Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture Minutes April 26, 2000

Commissioners Present: Seth Brown Jeanne Killgore

Beth Buys Priscilla Mangnall

LeRoy Donegan Bill Reidy
Karen Kiefer Bill Whaley

Commissioners Absent: Peter Ivanov

Others Present: Pat Olson (sculptor), Jerry Burdick (applicant for Commission vacancy)

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 4:00PM. A motion was made by Bill Reidy, seconded by LeRoy Donegan, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on March 29, 2000. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Seth Brown, seconded by Bill Reidy, to approve the minutes of the meetings of February 28, 2000 and March 6, 2000, because these had not been approved at last month's meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The Cultural Arts Coordinator introduced Jerry Burdick, the one of eight applicants for the three vacancies on the Commission, noting that letters were sent inviting the applicants to attend this meeting and find out more about the Commission and its programs and projects.

CITY HALL ARTWORK: Local sculptor Pat Olson appeared before the board to discuss the possibility of including Chipeta, wife of Chief Ouray, as part of the "Chief Ouray" sculpture for the elevator atrium lobby of the new City Hall. Olson explained that space limitations might dictate what could be placed in the lobby, noting that most photographs of the pair show Chipeta seated and Ouray standing beside her, and that a seated figure would take up more floor space than a standing figure. Olson suggested looking at the lobby and traffic patterns. He indicated his willingness to work with the Commission to come to an agreement about price for the added figure. A meeting was scheduled with Olson and several Commissioners for Monday, May 1, at 9:00AM, at the City Hall to look at the space and make the final decision.

COLORADO COUNCIL ON THE ARTS GRANT: Submitting a grant to the Colorado Council on the Arts for the year 2001 was discussed, particularly in light of the fact that the City may be unable to accept future grants because of Amendment One limitations. The Coordinator noted that there may be a de-Brucing question on the next election ballot, but it may or may not pass. It would not be advantageous for the Commission to get a grant from the Council, then not accept the money, because the Council could not then award the funding to another organization. The consensus of the Commission was to apply for a \$5,000 grant for 2001 to support arts and cultural events and programs, as has been done for the past several years, and to include in the application information about the revenue limitations which the City faces.

SOURCEBOOK DIRECTORY UPDATE: The Coordinator presented several drawings by local artist Suzi Rhea, which Rhea offered to donate for the cover of the new Sourcebook. A motion was made by Donegan, seconded by Killgore, to use Suzi Rhea's drawing of two ballet dancers for the Sourcebook cover artwork. The motion carried unanimously. The Coordinator presented a request from Dave Davis to place an ad for

his gallery on either the front or back inside cover of the directory, depending on the price. The cost to print the back side of the cover would be an additional \$100, and the Commission discussed what a fair price for the ad space would be. A motion was made by Kiefer, seconded by Brown, to offer the front inside cover space for \$250 and the back inside cover space for \$200. The motion carried unanimously.

WESTERN SLOPE AESTHETIC EDUCATION INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS: The Commission discussed a suggestion from Young Audiences that they provide scholarships for teachers who want to attend the Western Slope Aesthetic Education Institute in June at Western State College in Gunnison. Scholarships would be either \$246 or \$396 and the deadline for teachers to register is May 15 (2½ weeks away). The course would train teachers to infuse the arts into their curriculum. The Coordinator noted that the Commission already spent an extra \$1000 this year because their nominee, Dave Davis, won the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. This award resulted in the Commission's hosting a reception at the Art Center for over 200 people and sending two Commissioners and the Coordinator to Denver overnight to attend the award ceremony at the Governor's Mansion. Because of this expenditure the Commission has very little discretionary funding left. The consensus of the Commission was not to fund any scholarships this year but to plan ahead and budget for this possibility next year.

ARTS EXPO: The Commission discussed booth fees for the up-coming Expo November 4, and other details in preparation for mailing out invitations to register for the event to all arts groups and artists. Problems last year with performers canceling two weeks prior to the event or not showing up at all were discussed, and the Coordinator suggested that those who failed to perform at the last minute might be excluded from this year's event, or some type of monetary incentive might be offered to encourage people to perform. Killgore suggested the Commission have a calling committee to contact all the performers a week or two prior to the event and this idea was favorably accepted. It was decided that performers who fail to appear at the last minute be excluded in the future, but not this year, and that this be noted in a follow-up mailing.

The Coordinator distributed copies of the grant submitted to US West which, if funded, would make US West the title sponsor of the Expo and expand the event to include a free tour of all local cultural institutions—Art Center, Doo Zoo, Museum, and Botanic Gardens—with admissions at the Expo and these other places paid for by US West.

ART AND JAZZ FESTIVAL: The Commission decided to again have an information table at the Art and Jazz Festival June 9-11, probably only on Saturday.

ARTS EDUCATION ORGANIZATION: The Coordinator presented a request from Deniese Kohles, who is forming a new arts education organization in conjunction with the Montessori school, asking for recommendations of artists well connected with education and the school district to serve on their new board. The Commission was unable to suggest anyone they thought would be interested in this particular board.

COLORADO ARTS CONSORTIUM CONFERENCE: There is a series of skits about historical arts and cultural influences throughout Colorado being planned for the Colorado Arts Consortium's annual conference in Cortez September 23-24 and a request was put forward for Grand Junction area attendees to write and present a short skit about the

Spanish explorers. Consortium board member Karen Kiefer and Commission chair Priscilla Mangnall will be attending, along with the Coordinator and Yvonne Piquette from Fruita, and all would be willing to help with such a venture. It was suggested that Ivanov be drafted to help also because of his theatrical skills.

Another theater project was noted from the Gunnison Art Center, which would involve a traveling "Medicine Show" about water allocation and water issues, presented in several towns on the Western Slope, including Grand Junction. The group organizing this "Animating Democracy Initiative" to use the arts as a tool for constructive public discussion wants the help of the local League of Women Voters and the Arts Commission. The Commission voiced approval for the concept and suggested Brown and Ivanov as good candidates to help with this also.

ART ON THE CORNER SCULPTURE CHANGE: Brown, Buys, Donegan, Kiefer, Killgore, and Reidy volunteered to help with the Art on the Corner sculpture change as the painting and waxing crew again this year. Mangnall and Donegan will supply wheelbarrows.

CORESPONDENCE: A thank you letter was noted from the mayor of Aurora for a tour of Art on the Corner the Coordinator gave to an Aurora delegation recently. Fourteen thank you letters from Lincoln Park Elementary students were passed around, thanking the Commission for supporting the Art Experiences for Children program.

FAREWELL TO RETIRING COMMISSIONERS: Karen Kiefer and Jeanne Killgore were thanked profusely for all their years of service on the Arts Commission.

REPORTS: The Coordinator's Report for April and a Financial Report of expenditures to date were distributed and reviewed.

An Arts Expo Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 16 at 4:00PM at Gladstone's Restaurant.

CITY HALL ARTWORK: The Commission watched a video from Denver sculptor Dennis Sohocki showing his statue "Contemplation" in more detail than the original slides. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Donegan to recommend that City Council purchase "Contemplation" for City Hall as decided at the last meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The consensus of the Commission was also to recommend that the City Council commission Pat Olson to do a sculpture of both Ouray and Chipeta, if space allowed, and to take the additional funding necessary out of the Commission's own budget, since the 1% for the Arts budget for City Hall would be exceeded. If space will not allow for the inclusion of Chipeta, then the originally proposed statue of Chief Ouray will be purchased for \$6,500. It was recommended that architect Pamela Blythe be invited to the meeting Monday with Pat Olson at City Hall to look at the elevator lobby.

COMMISSION VACANCIES: The Commission discussed the eight applicants for the three vacancies on the board. A motion was made by Killgore, seconded by Bill Whaley, to recommend that City Council reappoint LeRoy Donegan to a second term and appoint Jerry Burdick and Janet Prell to fill the other two vacancies. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo Cultural Arts Coordinator