

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture

Minutes

September 23, 1998

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

Commissioners Absent: LeRoy Donegan

Others Present: LaVern Mosher (Mesa State College Art Department Chair)

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. A motion was made by Killgore, seconded by Rupp, to approve the agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting held on August 26, 1998. The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS IN THE ARTS AWARDS: The Business in the Arts Award Committee reported that they had reviewed nominations for the 1998 awards and recommended Home Loan & Investment be declared the winner in the corporate award category and that both Elite Expressions and Grand Cleaners be declared the winners in the small business category because they were equally deserving. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Killgore to accept the committee's recommendations and award the 1998 Business in the Arts Awards to Home Loan & Investment, Elite Expressions, and Grand Cleaners. The motion carried by a vote of seven in favor, one opposed. Woodrich explained that he voted no because he felt Grand Cleaners' contribution of free dry cleaning for Mesa State College's theater costumes only benefited the college, a state supported institution, and not the entire community.

Artwork by five local artists was viewed and discussed, narrowed down by the committee from 75 slides and photographs submitted for consideration. The committee recommended a watercolor by Frank Francese and a raku vase by Terry Shepherd, with the third piece open for discussion. A motion was made by Rupp, seconded by Brown, that the Commission purchase and award the pastel painting "Palisade Peaches" by Carolyn Ford to Home Loan & Investment, the watercolor "Winter, Mesa Lake" by Frank Francese to Grand Cleaners, and "Raku Vase" by Terry Shepherd to Elite Expressions. The motion carried by a vote of seven in favor, with Woodrich abstaining because he could not see all the pieces in person (Francese was out of town and, therefore, unable to bring in his painting for the Commission to view.)

The Coordinator suggested the Commission consider purchasing a pedestal for displaying the raku vase. A motion was made by Buys, seconded by Woodrich, to ask Terry Shepherd about constructing a pedestal for his vase, which the Commission would purchase from him. The motion carried unanimously.

ARTS EXPO: The Coordinator reported that KJCT-TV offered to do 100 free commercial advertisements during the two weeks prior to the Expo, and the consensus of the Commission was to use KJCT as the exclusive television media sponsor. Sarmo is still negotiating with various radio stations for sponsorship and will work with Kiefer and Ivanov to decide which one to use. The *Daily Sentinel* will be working on a special pull out section inside the November 6 "Out and About" for the Expo. The possible title sponsorship which Nestles' Beverage contacted the Commission about a month ago was not forthcoming because the date of the Expo did not coincide with the start of their new advertising campaign.

Arts Expo chair Kiefer reported that the cost of a double sided 20 foot banner from Signs First would be \$408 and the cost from The Sign Source would be \$360. Sarmo reported six bids from Suttons' Printing for different types of printed materials, and a motion was made by Killgore, seconded by Buys to print tri-fold two-color brochures to advertise the Expo. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Buys, seconded by Kiefer, to do a banner at The Sign Source. The motion carried unanimously. Ivanov suggested the banner be displayed on Main Street for a month prior to the Expo. Kiefer will work with The Sign Source on the banner; Sarmo will work with Suttons' to have brochures printed.

A final design for the Arts Expo logo by Bruce Manchee was viewed and approved. Door prizes were discussed at length. Rupp will contact the symphony about free tickets, Killgore will contact local galleries for

prizes, Woodrich will contact music stores, and Kiefer will contact the Art Depot and others. Rupp and Woodrich will pick up the sound equipment the morning of November 7, and stage managers have been hired by Ivanov and Rupp. Rupp suggested sending Expo comp tickets to the media with the press releases, and Sarmo suggested sending comp tickets to various human service organizations so they can distribute them to low income clients. The Commission concurred with both suggestions. Arts Expo meetings for the entire Commission were scheduled for 4:00 p.m. October 8 and 22 at the Parks building and November 5 at Two Rivers.

ARTRAIN: Brown reported that Ron Phillips with the railroad had suggested a site for parking the Artrain in March, 1999 which is on a curve under the 5th Street bridge with access off 4th Street via 7th Street. Commission members were asked to take a look at the site before the October meeting. Sarmo noted receipt of a contract from Artrain which she will have the City Attorney review before signing. Sarmo will also send the contract to the railroad for their review, and Brown furnished the name and address of another contact person with the railroad. Sarmo will invite Connie Robbins-Brady, Volunteer Coordinator for the school district to the Commission's October 8 meeting to discuss Artrain and the Expo, and contact the school district in writing to get a commitment from them about their responsibilities with Artrain.

“SWING LOW”: The Coordinator reported that the statue of the child on a swing which had been stolen from Canyon View Park was found by three boys near the Colorado River Bridge in Palisade. She said the boys were told by a sheriff's officer that they would receive a reward for their discovery but this was not true since Crime Stoppers only paid for information leading to a conviction. However, Sheri Zen with the Grand Junction Police Department is putting together free coupons as a reward for the boys and wanted Arts Commission participation. Sarmo said the Parks Department provided six free passes to the Orchard Mesa Pool, suggesting the Commission purchase family passes to the up-coming Apple Jubilee at Cross Orchards since this was a cultural event. There was also a suggestion to give each of the boys \$20, which Sarmo will check into. The rise in vandalism around town was discussed, and the fact that the Downtown Association has looked into the possibility of video monitoring downtown at a cost of \$5000.

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.: A note was read from the Wingate Art Committee asking if they could have a donation jar at their Arts Expo booth. The consensus of the Commission was not to allow this, since the event is for displays not sales and money should not be involved, and because other organizations might want to solicit donations. Thank you letters were read from Grand Villa and Heritage Senior Homes for Commission funded performances by the Institute of Dancing Arts. A letter was read from Peter Marzio of Houston, Texas endorsing the candidacy of Hill Kemp for the 22nd Congressional District in Texas, citing Kemp's strong support for the arts.

The Coordinator relayed a message from Gabriella Denton saying that she liked the way her cat print on the cover of *The Sourcebook* had turned out, and that she wanted to donate the print to the Commission. Sarmo said she'd written Denton to thank her and will have the print framed for the office.

The Coordinator relayed a message from Janet Vogt of Mt. Garfield Middle School asking about spending \$100 left over from a 1997 Commission grant to the school for two art projects. Vogt wanted permission to donate the money to the school's art club, and the consensus of the Commission was that this was in keeping with the spirit of the original grant. As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator