

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
October 26, 2005

Commissioners Present: Pamela Blythe Joan Meyers
 Doug Clary Lora Quesenberry
 Karen Kiefer

Commissioners Absent: Gunilla Bishop and Vera Mulder
Guests Present: Mayor Bruce Hill and Reford Theobald (Parks & Recreation Advisory Board)

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. Joan Meyers moved, and Pamela Blythe seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting on September 28, 2005 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Bruce Hill visited with the Commission about arts issues. Chair Doug Clary thanked the Mayor and the City Council for their support of the arts and for recognizing that arts and culture are an investment in the community. Mayor Hill noted the importance of city-wide art in public places and other cultural projects throughout Grand Junction. The Commission asked about the Council's process for appointments to boards and commission, and expressed their willingness to assist in the process if the Council wished. They thanked the Mayor and Council for asking what expertise and experience the Commission felt was needed in new board members.

A motion was made by Pamela Blythe, seconded by Karen Kiefer, to reschedule and combine the Commission's November and December meetings, and hold the meeting Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 4:00pm. The motion carried unanimously.

The upcoming presentation of the Commission's Champion of the Arts Awards at the November 12th Symphony Gala was discussed, including seating arrangements and attendees. Doug Clary, Pamela Blythe, Joan Meyers, and Allison Sarmo will be attending, along with the award winners and several people who nominated the awardees.

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS: The Coordinator updated the Commission on the following 1% for the Arts and other public art projects:

- Lincoln Park Moyer Pool Splashpad – Grand Junction artist Pat Olson finally delivered his sculpture October 21 and the Parks Planner is working on hiring a concrete contractor to pour the necessary footings for installation of the columns;
- Canyon View Park – the Coordinator met with Durango artist Gunnar Anderson October 25, who is working on construction of his 33' tall kite mobile, which should be installed by mid-December, again pending hiring a concrete contractor to do the foundation;
- Duck Pond Park restrooms – a bid was received for construction of the new restroom but it must be approved by the City Council before the Commission can finalize a contract with Gunnison artist Ken Pierce for his proposed tile mural;

- Downtown Parking Garage – the Coordinator met with architect Roy Blythe, and also talked with Downtown Development Authority Executive Director Harold Stalf and City Project Coordinator Mike Curtis, about possible artwork for the structure, probably something integrated into the building like decorative railings or architectural adornments, as well as the possibility of having an area for a free-standing Art on the Corner sculpture.

A meeting of the Commission's Art in Public Places Committee was scheduled for November 2 at 9am at Canyon View Park with the Parks Planner to determine a specific site for the kite mobile.

REPORTS: Chair Clary mentioned seeing the remodeled Boulder Theater and the Paramount Theater. Reford Theobald mentioned seeing landscaped traffic intersections throughout Beijing, China which all had metal artwork in them.

The Coordinator's report for October was distributed and discussed. The Coordinator reported that the mural at the Avalon Theatre has now been cleaned, the paint retouched, and two coats of varnish applied to it by Michael Gibbs of FrameWorks Gallery. Stanchions and bronze wire cable will be ordered to put in front of the painting to protect it in the future.

Joan Meyers reported on the Commission's annual Arts Roundtable: "Creative Communities: Arts, Culture & Economics" held on October 20 at the Business Incubator Center and attended by about 25 people. The six panelists discussed numerous issues related to arts and economic development, including the *Culture.Commerce.Community* conference in Denver last May, the creative communities development theory and ways to attract the "creative class" to Grand Junction, establishing a arts incubator in Grand Junction, an upcoming business seminar for local artists, and arts advocacy in general.

A meeting of the City Hall Art Exhibit Committee was scheduled for November 7 at 4pm at the Rockslide to plan the exhibits for 2006. As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator