

## MINUTES

### Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, January 28, 2015, Parks and Recreation Office, Lincoln Park

**Commissioners Present:** Miranda Ashman, Laura Bradley, Jeremy Franklin, Gisela Flanigan, Jennifer Hancock, Darcy Johnson, Lancer Livermont, and Emily Pfeifer

**Commissioners Absent:** Marjorie Haun and Deanna Pickman

**Also present:** Lorie Gregor, City Commissioners Bennett Boeschstein and Marty Chazen, Mark McCain, Karen Kllanxhja, Kelly Anderson, Joy Hudak, Linda Skinner, and Greg Mikolai.

Chair Lancer Livermont called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and Gisela moved that the minutes of the November 19 meeting with the following change: Jeremy noted that we needed to omit "high school" in his report from the previous meeting; the master class was open to "all local music students". With this change, minutes passed unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**KAFM:** (GJCAC grant \$3500) Mark McCain reported on Arts Community Calendar. Continues to increase their numbers of air hours donated back to the community, and noted that calendar events this year included 4 other grant recipients of the GJCAC.

**MCPL Culture Fest:** (GJCAC grant \$2500) Karen Kllanxhja reported on ads and promotional material, example of fliers, and slide show of art exhibit. 15 visual artists participated in Friday night juried show. 125 people attended reception, jazz, various culinary services and local restaurants donated food. Event included international musicians and dance groups. 145 participants.

**GJ Symphony Nutcracker:** (GJCAC grant \$4000) Kelly Anderson reported on record attendance numbers and funds generated, highlighted children participated, and a total of 160 dancers performed. Grant money was used for 2 guest principals. GJ Symphony thanks Commission. 200 more tickets sold than 2 years ago. Masters class was scheduled, but choreographer decided to cancel. Principals did do meet and greet as part of contract.

**Riverside Educational Center Look What I Did:** (GJCAC grant \$2500) Joy Hudak reported that with grant funds they hired 5 local artists: dance, 2 art, drumming, voice and movement. It was a great experience for kids. 125 people came to performance and show. She brought example of publicity material. Plans for future... reaching out to GJHS for reduced ticket cost to performances.

**Western Colorado Writers Forum:** (GJCAC grant \$4000) Linda Skinner reported that last year was difficult for WCWF, changes in governance, etc. Admitted it was a complicated grant. CAC funds supported venue/administrative costs, 6 programs: Self-publishing with Lynn Fraser (agents and publishers), 2 poet workshops (David Rothman, Wendy Videlock), Fact into Fiction (Sandy Dorr and Sandy Crum), and Lynn Skinner on oral presentation of work (25 people attended that one). Funds from grant also helped support the Writers in the Schools Program, being administered by Colorado Humanities. WITS Program was under-utilized by local schools, primarily because of testing and core curriculum pressures, but Jill Burkey did two residencies.

**Rocky Mountain PBS:** (GJCAC grant \$3000) Greg Mikolai reported that the grant allowed another 12 episodes of Western Bounty, all featured local working artists or businesses. The shows are available on the website, so they're being shared as links by artists and others, and the GJCAC is thanked on each one. Greg played one of the Western Bounty shows: Danceworks. RMPBS/CMU/GJCAC logos at end.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Grant Review Process:** Lorie previewed new forms, reported on number of potential grant applicants who attended workshops.

Grant Review Dates:

9 Feb (Pick up packets at Parks & Recreation Office between 8-5)

16 Feb (Any questions to grant applicants on Google Doc by noon)

17 Feb (Collated questions to grant applicants)

20 Feb (Any responses from applicants due by 10am)

23 Feb (Grant Application Presentations 4-6pm at Hospitality Suite)

25 Feb (GJCAC Meeting to decide grant applications at Hospitality Suite)

## **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Las Colonias:** Lorie reported that Las Colonias development will have \$2K for 1%. The committee wants to incorporate decorative benches and bike racks. Committee would like to use Jeff Bates in Loma (benches and bike racks in Lincoln Park, Fruita, etc.) rather than issuing an open call, given time constraints and how well he worked with the City on Lincoln Park. Bennett Boeschstein suggested benches and bike racks should have a Hispanic theme, given the history of the area and that the Old Spanish trail ran through the park. Jennifer moved that GJCAC approve the Los Colonias committee to move forward with using Jeff Bates for the 1% for Las Colonias, Miranda seconded. GJCAC approved motion unanimously, and urges Hispanic theme over "Nature" theme.

**Legends of The Grand Valley:** Lorie updated on 3-Fold project. Final project will be on Main Street / Downtown. She shared the call for artists. Bennett added that they've also been working with Historic Preservation Board on plaques on local buildings. Lorie noted that Fruita uses historical photographs on similar plaques.

**Super Rad:** students sent thank-you notes; Lorie passed them around.

**GJ Symphony / Nutcracker:** Emily reported that it felt like living in a larger city. Jeremy did a great job. She gave a positive report and suggested we should keep funding. Attendance was up substantially. Miranda asked whether they tracked how/why attendance was up so much? It was asked what they plan on doing with the extra \$5K they earned? Emily reported good communication, prompt, good promotion of GJCAC. City Councilmember Marty Chazen suggested that the GJ Symphony seems like a "mature" organization at this point, and is generating revenue that they can re-invest. We might want to focus more on organizations which are just getting going in future grant decisions, and Jeremy concurred.

**MCPL Culture Fest:** Emily reported that this is another great program and excellent use of grant funds. Artists were great. Over 30 countries represented this year; attendance has steadily grown. Good communication, prompt, good promotion of CAC.

**KAFM Arts Calendar:** Gisela reported that, as in past years, this is a great program. Some changes in directorship caused some bumps but once Mark settled in, there was good contact, etc. Gisella suggested to him that he reach out to both our other grant recipients and other Non-profit organizations that aren't necessarily grant recipients. Their new website is getting great response. City Councilmember Bennett Boeschstein agreed that it's an excellent program. Lorie pointed out that the Community Hour is also huge opportunity for community organizations to get free on-air time.

**Western Colorado Writers Forum:** Lancer reported favorably on the six programs partially funded by the grant; each was well-attended by a focused group of writers and/or students. Artists running workshops and events seem knowledgeable and effective. Lancer also felt administrative/rent portion of grant was well-used. However, he is concerned by a general lack of acknowledgement on website and FB

of GJCAC support, as well as in event promotions. He is also confused about the WITS portion of the grant—grant proposal included 4 teachers for 4 schools and what was accomplished was 1 teacher in 2 schools. We need clarification from WCWF where the remaining balance went, given the big change in the WITS program. Lorie will ask WCWF for clarification of that issue and report to Commission.

**Riverside. Look What I Did.** Darcy reported that, as in previous years, this is an awesome event. Riverside is wonderful about acknowledging the support of GJCAC. Darcy recommended that they try to eliminate the barriers to getting Middle School kids to participate. Seemed like wonderful teachers/artists. They had great communication with the Commission.

**RMPBS Western Bounty:** Laura reported a good use of student interns: education is happening. High production quality, and she was able to easily link all videos on our FB page. She suggested more marketing of the actual show (that it exists). It's great that people can go to the website and see the videos. Good communication with Ryan but very difficult to get hold of Greg.

**Champion of the Arts:** Lorie reported an excellent event; Free Press, Sentinel, GV Mag, lots of press!! Good time, recipients appreciative.

**Marketing:** Lorie reminded the Commission to get on FB a lot more. Post. Post. Link. Like, etc.

The next special meeting of GJCAC will be at 4:00 p.m. Monday, Feb 23, at the Hospitality Suite in Lincoln Park to hear grant proposal presentations. The next regular meeting is scheduled at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at the Hospitality Suite in Lincoln Park to decide on grant recipients. As there was no further business, Lancer declared the meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hancock