

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

Wednesday, March 28, 1996

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Ursula Hemmerich  
Karen Kiefer  
Jeanne Killgore  
Peter Ivanov

Richard Leinaweaver  
Phil Rogers  
Ann Sanders

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:** Janet Terry.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rachel Fortner, Joy Rayside, Ruth Moss, Charlene Gannon, Penny Heuscher, Mary Martin, Nancy Swille, Janet Vogt, Naomi Shepherd, Lyn Dodd, Lynda Gurule, Ronna Lee Sharpe, Trudy McCreaner, Joyce Patton, Cheryl Bell, Kirk McConnell, Linda Villa, Alexa Sanchez, Linda Skinner, John Arms, Shirley Otero, and Allison Sarmo.

The regular meeting of the Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Karen Kiefer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The agenda of the meeting was amended to switch the time of the Performing Arts Conservatory presentation with that of the Art Center. Sanders moved, and Ivanov seconded, that the minutes of the previous meeting dated February 28, 1996 be approved as written. The motion carried unanimously.

The following applicants for financial support of art and cultural events, projects, or programs appeared before the Commission and gave a brief overview of their proposal as well as answered questions about their event or project (amount being requested in parentheses):

- ~Rachel Fortner and Joy Rayside - Performing Arts Conservatory - School Tour of "Alex in Numberland" and Community Theater Coalition Festival in Steamboat Springs (\$3,000),
- ~Ruth Moss - Altrusa International - Visual Arts Workshop for middle and high school Altrusa Student Exhibitors/Slide Presentation and lecture by national artist (\$3,310)
- ~Charlene Gannon and Penny Heuscher - Orchard Mesa Beautification Council - Decorative Iron Fence behind cow & calf sculpture on S. Fifth Street and two pine benches (\$1,000)
- ~Mary Martin - Art Experiences for Children Committee - "Artists in Residence" Supplemental Art Programs in elementary schools during 1996-1997 school year (\$3,000)
- ~Nancy Swille and Janet Vogt - Mt. Garfield Middle School - Bronze Mascot Sculpture and Gymnasium Mural, both to be done by students with help from local artists (\$475)
- ~Naomi Shepherd and Lyn Dodd - GJ Musical Arts Association/GJ Symphony - Annual Symphony Children's Concert and daytime concert of Young Artists Competition (\$5,000)
- ~Lynda Gurule - National Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse/Youth Network - "Art in the Park" one-day arts & crafts festival in Lincoln Park (\$1,500)
- ~Ronna Lee Sharpe - Museum of Western Colorado - 1997 Cowboy Poetry Gathering and school outreach programs (\$3,000)
- ~Trudy McCreaner - Colorado West Performing Arts Center - 1996-1997 School Tour of dance history demonstrations in local schools and performance of "Giselle" ballet (\$3,000)
- ~Joyce Patton - Western Colorado Center for the Arts - 1996 May Art Week arts education demonstrations by artists showing six art medias to elementary school children (\$3472.50)

~Cheryl Bell - Monument Arts Institute - 1996-1997 School Tour of Chamber Music Workshops in local schools demonstrating different music and techniques (\$5,000)

~Kirk McConnell - DooZoo Children's Museum - Family Theater Company 1996 season of play productions (\$3,000)

~Linda Villa and Alexa Sanchez - Riverside Task Force - "Fun in the Summer" art, crafts, recreation and education program in Riverside Park with purchase of clothing, etc. (\$5,000)

~Linda Skinner - Mesa County School District 51 - Art Heritage Program supplies, "Artist in Residence" and administrative funding to interview artists as teachers (\$3,000)

~John Arms - Western Colorado Chorale - Orchestral and Vocal Performance of Haydn's "The Creation" (\$1,500)

~Shirley Otero - Family Empowerment Center, Inc. - Performances by Su Teatro (theater company) and Semillas de Tierra (folklorico group) for Mexican Independence Day (\$2,000)

(No one appeared representing Clifton Elementary School's application to purchase concert tickets from GJ Symphony and the Mesa County Community Concert Association.)

Leinaweaver moved, and Ivanov seconded, that in view of the County's reluctance to participate in support of the arts in Western Colorado, all Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture event/project/program funding be awarded exclusively to Grand Junction arts organizations and artists. After some discussion about the ramifications of this, the motion died in a tie vote: Three in favor, three opposed, one abstained.

Rogers moved, and Leinaweaver seconded, that the Commission schedule another meeting to discuss the award of financial support for the various applications. The motion carried. Leinweaver suggested the Commission consider whether they would fund only a few worthy applications in higher amounts or fund all worthy applications in lesser amounts. The consensus was to fund as many good applications as met the goals, objectives, and criteria. Another meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 29, 1996 at 4:00 p.m.

The Coordinator's Report and Commission's Financial Report for March were distributed. Sarmo asked for volunteers to help with two up-coming Commission slide presentations. Ivanov offered his assistance for the presentation April 1 to the Junior Service League and Kiefer said she might be able to assist in the presentation April 2 to the Mesa County Women's Network if she could find someone to take care of her grandchildren.

Kiefer noted that Mayor Maupin suggested to her that the Commission could review the three applications from people seeking appointment to fill the vacancy on the Commission. Letters and resumes were discussed from Julianna Furst-Vas, a journalist, translator, and former high school literature teacher, Joseph Oktavek, a former IBM marketing, personnel, and management specialist, and Perry Coyle, an artist, painter, small business owner, and former art auctioneer and fundraiser for the arts. The Commission voted to recommend to the City Council that Perry Coyle be appointed to the Commission, with the hope that the vacancy could be filled as soon as possible, since the Commission was currently short-handed. The vote was as follows: Furst-Vas - 1, Oktavek - 0, Coyle - 6.

Naomi Shepherd with the GJ Symphony noted that it was a major conflict of interest for the Arts Commission to approach local service clubs for funding because they would then be competing with local art and cultural organizations who receive funds from various clubs. Leinaweaver explained that the intent was to ask for only a small amount of funding and then give the money to the arts groups in town, not to use it for Commission programs.

Sanders moved, and Rogers seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo  
Cultural Arts Coordinator