

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture

Minutes

Wednesday, February 28, 2001

Commissioners Present: Pamela Blythe Priscilla Mangnall
Seth Brown Bill Whaley
Peter Ivanov

Commissioners Absent: LeRoy Donegan, Janet Prell, and Bill Reidy

Others Present: Harry Brown and Lyn Dodd (Saturday Cinema at the Avalon), Robert Witt (Mesa County Community Concert Association), Helen Stenmark (Brush & Palette Club).

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Vice-chair Priscilla Mangnall called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Ivanov, to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting held on January 24, 2001. The motion carried unanimously.

GRANT FUNDING: The Commission reviewed the 24 requests (totaling \$52,680) for financial support from agencies and organizations, according to the Commission's goals, objectives, criteria, and requirements. The Coordinator noted that since the Mesa State College Theatre Department doesn't have the staff available to do "Shakespeare in the Park" this summer and did not submit a grant application, that the University of Colorado's TheatreWorks was willing to return for a repeat engagement, at a cost of \$5,000. This option was discussed, but the consensus of the Commission was not to fund a TheatreWorks Shakespeare production because of the cost, the extensive amount of work involved on the part of Arts Commission board and staff, and the quality of the production.

After extensive discussion about the specific applications and projects, a straw vote was taken to determine which projects should receive funding and which, if any, should not. Following this vote, each project was discussed in depth to determine the exact amount of funding to be awarded from the \$25,000 in total grant funds available. A motion was made by Ivanov, seconded by Whaley, that the Commission recommend to the City Council that funding support be awarded to the following 18 art and cultural events, programs, and projects:

Celtic Society - Celtic Festival & Highland Games	
\$2000	
David Taylor Dance Theatre (Denver) - "Rainforest" performances	
\$2000	
Friends for Native American Communities - Rocky Mountain Indian Festival	
\$2000	
Italian Cultural Society - Festival Italiano concerts & film festival	
\$2000	
KRMJ-TV (PBS) "Western Bounty" segments featuring local arts and artists	
\$2000	
Performing Arts Conservatory musical production "Ruthless"	\$2000
Saturday Cinema at the Avalon Independent Film Series	
\$2000	
GJ Jaycees "Return to Camelot" Renaissance Festival	
\$1500	
Latin Anglo Alliance Cinco de Mayo Fiesta (downtown)	
\$1500	
Mesa County Community Concert Assoc. school concert of Andean folk music	
\$1300	
Brush & Palette Club Regional Exhibition & Workshop	\$1250

Western Colorado Watercolor Society National Watercolor Exhibition	
\$1250	
VSA Arts-GJ Arts Festival for Adults & Children with developmental disabilities	
\$1200	
Mesa State College Dance Festival (collaboration of area dance groups/studios)	
\$1000	
Mesa County Public Library LIVE! at the Library poetry reading	\$
525	
Advocates for Children's Enrichment children's theatre production	\$
500	
Schumann Singers Winter Choral Concert	\$
500	
GJ Music Teachers Association Sonatina Music Festival for piano students	\$
475	

A total expenditure of \$25,000. The motion carried unanimously.

The following six projects were not recommended to receive financial support:

Grand Junction Musical Arts Association/GJ Symphony chamber music concert

Grand Junction Senior Theatre Annual Senior Follies production

Mesa County Fair

Museum of Western Colorado Pride of the Valley Festival

Western Colorado Botanical Society performing arts event for amphitheater grand opening

Western Colorado Center for the Arts installation art exhibit

CITY HALL ART EXHIBITS: Blythe reported on the February 21, 2001 meeting of the City Hall Art Exhibit Committee. The committee addressed the offer of a semi-permanent loan of two 1891 William Henry Jackson photographs and the request from the City of Grand Junction Historic Preservation Board to hang a display of student photographs and drawings for Historic Preservation Week during the month of May. The committee's recommendation is to designate the long wall on the second floor above the Fifth Street entrance as the "Community Art Wall" for rotating art displays by local painting clubs, photography clubs, schools, etc., and to designate the wall on the second floor opposite the Public Works Department as the "Community History Wall". The committee further recommends that the Historic Preservation Board could utilize either or both spaces for their May display, and recommends that the Historic Preservation Board be given the responsibility of doing displays on the "History Wall", which might include pictures from the Museum of Western Colorado and/or the Jackson photographs or other historical artwork. The consensus of the committee is to limit the committee's responsibility to contemporary art displays. A motion was made by Ivanov, seconded by Brown, to accept the above recommendations of the Art Exhibit Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee also researched security issues pursuant to hanging artwork by Tom Stubbs, Gerald Fritzler, and other well-known local artists. After an extensive Internet and catalogue search, and a bid from Superior Alarm, the committee recommends that the Commission purchase an art hanging rail system by Arakawa Hanging Systems USA for approximately \$800, plus purchase a remote security alarm system for approximately \$1200 in order to accommodate rotating art exhibits in the main lobby, elevator lobby, and connecting hallway. The hanging rail would provide a more secure attachment than the existing hanging rail, without actually attaching pictures to the walls permanently, and the alarm system would provide an audible alarm on site and at the police station if a piece were to be lifted off the wall. Installation of the remote alarm system keypad attached to the phone line is included in the price quote, however, the cost of the hanging rail and hangers is for parts only, and assumes that City maintenance personnel would attached the rails to

the walls. A motion was made by Whaley, seconded by Ivanov, to accept the recommendation of the City Hall Art Exhibit Committee with regard to the hanging system and alarm system. The motion carried unanimously.

Because of School District #51's up-coming spring break, the next Commission meeting was changed from March 28 to March 21. A list of committee appointments and committee chairs was distributed:

Arts Expo Committee: Peter Ivanov (chair), Bill Reidy (LeRoy Donegan--on all committees)

Budget Committee: Bill Whaley (chair), (LeRoy Donegan)

Business in the Arts Committee: Seth Brown (chair), Janet Prell, Bill Reidy (LeRoy Donegan)

City Hall Art Exhibit Committee: Pamela Blythe (chair), Janet Prell (admin. co-chair)(LeRoy Donegan)

Media Committee: Janet Prell (chair), Peter Ivanov, Bill Whaley (LeRoy Donegan)

Orientation Committee: LeRoy Donegan (chair), Priscilla Mangnall

Strategic Plan/Cultural Tax Committee: Pamela Blythe (chair), Priscilla Mangnall, (LeRoy Donegan)

Steam Plant Committee: Bill Whaley (chair), Seth Brown, Priscilla Mangnall (LeRoy Donegan)

The Cultural Arts Coordinator's Report for February was distributed and reviewed. As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the vice-chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator