

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE  
MINUTES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

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

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Karen Kiefer, Janet Terry

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Quimby, Perry Coyle, Allison Sarmo, Cultural Arts Coordinator

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Leinaweaver. Hemmerich moved, and Rogers seconded, that the meeting agenda be approved as written, with the addition of revisiting the Commission's grant criteria under "Old Business" to comply with *Robert's Rules of Order*. The motion carried unanimously. Sarmo noted two corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting, one being that the Commission's "Art Happenings" television spot had been running on KREX *not* KJCT as noted on page two and the other a suggestion by Janet Terry to include in the same paragraph a sentence stating that while Denver's Channel Six is no longer planning to build a station on the Mesa State College campus, they will be locating a station in the UTEC site. The chair declared the minutes of January 24, 1996 approved as amended.

APPOINTMENTS: Jane Quimby, a board member of the Colorado Council on the Arts, reported that the Council is trying to understand and deal with new grant guidelines from the National Endowment for the Arts (which provides about one-third of the Colorado Council on the Arts' funding). She noted that the major arts legislation pending at present centers around funding and that the Colorado Legislature's Joint Budget Committee had turned down the Council's request for an additional \$100,000 in their 1996-1997 budget. She distributed a breakdown of Council revenues and expenditures and discussed the proposed new Council grant guidelines, which emphasize cooperation and collaboration among arts organizations. Quimby noted that two *Art in Public Places* projects are currently going on in Grand Junction and that there will be four vacancies on the board of the Council when terms expire in June, one of which is the seat she holds. She also noted that Grand Junction will be well represented at the Governor's Award ceremony for Bill Robinson in Denver March 6. In addition to two Commission members, Sarmo and herself, half a dozen community people will be attending the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS: Sanders moved, and Rogers seconded, to formally approve amending the Commission grant criteria as discussed at the last meeting so that #2 under "Objectives" would read: "Encourage new projects, programs, organizations, and artistic endeavors," and funding for individual artists would be eliminated. The motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The chair opened the floor for nominations of chairperson for 1996. Hemmerich nominated Karen Kiefer, and Leinaweaver nominated Phil Rogers. The vote, by written ballot, was as follows: Kiefer - 4 and Rogers - 2. The Chair declared Kiefer as the new chairperson, commencing at the next regular meeting. The floor was then opened for nominations of vice-chairperson. Ivanov nominated Rogers. Hemmerich moved, and Ivanov

seconded, that the nominations be closed and Rogers elected by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS IN THE ARTS AWARDS:** Sarmo read nominations from the Grand Junction Musical Arts Association/GJ Symphony which nominated Hoskins, Farina, Aldrich, & Kampf in the corporate business category and the Avalon Theater which nominated Haining Heating and Plumbing in the small business category for the 1996 Business in the Arts Awards. Leinaweaver reported that the Business in the Arts Award Committee had reviewed the nominations and recommended awarding the two awards to these two very deserving nominees. Sanders moved, and Andrews seconded, that the Commission accept the Committee's recommendations for the 1996 Business in the Arts awards. The motion carried unanimously.

Sarmo reported that 24 local artists had submitted slides or prints of their artwork for consideration as the actual awards to the winning businesses and that after much consideration and discussion the Committee chose two paintings by Tricia Berg, at a cost of \$950 each. Sanders moved, and Ivanov seconded, that the Commission accept the Committee's recommendation for the artwork to serve as the Business in the Arts awards. Sanders suggested sending a letter of appreciation to the top seven artists stating that they were finalists in the selection process. Ivanov suggested that it would be beneficial to view the actual pieces prior to purchase. Perry Coyle suggested that next year the Committee and the Commission could narrow the field of available artwork and invite the top finalists to show their artwork to the Committee and/or the Commission. The motion carried, Rogers abstaining. Berg was contacted at her studio and immediately brought the two paintings under consideration over to the Commission's meeting for viewing.

Sarmo read a letter from the Western Colorado Center for the Arts nominating the *Daily Sentinel* in the media business category. Because the nomination was received by the Commission two days late, no action was taken, and because no other nominations were received, no award given in this category.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS:** A thank you letter was read from the GJ Symphony for the Commission's financial support of the recent Kinderkonzert "Peter and the Wolf".

Leinaweaver suggested asking local service clubs and businesses for a token amount of funding which the Commission would allocate through their special projects and events programs to support arts events, etc. Leinaweaver suggested that this would show broad community support of arts and cultural events and projects. Sanders asked if this would, in fact, take some potential funding away from local arts organizations who rely on service club and business donations. The consensus was to investigate this idea further, which Sarmo will do. There will be a board retreat in April, the date to be determined at the March meeting.

Retiring Commission member Paula Andrews was thanked by the other Commissioners for her years of outstanding service on the board.

**CULTURAL ARTS COORDINATOR:** Sarmo distributed the Cultural Arts Coordinator's Report for February, 1996 and the monthly financial report. The financial report and the Commission's budget for 1996, as approved by the City Council, were reviewed. Sarmo presented a memo reporting on a meeting earlier that day concerning the Public Service

Company Steamplant Reuse Study. The second phase of the study will concentrate on further research into the option of making the building an artist incubator/arts-related businesses/storage and construction facility for the Museum, DooZoo, and/or community theater groups.

**ART & RECREATION TREND BENDERS/ARTREACH COMMITTEE/CITY-COUNTY LAND USE PLAN:** Rogers, Sarmo, and Leinaweaver reported on recent Trend Benders Task Force meetings. Rogers reported that he is meeting with several arts organizations to determine the best way to help make cultural events tickets available to low income families, and that he will have a report for the next meeting. Sarmo reported that Kiefer is willing to write to up-coming events sponsors asking for donations of unsold tickets. This idea was tabled until the March meeting. Rogers brought information for the Commission's files from the Museum, Trend Benders, and the City/County Land Use Plan Steering Committee.

A letter was read from the Downtown Development Authority requesting \$1000 which was included and approved in the Commission's 1996 budget to help underwrite the *Art on the Corner* Art & Jazz Festival in June. Sanders moved, and Rogers seconded, that the Commission donate \$1000 as budgeted to the *Art on the Corner* fundraiser. The motion carried unanimously.

As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo  
Cultural Arts Coordinator