haley shared artist Seth Weber's revised artwork design for Fire Station 7 that was based on a site visit with the artist and Fire Department. Haley also shared the Commission would be reviewing mural proposals for the Community Recreation Center Natatorium before the June 25 regular meeting, and that there were 12 submitted proposals so far. Additionally, Haley explained that the 1% project budget for the 24 ½ and Four Canyons Parkways Phase II project was less than what was initially anticipated (\$150,000 to \$50,000).

With the potential changes to 4th and 5th Streets, Haley informed the Commission that the murals that were painted as part of the pilot project in October 2024 may be reverted back to parking spaces by having the parking stripes painted on top of the murals. The artists of the murals have been notified.

Discussion was had regarding two submitted exhibit proposals for the Public Art Exhibit program. Based on varying feedback, Michelle Calkins proposal was brought to a vote, 5-5. While the vote was tied, the Commission ultimately came to a consensus to approve the proposal. There was a consensus to have City staff reach out to Trevor Welker for more examples of their work, as available City facilities could not accommodate the submitted piece.

Haley briefly mentioned the GJCAC working groups for the next year had been put together, and that she will follow up before the next meeting with a .pdf of the groups.

Robbie Breaux reminded the Commission to fill out the grant evaluations document as they attend the grant events they were assigned to. The Commission will briefly share those evaluations at future GJCAC meetings.

Haley briefly shared that the 2025 Colorado Creative Industries Summit, held in Grand Junction May 1-2, was the best attended summit yet.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

There was brief mention of some arts and culture events Commissioners recently attended, and that it would be beneficial to document those events for future reference in annual reports, etc. Haley will create a shared spreadsheet where Commissioners can input their events as they attend them.

As there was no further business, there was a consensus to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Van Camp