

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE
MINUTES
December 2, 1998

Commissioners Present: Seth Brown Bill Reidy
LeRoy Donegan Priscilla Rupp
Karen Kiefer Dennis Woodrich
Peter Ivanov

Commissioners Absent: Beth Buys, Jeanne Killgore

The regular meetings of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture for November and December were combined and held on the above date. Prior to convening the meeting, the Cultural Arts Coordinator showed a slide presentation *Healthy Communities 2000—Our Picture of Health*, noting particularly the information about arts and culture in the report.

In the absence of the chair and vice-chair, the immediate past chair Karen Kiefer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reidy, to approve the meeting agenda as written. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Rupp, seconded by Reidy, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on October 28, 1998, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Kiefer reported on the Colorado Arts Consortium meeting and training session she attended in Parker, noting that seven arts organizations in Denver continue to work together toward relocating their offices to a central location on the campus of and under the auspices of the University of Colorado.

The Coordinator recommended the Commission co-sponsor a workshop for local artists with the Western Colorado Business Development Center and the Art Center possibly sometime in February, noting that the Commission has not done an artists workshop for two years, and that it will probably cost between \$100 and \$500. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reidy, to authorize up to \$500 in 1999 to co-sponsor a local artists business workshop. The motion carried unanimously.

The Coordinator asked permission to attend the Rocky Mountain Conference on Art and Technology in Denver February 5 - 6, at a cost of \$95 for registration. She explained that the conference will focus on arts and the Internet, and how to use digital technology to benefit the arts. A motion was made by Donegan, seconded by Rupp, to authorize funding for the Coordinator to attend the Rocky Mountain Conference on Art and Technology. The motion carried unanimously. Sarmo noted that she will also check into any Internet training available locally and how this relates to what the Denver conference will cover.

Letters were noted from the Art Center, the Museum of Western Colorado, JABOA, and a winner of one of the door prizes, congratulating and thanking the Commission and the Coordinator for an outstanding Arts Expo.

COMMISSION REGRANTING: Chair Peter Ivanov arrived at 4:45 p.m. and assumed chairmanship of the meeting. The Commission discussed the logistics of being the fiscal agent for Mesa County Valley School District 51, so the district can accept a \$9,600 grant from the Colorado Council on the Arts. Because the Commission is acting as a pass-through agency and will have little direct input about expenditure of the district funds, a motion was made by Brown, seconded by Donegan, to keep School District 51's grant funding from the Colorado Council on the Arts separate from the

Commission's grant funding from the Council, and separate separate from the Commission's existing regranting program. The motion carried, six in favor, Woodrich opposed.

The Commission reviewed the mission, goals, and criteria used to award financial support to organizations for arts events, projects, and programs, in preparation for inviting funding applications in January, 1999. There was an extensive discussion about what types of projects the Commission does not fund, Woodrich noting specifically the exclusion of scholarships, the need to be clear about what constitutes a "scholarship", and the problem of organizations receiving Commission support and then donating their excess funding to other organizations. The Coordinator noted that organizations must show on their application if they anticipate a significant profit from their event or project and state how these funds will be used. Kiefer noted that organizations anticipating large surpluses have been denied funding in the past. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reidy, to approve the same criteria used in 1998. After further discussion, Rupp moved that the original motion be amended so that under "What the Commission Does not Fund" the word "Scholarships" is replaced with "Individual scholarships", but the motion died for lack of a second. After further discussion, Woodrich recommended reviewing the criteria again within sixty days of awarding the 1999 grants, rather than waiting until the end of the year. The original motion by Brown carried unanimously.

COORDINATORS REPORT: The Cultural Arts Coordinator's report for November was distributed and the financial report of expenditures to date. The Commission discussed possible uses for the approximately \$1,200 left in the 1998 budget, and the consensus was to purchase a painting by a local artist for the Parks and Recreation conference room and to organize a dinner retreat to discuss plans and projects for 1999. A tour of local galleries and mini-retreat was scheduled for December 10, from 4-7 p.m.

There were no additional reports from committees or liaisons, and formation of any new Commission committees was tabled until the January meeting. As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator