GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Paula Andrews Peter Ivanov

Ursula Hemmerich Richard Leinaweaver Karen Kiefer Ann Sanders

aren kleter Ann Sande

Jeanne Killgore

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Phil Rogers, Janet Terry.

OTHERS PRESENT: Piera Kllanxhja (JABOA), Perry Coyle, Allison Sarmo,

Coordinator.

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Leinaweaver called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. As there were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting of December 20, 1995, the Chair declared them approved as written. The agenda of the meeting was amended to facilitate an arts education discussion first under "New Business".

ARTS EDUCATION: Piera Kllanxhja visited with the Commission about the prospects of improving and increasing arts education in the local public Sarmo reported on a meeting with Judy Thornburg, School District 51 Principal Coordinator, and several people interested in additional art in the schools. The meeting was a follow-up on ideas from the November nationwide teleconference hosted in Grand Junction by the Commission on this subject. The meeting elicited the following 1.) expand the current program of after school art possibilities: classes being taught through the Art Experiences for Children Committee at three elementary schools (which the Commission helps underwrite), 2.) hold a series of mini in-service training classes for teachers after school to train teachers in how to integrate the arts into their basic curriculum, or how to use the arts in teaching other subjects, or how to teach specific art projects to their students, 3.) research and compile a list for the district in order to make the schools aware of what arts resources are available (as in the Commission's sourcebook of local artists and arts organizations), 4.) present the arts education philosophy, goals, and standards to one of the regular monthly meetings of district principals plus ideas for additional after school art classes.

Kllanxhja noted that these ideas could be accomplished through a partnership of the schools, the Commission, and other interested groups, such as JABOA. Sarmo noted that the \$325 million in federal funds which was available to implement the national education standards under the Goals 2000 Act has already been spent for school year 1995-96, and that the Colorado Department of Education is unsure if the program will be funded in the future given the many federal cutbacks. This money would have helped pay for such things as in-service training. Perry Coyle told the Commission about a "Meet the Masters" art history program similar to

District 51's "Art Heritage" program. Kllanxhja noted that there is a major difference in untrained people teaching art classes and trained artists teaching art classes.

Sarmo asked the Commission how directly involved they wish to be in getting more arts education in the schools. The consensus of the Commission was that they did not wish to spearhead any new programs, but would financially support projects or programs which facilitated additional art in the schools. Sanders suggested JABOA consider bringing a proposal for funding to the Commission which involves artists teaching art classes in the schools. Sarmo noted that Public Service Company has given the Commission an additional \$3000 specifically for arts programming in local schools.

CULTURAL ARTS COORDINATOR REPORT: Sarmo distributed the coordinator's report for the month of January, a financial report for the end of fiscal year 1995, and a list of the dates of the Commission's 1996 monthly meetings. Sarmo was commended for the annual State of the Arts report which the Commission is required to give to the City Council and a motion was made by Sanders, seconded by Hemmerich, that the newsletter be distributed to all locations utilized for cultural calendar distribution. The motion carried unanimously.

MEDIA COMMITTEE: Leinaweaver reported that the Commission's Art Happenings news spot on KREX-TV has been temporarily cancelled due to lack of a sponsor, but should resume soon. Ivanov reported that he is still attempting to contact Denny Herzog at the Daily Sentinel about additional arts coverage, and that Denver's Channel Six is no longer planning to build a station on the Mesa State College campus because they would not allow students to be involved in the effort. The new location for the station is at the UTEC site.

BUSINESS IN THE ARTS COMMITTEE: Jeanne Killgore reported that the committee met and produced a letter to local arts organizations requesting nominations for this year's three Business in the Arts Awards. Leinaweaver asked if the Commission has received the \$800 from the Chamber for the 1995 awards and Sarmo reported that no funds have been received. Sanders moved, and Kiefer seconded, that the Commission send the Chamber a bill for the \$800 as promised by Rich Emerson a year ago. The motion carried unanimously. There was a lengthy discussion about how to expand the types of artwork or art objects used as the actual awards. The consensus of the Commission was to invite submissions of two or three dimensional artwork, worth up to \$1000 each, similar in size and content, from local artists, and have them show samples of their work. Hemmerich moved, and Ivanov seconded, that the Business in the Arts Awards Committee meet and finalize the details of choosing the three pieces of artwork for the awards. The motion carried unanimously. Sanders suggested the Commission hire an art expert to chose the artwork. Kllanhxja and Coyle, both of whom are artists and have extensive art

experience, volunteered to serve on the selection committee.

Ivanov stated that he teaches a class at the same time the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meets (the second Wednesday of each month), but no other volunteer was forthcoming to serve as liaison.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF MAJOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS: Leinaweaver and Sarmo reported on the quarterly meeting of major arts organizations held at the Art Center January 17 and attended by representatives from the Art Center, the Museum, the DooZoo, the Library, the Colorado Council for the Arts, and the Commission. Cooperation and collaboration among the various arts groups was the major topic and it was a chance for several people to meet the new directors of the Art Center and the Museum.

ARTS ADVOCACY: Sarmo was asked to contact the Colorado Council on the Arts for a legislative update on arts issues just prior to the Commission's monthly meetings. The idea of sponsoring a forum for political candidates before the next election was raised, in order to discuss the arts. It was suggested that all local arts organizations should help sponsor.

CRITERIA FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM SUPPORT FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS: criteria by which the Commission awards financial support to arts organizations for arts events, projects, and programs was reviewed in preparation for this year's funding cycle. The consensus of the Commission was to fund only arts organizations not individual artists in 1996, therefore, item #2 under "Objectives" was reworded to say: organizations, "Encourage new projects, programs, and artistic endeavors." It was decided that all applicants must complete their events/projects by April 30, 1997.

It was suggested that the letter which is mailed to local arts organizations inviting proposals should state that \$14,000 is the total budgeted amount the Commission has for this program, as approved by the City Council (\$1000 from the Colorado Council on the Arts, \$3000 from Public Service Company, and \$10,000 from the City), and should include a list of past recipients. It was decided that the \$3000 from Public Service for arts education would simply be included within the Commission's existing program, and that each organization should only apply for one event/project/program. What the Commission does not fund was discussed as well as the conflict of interest restrictions. Further discussion on the conflict of interest statements was tabled until a future meeting.

Application forms, criteria, and a cover letter will be mailed to arts organizations and local schools by the first week of February, with a deadline for application of March 15, 1996, and review by the Commission at their March meeting.

Sarmo noted that Grand Junction High School is looking for a two week, Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday two-hour placement for a special education student with a talent for art, noting that the only task the Commission might offer would be to have him draw pictures for the covers of the 1996 cultural events calendars. Sarmo noted that supervision might be a problem since she works Monday-Wednesday-Friday. The consensus of the Commission was not to participate in the volunteer program at this time. An answering machine for the Commission's office was also discussed. Sanders moved, and Kiefer seconded, that an answering machine be purchased. The motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo, Cultural Arts Coordinator