

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
September 25, 2002

Commissioners Present: Pamela Blythe Priscilla Mangnall
Doug Clary Joan Meyers
Jack Delmore Janet Prell
LeRoy Donegan Bill Whaley
Karen Kiefer

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Bill Whaley called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. A motion was made by Doug Clary, seconded by Karen Kiefer, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting of August 28, 2002 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: A letter was read from the Colorado Council on the Arts informing the Commission that their 2003 grant application was denied funding. The Coordinator explained that the grant category recommended by Council staff turned out to be the wrong one for the Commission to have applied in, so the grant review panel gave a low ranking to the application. She noted that the Council staff member apologized profusely.

A letter was read from David Taylor Dance Theatre noting that their Oct. 3-4 performances have been postponed until February 13-14, 2003. A letter of thanks was read from the Hospice Chair-ity Art Project for displaying their art chairs in City Hall. Letters of thanks were read from the LDS Church Third Ward Relief Society and the Grand Junction Lions Club for recent Commission slide presentations. A letter of thanks was read from Professor Jeanine Howe for the Coordinator's teaching a class at Mesa State College on how to start a nonprofit organization.

REPORTS: The Coordinator distributed her report for September and the Commission's year-to-date Financial Report for the third quarter of 2002. Both were reviewed and discussed. The Coordinator noted that she is working with the Grand Junction Visitors and Convention Bureau, several local cultural organizations, and sculptor Lyle Nichols to do displays at the opening reception of the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Grand Junction October 23.

Karen Kiefer reported on the annual Colorado Arts Consortium Conference, recently held in Estes Park. She distributed buttons and cards for the "50th, No Way!" campaign to raise awareness that Colorado now ranks 50th in the nation in per capita state spending on the arts. Kiefer noted that 60 people attended the CAC conference and heard presentations on everything from small town collaborations to arts advocacy to arts education, which was presented by Kiefer and Connie Robbins-Brady, Mesa County School District #51 Art Heritage Program Coordinator.

Pamela Blythe presented copies of Tempe, Arizona's "Art in Private Development Guidelines", suggesting the Commission consider asking the City to require that private developers provide artwork in conjunction with major commercial projects as is done in several other cities. The Tempe regulations and the idea of art for large private developments were discussed.

BUSINESS IN THE ARTS AWARDS COMMITTEE: Committee chair Priscilla Mangnall reported that the committee's recommendation is to keep the selection procedure for

nominations and award artwork the same as in previous years. A committee meeting was tentatively scheduled Nov. 19 to review nominations and artwork, and the November Commission meeting was tentatively rescheduled for Nov. 20, since the regular date is the day before Thanksgiving. The Coordinator noted a suggestion from the Mesa County Pro Bono Project that Commission members attend the annual Harvest of the Arts Show to purchase artwork for the Business in the Arts Awards. She explained, however, that this would mean the artists don't receive full price for their artwork, since a portion of each sale goes to the Pro Bono Project, and that the number of artists to choose from would be narrowed to those participating in that event. The consensus of the Commission was to accept the committee's recommendation and proceed as in past years.

MARKETING AND MEDIA COMMITTEE: A meeting of this committee was scheduled for 5pm Tuesday, October 15 at Pantuso's Restaurant to discuss a possible Commission website and other marketing issues. The general consensus was that a new Commission website would increase visibility and access, since currently the Commission's Internet presence is buried within the Parks and Recreation Department within the City of Grand Junction website. Doug Clary volunteered his services to design and maintain a basic website for the Commission, and estimated initial set-up and registration fees of about \$60, with monthly fees of \$10 per month, and search engine fees of about \$30 per year. The Coordinator will ask the City's Information Services Department if there is a prohibition against the Commission having their own website separate from the City's, and if the new site can be linked to the City's.

OLD BUSINESS: A discussion arose about the loan of two historic photographs of Grand Junction by William Henry Jackson, offered for display at City Hall early last year, which may still be available. A motion was made by Mangnall, seconded by Kiefer, to contact Sentinel Printing about exhibiting the photographs in City Hall on semi-permanent loan. The motion carried unanimously.

A discussion arose about protecting the mural on the wall of the second floor of the Avalon Theatre from further deterioration, especially with the concession stand now in front of it. The Coordinator will investigate the cost of attaching a piece of Plexiglas in front of the painting and will bring the Commission's concerns to the attention of the Parks and Recreation Director.

ONE PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROJECTS: Pamela Blythe presented an extensive "Art in the Park Proposal" for the next phase of construction at Canyon View Park. The proposal expands on the idea discussed at the last Commission meeting to spend the 1% for the Arts funding to create a "sculpture park" area near the entrance, with installation sites and pedestals for the display of temporary sculptures, and a large architectural entrance feature. The proposal included information about the City of Loveland's Benson Sculpture Garden and the Shidoni Gallery Sculpture Garden in Tesuque, New Mexico. The sculpture park exhibit would function like Art on the Corner, with donated artwork on loan and for sale for one year, and the City's retaining a commission from any sales. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of a sculpture garden—security issues, getting artists to participate, that particular park as a site for a sculpture garden, and the fact that organizing, installing, and maintaining a rotating exhibit will involve significant time. The Coordinator suggested that the Commission could also consider spending the 1% funds to purchase art similar to the bronze sculptures already in Canyon View Park—the baseball player and the swinging child—

like the tennis player sculpture which was in last year's Art on the Corner exhibit. The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

As there was no further business before the board, the chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator