

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
May 28, 2003

Commissioners Present: Pamela Blythe Joan Meyers
 Lee Borden Jack Delmore
 Doug Clary Karen Kiefer

Commissioners Absent: Priscilla Mangnall, Janet Prell, Bill Whaley

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Pamela Blythe called the meeting to order at 4:15pm. A motion was made by Karen Kiefer, seconded by Jack Delmore, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting of April 23, 2003 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you letter from the Mesa County Public Library Foundation for Commission grant funding was read.

A letter from the Commission endorsing the public library's campaign to build a new central library was read, as requested by the library at the last Commission meeting. The consensus of the Commission was to approve and have the chairperson sign the endorsement letter.

ONE PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROJECTS: The Coordinator reported having met with both artists working on the Riverside Park restroom and Columbine Park restroom tile art projects, to finalize contracts, timelines, and payment schedules. The tile projects will to be completed by the end of June to coincide with completion of the restroom buildings.

Commissioner Doug Clary reported that he and his uncle, a welder who worked for years with stainless steel, recently inspected "The Song of Two Rivers" fountain. They found that while much of the pitting and rusting on the sculpture has been adequately removed, there is still some rusty pitting along the tubes which carry the water. Clary said his uncle recommends grinding out the rest of the pitting in order to avoid possible problems and leaks in the future. The Coordinator noted that Welfelt Welding completed two treatments on the fountain in 2002 and they had said a third treatment might be necessary. A motion was made by Delmore, seconded by Clary, to request another treatment to grind out the pitting on the water tubes of the Two Rivers fountain. The motion carried unanimously. The Coordinator will talk with the Parks Planner about this issue.

REPORTS: The Coordinator's Report for May was distributed and discussed. The Coordinator reported on a meeting with former Commission member LeRoy Donegan and Mesa State College dance professors Ann Sanders and Tony Coppola, following a complaint by dancer instructor Rachel Fortner that Tony Coppola's up-coming dance festival, funded in part by a grant from the Commission, is not encouraging local dance students to attend nor allowing them to take classes on a drop-in basis. The Coordinator said that Coppola explained that the ten day festival is strictly a residency experience for serious dancers, not for beginners, and that participants must attend every class, not take part selectively. Coppola noted that this level of commitment

from students is why staying in the dorms is required, because commuting back and forth by students has been found to cause problems with consistent attendance. He is holding auditions to give scholarships to local and statewide students to help cover expenses. The Commission discussed the need for the dance festival to involve local students, noting that Commission grant funding is aimed toward projects which have a significant community benefit. The consensus of the Commission is to encourage Coppola to hold another scholarship audition for Grand Junction area dance students and to suggest he be as open as possible to local participation. The Commission also recommended more local advertisement of the dance festival.

The Coordinator reported that Artrain will not be able to travel to Western Colorado in the spring of 2004 as planned and will not be coming to this area until 2006. The consensus of the Commission is to still work toward bringing Artrain here, even if that won't happen for three years.

The Commission discussed the May 31st Art on the Corner sculpture change and arrangements for cleaning the permanent pieces and painting the pedestals that day. Commission volunteers will comprise the work crew and plan to meet at 8:00am.

Commissioner Lee Borden reported that the Cabaret Dinner Theatre recently held auditions for their up-coming season of plays and had 100 people audition.

Commissioner Karen Kiefer reported that seven area artists will be displaying their work at the Home Builders' Home and Garden Tour Opening Gala in June.

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