

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes

Wednesday, October 22, 1997

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	Ursula Hemmerich	Bill Reidy
	Karen Kiefer	Phil Rogers
	Peter Ivanov	
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:	LeRoy Donegan	Priscilla Rupp
	Jeanne Killgore	Bill Whaley

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 4:15 p.m. A motion was made by Ivanov, seconded by Reidy, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of September 24, 1997 and to approve the meeting agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: A thank you letter was noted from John Dandurand of the Colorado Arts Consortium for the Coordinator's and the Commission's extensive work on the September Consortium conference in Grand Junction. Dandurand noted that in addition to those registering for the entire conference, ten people from Grand Junction attended limited portions of the conference, and Ivanov noted that five of these were probably Mesa State College arts administration students. Sarmo expressed disappointment that more local arts organizations' board and staff members didn't take advantage of the training opportunities provided by this statewide convention.

A thank you was noted from the Western Colorado Center for Children for the Commission's donated pictures and posters for their new building.

Hemmerich noted a recent broadcast on C-SPAN in which Richard Snow, editor of *American Heritage* magazine, cited a definite tie between arts and government, stating that consistent government support of the arts is key to national and international respect.

Because the regular monthly Commission meetings in November and December fall on the day before Thanksgiving and the day before Christmas, it was decided to combine the November and December meetings and hold only one meeting on Wednesday, December 3 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the Parks office building conference room.

The up-coming Arts Education Roundtable public meeting with School District 51 was discussed. Ivanov noted the importance of the Commission's not being the major financial supporter of arts education in the schools since this takes the funding burden off the school district. Sarmo noted the need to make sure the Arts Education Roundtable does not become a forum for people to suggest programs for the Commission to do and to fund. Sarmo also noted that the district just received a \$14,000 grant from the Colorado Council on the Arts for arts education and to expand the list of and information about artists available to teach in the schools.

REPORTS: The Coordinator's monthly report for October was distributed as well as a draft of the *Economic Impacts of the Arts in the Grand Valley* survey brochure. The brochure was discussed and suggestions made for revisions and additions. Sarmo noted an all-day seminar December 8 on designing brochures and other written materials which she would like to attend, at a cost of \$129, and no objections were raised.

Sarmo reported that the quarterly meeting of major arts organizations was held September 27, with nine people in attendance, and that it was a productive meeting.

Rogers noted a memo from the Coordinator to the ArtReach Committee which reported eight responses from local arts organizations (only four of which were willing to donate free tickets/admissions) and twenty responses from local human services organizations (all interested in receiving free tickets/admissions to cultural events.)

As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator