

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes

April 22, 1998

Commissioners Present: Seth Brown Jeanne Killgore
 Beth Buys Bill Reidy
 LeRoy Donegan Priscilla Rupp
 Karen Kiefer Peter Ivanov

Commissioners absent: Dennis Woodrich

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Peter Ivanov called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Kiefer, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on March 18, 1998 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Peter Ivanov appointed the following Commission committees and liaisons:

Arts Expo: Kiefer (chair), Brown, Donegan, Rupp, (Ivanov - ex officio on all committees)
ArtReach: Killgore (chair), Donegan, Buys, Woodrich
Artrain: Brown (chair), Kiefer, Killgore, Rupp, Woodrich
Budget & Finance: Reidy (chair), Buys, Donegan
Business in the Arts Awards: Rupp (chair), Brown, Kiefer, Reidy, Ivanov
Media: Ivanov (chair), Rupp, Woodrich

City Council - Ivanov	Parks Board - Donegan
Avalon Theater - Donegan	Chamber of Commerce - Brown
DDA/DTA - Rupp	GJ Musical Arts Assoc. - Woodrich
Museum of Western Colorado - Killgore	School District 51 - Buys
Visitor & Convention Bureau - Ivanov	WC Botanical Society - Reidy
WC Center for the Arts - Kiefer	

ARTS EXPO: The November 7 Arts Expo event was discussed at length and the various ideas which arose at the Arts Expo Committee meeting April 16. Kiefer recommended having each organization designate a specific contact person. The Commission discussed School District Volunteer Coordinator Linda Skinner's suggestion that the Expo include an arts to career component for students, but, since this is the first year, decided against expanding the event to cover Friday *and* Saturday. It was felt that art teachers in middle and secondary schools should be encouraged to offer extra credit to students who attend. Hours of the Expo were set at 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Kiefer noted that booth space measures 9 1/2 feet by 9 1/2 feet, and each participant is provided with a table and chairs, which Two Rivers will set up. Other possible venues were discussed, including Lincoln Park Barn and/or outdoors, but the consensus was to hold the event at Two Rivers.

The size of the stage was discussed and it was decided that a 20' X 24' stage would be adequate. The inability of dance groups to perform on the sectional type stage at Two Rivers was raised and it was decided to have a second stage/demonstration area on the other side of the room so dance groups could perform on the floor, along with other demonstrations or workshops. The consensus was to allow a total of thirty minutes for each performing group, assuming 15 minutes of actual performance time and 15 minutes to get ready and tear down their equipment, etc. Using this schedule, the 15 performances would alternate between stage areas, with one being used while the other is being readied.

The consensus of the Commission was to charge \$25 per booth space and \$1 admission at the door for those over 12 years of age. It was suggested that for profit businesses could also be required to provide a door prize as part of their booth fee. Whether or not to allow organizations/artists to sell memberships, artwork, etc. or just to display was discussed, and it was determined that the event would be a display not a selling event. Sarmo recommended that the Commission budget for extensive publicity for the event and consider hiring a marketing person to direct the advertising.

It was decided that letters be sent to all area arts organizations and arts-related businesses with information about the up-coming Arts Expo with a form to return if they wish to participate. Sarmo noted that she could include this with a mailing she is planning to solicit cultural events data for the summer event calendar. She noted that she could also include Arts Expo information in the letter soon to go out to all 500 local artists about the *Sourcebook* directory update.

SOURCEBOOK: The Commission's updating and reprinting of *The Sourcebook: A Directory of Grand Junction Area Artists and Arts Organizations* was discussed. The Commission decided to offer the same display advertising as in the 1996 directory (quarter page for \$25, half page for \$50, and full page for \$100) and to ask for a donation of artwork for the front cover, rather than purchase art or have a contest (since all artists are being listed at no charge, it was thought that someone should be willing to donate art.) Sarmo noted that she had been contacted by a Delta artist wanting to purchase an ad in the new directory, but the consensus was not to include any out-of-the-area artists, even if they are willing to purchase the space, since this is for Grand Junction area artists.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you letters were read from the Celtic Society, Mesa County Public Library District, the Visitor & Convention Bureau, Thunder Mountain Camera Club, and Very Special Arts for the financial assistance given to them by the Commission. A letter was read from the Performing Arts Conservatory thanking Sarmo for writing a letter of recommendation for one of their grant applications. A letter was noted from the Museum of Western Colorado asking for volunteers to help with the Grand River Indian Gathering May 16 and 17.

REPORTS: Rupp noted that she has been invited to be on the board of the newly organized public radio station KAFM and asked if the Commission felt this would be a conflict since the resolution which established the Commission states that Commissioners cannot be on the governing board "of any local arts organization". Whether or not a public radio station was an arts organization was discussed and the consensus of the Commission was that it was not, and Rupp could serve on the board if she wished.

Kiefer reported that Mesa State College is sponsoring consultant Donna Roll to do a seminar in August entitled "Empowering Yourself as a Woman Artist" at a cost of \$250 for participants. A written report by Kiefer on a March 28 Colorado Arts Consortium meeting she attended in Denver was also noted.

The Coordinator's Report for April was distributed and the Commission's Financial Report for the first quarter of 1998. Sarmo noted that she had been asked by Director Joe Stevens for a list of ideas of ways the City could pay tribute to retiring Colorado Senator Tilman Bishop, and that she had investigated purchase of a statue or a bench, in granite or metal, to be installed along the Riverfront Trail. Commissioning a portrait of Bishop to be hung at the public library was also suggested and renaming a portion of the Riverfront Trail. Sarmo will forward these suggestions to Stevens and City Administration.

The Coordinator reported that the Avalon Theater Committee has applied for a \$45,000 grant from the Colorado Historical Society to repair the roof, and another grant for \$100,000 for stage and dressing room improvements. The Avalon has already budgeted \$55,000 to purchase new lighting equipment and new interior curtains, and hopes to also purchase additional sound equipment.

The Coordinator reported that the traveling Artrain museum could visit Grand Junction sometime between February and April, 1999. A packet of information on Artrain was given to Brown, Buys will contact the school district about the project since it is primarily for the schools, and Sarmo will give the Artrain brochure to Linda Skinner.

It was suggested that the Commission present the 1998 Business in the Arts Awards at the Arts Expo.

Kiefer reported that the Art Center is holding a new "Bazaar Art Sale" May 23 plus the annual ACE's Yard Sale.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator