



suggested by the Colorado Council on the Arts. Sarmo explained that two public meetings are tentatively scheduled: A focus group meeting June 3 to identify the needs and a large open meeting October 27 to develop the action plan to address those needs. A motion was made by Hemmerich, seconded by Killgore, to approve up to \$500 in funding to provide a facilitator for the arts education planning sessions. The motion carried unanimously.

The Coordinator also suggested the Commission work with the Colorado Council on the Arts' Young Audiences organization in Denver, and the Art Center, to provide a teacher in-service training in the fall about how to incorporate the arts into instruction of other subjects in the regular curriculum. The consensus of the Commission was to pursue this idea, if the cost was not in excess of \$500.

**COLORADO COUNCIL ON THE ARTS:** The Commission's grant application to the Colorado Council on the Arts was discussed and approved. The consensus of the Commission was to apply for \$6,000 in funding (up from the \$4,000 received this year) to donate to local arts organizations in support of arts and cultural events/projects/programs (which is how funding has been used the last three years.)

**CELTIC FESTIVAL:** The Coordinator reported a request from the organizers of the Celtic Festival in September for judges and help with a photo contest. Hemmerich and Reidy volunteered, and it was suggested that the Celtic Festival contact local camera stores for possible gift certificates to use as prizes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter was read from dance teacher Diane East asking for a contribution toward the dance education expenses of local high school student Jessica Morrison, who has been chosen as one of only thirty students in the country to attend the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Vail this summer. Because the Commission does not donate funding to individuals, but because it was felt that this student's accomplishments were especially exemplary, a motion was made by Whaley, seconded by Rogers, that Commission purchase a display ad in the first section of the newspaper congratulating Morrison on being selected for the Vail academy and encouraging others to donate toward her expenses. The motion carried unanimously.

Thank you letters were read from the Brush and Palette Club for their Commission grant award and from the Performing Arts Conservatory for a recent Commission arranged grant workshop.

**REPORTS:** The Cultural Arts Coordinator's Report for April and the Commission Financial Report for the first quarter of 1997 were discussed. A draft copy of the Commission's Economic Impact of the Arts in the Grand Valley questionnaire to arts organizations was distributed, discussed, and amended. Sarmo noted that she recently mailed out eight letters requesting funding from local banks, corporations, and foundations to support the Colorado Arts Consortium conference in September.

Ursula Hemmerich encouraged all Commission members to look for opportunities to promote the Commission and discussed the need to obtain more media publicity for the Commission. Hemmerich also reported she is working on a slide presentation about the Commission and Grand Junction for the Consortium conference and asked for story board ideas.

The idea of having a retreat for the Commission was discussed but the consensus was that one was not needed at this time. A meeting of the Budget Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, at noon in the Parks office. As there was no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo  
Cultural Arts Coordinator