

**MINUTES**  
**Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)**  
**Wednesday, April 23, 2014, Hospitality Suite, Lincoln Park**

**Commissioners Present:** Miranda Ashman, Laura Bradley, Judy Dyrud, Gisela Flanigan, Jeremy Franklin, Jennifer Hancock, Darcy Johnson, Lancer Livermont, Emily Pfeifer, Deanna Pickman  
**Others Present:** Lorie Gregor, City Councilor Bennett Boeschstein

Chair Lancer Livermont called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Jeremy Franklin moved to approve the minutes of the March 26 meeting without change. Miranda Ashman seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Introduction of New Board Members:** The Commission welcomed new member Laura Bradley.

**Final Grant Presentation, Aspen Dance Connection, GJCAC grant \$1800:** Fran Page distributed programs and a written summary report, which included difficulties she experienced in scheduling. She said the events had wonderful choreography and dancing, and the explorer who inspired the piece was a delightful storyteller. She was disappointed that attendance did not work out at all events, but audience reviews were positive and Bookcliff Middle School asked them to come back.

**Final Grant Presentation, Eurythmy Dance at Juniper Ridge Community School, GJCAC grant \$3000:** Donald Samson and Nicole Miller circulated samples of student drawings about the Eurythmy dance event and said students at the performance were “spellbound”. Adults from other towns also attended. Two lectures were given. One troupe member applied to teach at Juniper Ridge, so they achieved a major objective of getting regular Eurythmy instruction in the future. They will try to find a video of the Eurythmy group for GJCAC Commissioners to see.

**Vote for Vice Chair:** Miranda nominated Darcy Johnson for Vice Chair of the Commission. Gisela Flanigan seconded, and Darcy was elected unanimously.

**City Council:** Bennett Boeschstein presented an update on City Council business. Council is preparing and soon will release an Economic Development Plan. Some Council members have requested that “Quality of Life” be omitted from the plan. GJCAC discussion centered on growing the local economy, arts-related economic impact studies, the entire county as a cultural hub, effects of culture on tourism and corporate relocation, arts emphasis of municipal governments on the Front Range, and GJCAC’s relationship with City Council. Several actions were decided by consensus:

- GJCAC will pursue a new study of the local economic impact of the arts and culture
- Lorie Gregor will see if GJCAC can arrange a meeting with City Council to discuss our role as a resource and how we can assist Council with ongoing city plans (e.g. Avalon, Las Colonias) and future goals of economic development
- GJCAC will develop a unified language and talking points for the above presentation and discussion, for which Lorie will post a Google document for Commissioner input
- Lorie will send the Commissioners a definition of “creative industry” as used by Colorado Creative Industries in their data
- GJCAC may approach business people in local creative industries to help tell the story of how creative industries are economic drivers

**GJCAC Five Year Business Plan:** Lorie distributed copies of the GJCAC business plan with Current Projects and Next Five Years sections highlighted. The Commissioners agreed that the economic impact study was the most important item to address as soon as possible. Lorie asked the Commissioners to study

the other items and bring back ideas. Lancer suggested that we divide them into strategic and non-strategic plans.

**Committees and Project Timelines:** This was tabled for discussion at next meeting.

**New artist:** Lorie circulated copies of works by a mixed-media artist who currently lives in Washington but intends to return home to Grand Junction. The artist has requested to join the rotation of our city exhibits, and the Commissioners unanimously approved the request.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Avalon Theatre:** Councilor Boeschstein said the Avalon opening has been pushed back to September. The theatre will have room for art displays as discussed at last GJCAC meeting. After reviewing last meeting's ideas, the Commissioners agreed to add the Avalon as a fourth venue for ongoing city art exhibits (currently at City Hall, Two Rivers Convention Center, and Tiara Rado). Lorie will research appropriate spaces, hanging systems and other logistics for Avalon exhibits. Lancer suggested that as a courtesy we should communicate with the Art Center about the growing city exhibit program and any possible impact on their schedule.

**West Lake Skate Park:** Lorie said the wooden frames with panels for urban artists to finish will be built by May 31 and encouraged the Commissioners to attend Mural Jam on that day.

### **Reports and Announcements**

**Eurythmy Dance at Juniper Ridge Community School, GJCAC grant \$3000:** Deanna Pickman said the Eurythmy presentation was fun and whimsical, although it was not always clear how the dance expressed the storytelling. The performance was attended by 50-60 second graders and 25-30 adults. Parts of the lecture about Eurythmy seemed over the heads of second graders, and the storyteller could have used amplification. GJCAC was recognized at the beginning and end. Deanna said the presentation appeared to benefit the students. She gave them the idea to have the students draw what they saw, which yielded the only visual aspect of their final presentation to the Commission.

**Messiah Choral Society, GJCAC grant \$1500:** Jeremy Franklin said the Easter Messiah performance was wonderful, with excellent soloists and a chorus that was better prepared than other years. An estimated 500-600 people attended. GJCAC was mentioned in the program without our logo. His suggestions were the same as last year: give tickets to concertgoers to establish an attendance count, appoint choral section leaders, and reach out to a younger audience with a Facebook event page.

**Open Studios Tour:** Lorie circulated the flyer for the Open Studios Tour to be held May 3 and 10.

**Zikr Dance Ensemble:** Lorie suggested all Commissioners attend the Zikr Dance performance Saturday, June 21, and she will get tickets.

**Meeting Schedule:** The next regular meeting of the GJCAC will be 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, in the Parks & Recreation office.

As there was no further business, Lancer declared the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Dyrud