

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture  
Minutes  
June 22, 2005

Commissioners Present:     Gunilla Bishop                             Joan Meyers  
                                   Doug Clary                                 Vera Mulder  
                                   Karen Kiefer                             Lora Quesenberry

Commissioners Absent: Terra Anderson, Pamela Blythe, and Lee Borden  
Others Present: Mari Steinbach (Recreation Superintendent) and Sheryl Trent (Assistant to the City Manager)

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Doug Clary called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. With regard to the minutes of the previous meeting, Clary noted that Mari Steinbach should not have been listed in attendance, and a motion was made by Karen Kiefer, seconded by Gunilla Bishop, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting on May 23, 2005 as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

ARTS/CULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Sheryl Trent, Assistant to the City Manager, was introduced and explained that she is attending occasional meetings of various City boards and commissions. In answer to questions from Commission members, Trent explained the City's approach to economic development and the upcoming meeting of the Economic Partners group, a roundtable of City, Mesa County, Chamber of Commerce, and Grand Junction Economic Partnership members who meet on a regular basis. She noted that the Commission on Arts and Culture is on the agenda to talk about the arts and economic development but that it is a very full agenda since the City and the County will both be unveiling preliminary ideas for economic development plans.

The Coordinator distributed two handouts mentioned in the bibliography of the recent Colorado Council on the Arts *Cultural.Commerce.Community* conference, about utilizing creative communities as an economic development tool. The proposed Grand Junction artist business incubator that a number of community people are discussing was cited as a possible economic development project. The Coordinator will bring this idea up to the Economic Partners group.

COMMISSION PROJECTS/BUDGET FOR 2006-2007: The Coordinator distributed the Commission's Financial Report for 2005 year-to-date expenditures and a preliminary list of Commission projects/programs and 2006-2007 budget. Sponsorship of a week-long visit of the Artrain USA art museum train would be the major special project in 2006, and updating the *Economic Impact of the Arts in the Grand Valley* study, which the Commission does every five years, would be the major special project in 2007. The possible cost of each was discussed at length and the Coordinator will check with other cities about their expenditures for hosting Artrain. The Coordinator also reported a conversation she had with one of the City project engineers about including artwork – probably decorative tiles on the bridge/ramp slopes – in two up-coming City I-70 gateway projects, Horizon Drive in 2006 and 24 Road in 2007. The Coordinator noted that she had offered the Commission's help with planning if needed, and suggested

that the Commission might keep these projects in mind as a possible use for their annual \$10,000 artwork purchase line item, although the total cost would probably be considerably higher. Budget allocations for these special projects were slightly increased.

REPORTS: The Coordinator's Report for June was distributed and reviewed. The Coordinator also reported that the Commission's grant application to the Colorado Council on the Arts was not funded this year. Vera Mulder brought several tiles which had been painted at the June 18 Lincoln Park Pool Kid Tile Art Event. About 100 kids had participated, with Mulder, Karen Kiefer, and Gunilla Bishop hosting the event. Mulder suggested doing the tile painting project again this summer. The Coordinator will check into the cost of a steel frame for the tile mural, and Mulder will fire, mount, and grout the artwork.

CITY HALL ART COMMITTEE: Installation of the next art exhibit at City Hall on July 1 was arranged and Commissioners Bishop, Clary, Kiefer, and Mulder volunteered to help with hanging the artwork and/or setting up the reception that evening. The reception will also honor Mesa State College Director of Dance Ann Sanders for receiving the Colorado Alliance for Arts Education and Colorado Council on the Arts' Gully Stanford Professional Services Award, and the Coordinator is arranging speakers for a brief program.

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