

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
December 7, 2005

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

Commissioners Absent: Pamela Blythe

Others Present: Traci Altergott (Recreation Superintendent), Carina Sanders

The combined November/December 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. A motion was made by Karen Kiefer, seconded by Lora Quesenberry, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting on October 26, 2005 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

SOURCEBOOK DIRECTORY UPDATE: Chair Doug Clary suggested including additional information in the Commission's publication *The Sourcebook: A Directory of Grand Junction Area Artists and Arts Organizations*, which is to be updated and reprinted in 2006. Clary recommended having information in the book about the City's public art pieces plus general features about the community's arts and cultural activities.

The Coordinator said she recently received a request from a Cedaredge art gallery to purchase advertising in the book, and that in the past artists and organizations that far outside the Grand Junction area have not been included. The Coordinator noted that the advertising by out-of-area entities probably should be included but at twice the fee of local advertisers, since the Commission/City of Grand Junction subsidizes publication costs.

Clary also recommended investigating having the book perfect-bound (glued) rather than stapled, and using more color pages inside so color advertising could be offered to more artists and organizations. Lora Quesenberry suggested including a history of the Commission and a general cultural event calendar. The Coordinator will obtain price quotes and size and format alternatives.

COMMISSION GRANT PROGRAM: The Commission's upcoming grant program for 2006 to support arts and cultural events, projects, and programs was discussed, the Coordinator suggesting that the Commission could utilize grants to encourage activities which promote economic development and the entire arts community, such as a major new arts festival. Emphasizing cooperative projects involving several arts organizations – which could also be a major festival – was also discussed, and the Coordinator will talk about this with other cultural groups at the monthly meeting of major arts organizations on January 13. After reviewing the grant guidelines, the consensus of the Commission was to remove the phrase “after three years” from Goal #5 to “promote projects with the potential for self-sufficiency”, and to remove the word “vicinity”, so the guidelines stipulate that “the event/project/program must take place in Grand Junction.”

The Coordinator reported on the successful and informative November 5 Business Answers for Artists Seminar at the Mesa State College Continuing Education Center, noting that 65 people attended, 15 as presenters and 50 as paid participants, which

was a very good turnout. Vera Mulder said she'd heard many good comments from local artists. A second seminar is being planned for March 25, 2006, and the Coordinator asked if the Commission would contribute another \$500 toward this one as well. Commission members recommended having the Continuing Education Center apply for funding through the grant program.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM: The Coordinator reported that the concrete footing for the kite mobile at Canyon View Park will be poured tomorrow by Mays Concrete. She also reported that the location for Pat Olson's sculpture at the Lincoln Park Moyer Pool is being changed to avoid problems with all the underground water and drainage pipes. The five columns will be installed in a line along the side of the small pool, about ten feet inside the fence, rather than between the splashpad and the pool. Concrete work at the pool is scheduled to begin in two – three weeks.

The 1% for the Arts project at the downtown parking garage was discussed. Ideally the Commission would like to have an artist as part of the design team to design artwork integrated into the building rather than free-standing, and the Coordinator will discuss this with the architects at the next parking garage meeting December 12. The Call for Entries will be kept open-ended.

The 1% for the Arts project for the Senior Center addition was discussed. Recreation Superintendent Traci Altergott noted that the estimated construction budget is \$102,000, and that a request for bids will go out in the next month or so. Possible types of artwork were discussed, realizing that the 1% budget will only be about \$1,000, and it was noted that there's a large mural already. Altergott said the center is well attended, with about 600 members.

The Coordinator presented the plans, pictures, and artist proposals for the Horizon Drive/I-70 Interchange remodel project. She reported that Surface Strategy in Denver was selected by a committee on which she and Chair Doug Clary had served, to be part of the project design team and design a tile veneer for the bridge slope paving.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you letters were read from Karen Hildebrandt and Kay Ambrose for their Champion of the Arts awards, from the Art Center and the Mesa County Public Library for Commission grants, and the new Grand Junction Symphony executive director Krystyn Hartman.

REPORTS: The Coordinator's Report for November and a Financial Report of 2005 expenditures were distributed and reviewed. The Commission's 2006 calendar of meeting and project dates was also distributed and reviewed. It was noted that if a track location can be finalized for Artrain, the traveling art exhibit will come to Grand Junction the second week of April, which would be Easter weekend, which may or may not be problematic for attendance and volunteer recruitment. The Artrain visit is still very much up in the air because of the lack of a suitable available track site.

The City Hall Art Exhibit Committee recommended a list of artists and groups to invite to display artwork at City Hall in 2006, which was approved by Commission consensus, including:

- January – March: Chuck Morris, Sara Oakley, Scott Shaffer, and the 5th Night Society
- April – June: Art Quilt Association (entire building)

- July – September: George Callison, Pat Stelter, Tim Wedel, and Grand Valley Artists
- October – December: Lynn Pavelka, Linda Rybak, and City employees.

Plans were made to install the next exhibit starting at 11am on January 3, and Bishop, Clary, Kiefer, Meyers, and Quesenberry (if possible) volunteered to help with the installation and the January 6 reception. The Coordinator noted that City Hall representative Grace Hendricks had resigned her job with the City, so a new person would be found to be on the City Hall Art Exhibit Committee. As there was no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo, Cultural Arts Coordinator