

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
February 11, 2004

Commissioners Present: Lee Borden Priscilla Mangnall
 Doug Clary Joan Meyers
 Jack Delmore Bill Whaley
 Karen Kiefer

Commissioners Absent: Pamela Blythe and Janet Prell

Others Present: City Council members Harry Butler, Cindy Enos-Martinez, and Bruce Hill, Grand Junction Fire Chief Rick Beaty, Fire Department Operations Chief Jim Bright, Parks Planner Shawn Cooper, sculptors Colette Pitcher, Jon Ritchey, and Reven Swanson, and Gary Pitcher

A meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date for finalists' presentations pursuant to selecting 1% for the Arts artwork for the new Redlands Fire Station #5. The selection committee heard three presentations.

Colette Pitcher showed a video about the design and creation of her life-sized bronze fire fighter "Every One a Hero" which is #1 of an edition of 2000. She stated that if selected she will not place the sculpture anywhere within a 200 mile radius of Grand Junction. The committee went outside to see the sculpture in person which Pitcher and her husband had brought from Greeley.

Jon Ritchey of Earthwork Studios showed slides of several completed carved brick sign projects and presented a revised version of the fire station sign with bas relief of two fire fighters. He answered questions and had samples of the bricks and ceramic tiles he works with for the committee to examine.

Reven Swanson displayed a model of the kinetic steel sculpture and sign she is proposing for the station. She distributed copies of the design and answered questions about the brightly painted spheres which would spin in the wind on three steel poles above the sign. She also talked about her participation in Art on the Corner for the last several years.

The three sculpture ideas were discussed at length. The committee addressed sculpture with signage versus the free standing bronze, possible locations for the various pieces on the site, maintenance considerations, neighborhood considerations, and other issues. A statement was read from Commission chair Pamela Blythe about her selection choice, since she was unable to attend the meeting. City Council members participated in the discussion but left the decision to the selection committee. Two Commission members had to leave the meeting just before it ended but gave the group their preferences. A straw vote was taken as follows: Colette Pitcher four votes, Jon Ritchey four votes, Reven Swanson one vote. After additional discussion another vote was taken with the following result: Pitcher seven votes, Ritchey one vote. A motion was made by Clary, seconded by Meyers, to recommend that the City Council approve purchase of the bronze fire fighter by Colette Pitcher for the Redlands Fire Station. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator