

**GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE
MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Paula Andrews Peter Ivanov
 Ursula Hemmerich Richard Leinaweaver
 Karen Kiefer Phil Rogers
 Jeanne Killgore Ann Sanders

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Janet Terry

OTHERS PRESENT: Sandra Brown, and Allison Sarmo, Cultural Arts Coordinator

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date at 4:00 p.m. Chair Leinaweaver called the meeting to order and as there were no additions or corrections to the meeting agenda or to the minutes of the previous meeting on October 25, 1995, the chair declared them approved as written.

Sandra Brown appeared before the Commission to discuss the possibility of encouraging more cooperation and collaboration among local arts organizations, particularly the Museum of Western Colorado and the Western Colorado Center for the Arts given the fact that both institutions now have or will soon have new executive directors. Brown suggested that cooperation could be utilized with regard to staffing, volunteers, purchasing, fund raising, programming, scheduling, and other issues. Sarmo noted that a City Council member had recently suggested that the Museum and the Art Center consider some kind of merge. Sanders suggested sponsoring a retreat for the Art Center, the Museum, and the Grand Junction Symphony staff and board members, and there was discussion of also inviting other arts groups. Leinaweaver suggested that since the Commission hosts quarterly meetings of the major arts organizations in town, this idea could be discussed at the up-coming January meeting. After further discussion, the Commission decided to revisit this issue in December.

CULTURAL ARTS COORDINATOR REPORT: Sarmo distributed the Coordinator's Report for November and the Monthly Financial Report of expenditures to date. The Commission discussed several programs and expenditures which need to be finalized in 1995. Sarmo presented information and camera-ready print advertising from the *Arts and Prevention* initiative being done by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. The theme of the program is: "The arts give kids better things to do than drugs. Help them learn skills that last a lifetime." The purpose of the project is to encourage patrons of the arts to purchase tickets or fund scholarships for children in an effort to involve more youth in arts activities and give them healthy hobbies and interests through the arts. Sanders moved, and Kiefer seconded, that the Commission join the project and spend up to \$1200 to fund advertising which would be placed in the programs of area arts organizations, the college, and local high schools up-coming events (in the amount of up to \$50 each). The motion carried unanimously.

There was a discussion about funding all or a portion of the new brass letters which spell out "The Avalon". Sarmo noted that Mesa National Bank would match the Commission's funds. The Commission also addressed purchase of some type of artwork for the new C. D. Smith conference room, Sarmo stating that the DDA suggested each entity using the meeting room

might wish to display a poster or other piece indicative of that organization. Because the Commission does not have its own poster, it was thought that purchasing local artwork would not only enhance the room, but also further part of the Commission's mission to support local artists. Rogers moved, and Killgore seconded, that the Commission allocate \$1000 to match monies from Mesa National Bank to purchase the new Avalon sign and allocate up to \$750 for the purchase of two-dimensional local artwork for the new conference room. The motion carried unanimously. Sanders moved that the committee to chose the artwork include at least one representative from the community who had a background or expertise in the arts, but the motion died for lack of a second. The consensus of the Commission was to try to enlist the help of either Vern Mosher, Harlan Mosher, or Dave Davis in choosing a picture or wall hanging. Leinaweaver, Kiefer, Hemmerich, and Sarmo volunteered to serve as the selection committee. Sarmo will contact a community art expert.

Sarmo asked to be reimbursed \$134 for a computer class she recently completed through Mesa State College's Continuing Education Program. The class was about desktop publishing for WordPerfect 6.0, which is the program the Commission office uses. Sarmo noted that she completed the class on her own time, but had learned recently that Parks and other City departments budget money to fund college courses and training for employees. Sanders moved, and Rogers seconded that Sarmo be reimbursed the \$134 paid to Mesa State College for the desktop publishing class. The motion carried unanimously.

Andrews regretfully resigned from the Business in the Arts Awards Committee citing increased lack of time, and Leinaweaver appointed Jeanne Killgore chairperson of that committee. Leinaweaver will contact the Chamber of Commerce about the approximately \$800 they promised to contribute toward these awards but which has not been forthcoming. There were no other committee reports from the Commission. Rogers reported on the November 28 meeting of the Community Health Assessment Trend Benders Task Force. Sarmo reported that the Commission is scheduled to make a presentation on their 1996-1997 budget request to the City Council at 6:30pm on Monday, December 11. The next regular meeting of the Commission was moved to December 20 at 4:00p.m. As there was no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator