

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
March 22, 2006

Commissioners Present: Doug Clary Robert Oppenborn
 Karen Kiefer Lora Quesenberry
 Jeanine Howe Katherine Rhein
 Joan Meyers

Commissioners Absent: Gunilla Bishop, Vera Mulder
Others Present: Traci Altergott (Recreation Superintendent), Emily Wright (Recreation Supervisor), Stacy Pike, (Recreation Coordinator), Shawn Cooper (Parks Planner), Cheryl Taylor (Pear Park Elementary School Principal), and Lori Holloway (Bookcliff Middle School Assistant Principal)

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Joan Meyers called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. A motion was made by Doug Clary, seconded by Karen Kiefer, to approve the minutes of the Commission meetings on February 21, 2006 and February 22, 2006 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

ONE PERCENT FOR THE ARTS PROJECTS: Commission members and representatives from the Parks and Recreation Department and the two new schools reviewed 18 proposed works of art for the new Activity Center at Bookcliff Middle School and the joint-use gymnasium at Pear Park Elementary School which were submitted by nine Colorado artists, including two from Grand Junction. Slides and photographs of the various artists' past work were shown, as well as sketches and photos of artwork available for sale or commission.

The proposals and possible locations for art at the sites were discussed at length. The selection committee leaned toward wall mounted artwork vs. free-standing sculpture. The representatives from the Recreation Department and the two schools expressed a preference for the two tile art mural proposals, and Commission members concurred. The difference in the size of each artist's design was considered, as well as each concept as it related to the activity centers' future programs. The Coordinator noted that either of the tile artists would probably be willing to alter their proposed designs to reflect diverse activities at the sites.

After further discussion it was decided to invite both of the tile mural artist couples to submit revised design concepts for review at the next Commission meeting. A motion was made by Doug Clary, seconded by Kat Rhein: 1.) To select Tom and Jean Latka (Pueblo, CO) and Jon and Karen Ritchey (Boone, CO) as the finalists for the Bookcliff Middle School Activity Center and the Pear Park Elementary School Gymnasium 1% for the Arts projects; 2.) To ask the artists for a redesign of their proposals which would represent more programs and activities and/or might be somewhat more abstract, and in the case of Pear Park would include an allusion to school activities; 3.) To ask the artists to specify the exact size of their proposed murals; and, 4.) To award the artists \$200 for their additional design time. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDANCE: Thank you letters to the Commission for the award of grants supporting various local arts activities and cultural events were read from the Grand Junction Symphony, Artmobile of Colorado, Artspace & Open Studios, the Art Center, the Messiah Choral Society, Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, Rocky Mountain PBS-TV, and High Desert Opera. A letter was read from Graham Celtic Productions thanking the Commission for their grant but declining the \$400 award because the grant was not the full \$750 requested and the applicant decided not to "undertake the paperwork and added responsibility" of accepting the donation.

A letter was read from the Western Colorado Chorale asking if they could be allowed to use their grant funds for general radio advertising rather than billboard advertising, as stated in their application,

since the Commission's grant to them was not the full amount requested. A motion was made by Kiefer, seconded by Rhein, to approve the Western Colorado Chorale's request to purchase a different type of advertising with their grant funds. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: The Cultural Arts Coordinator's Report for February was distributed and a list of Commission supported cultural event dates. Commissioners volunteered to attend various up-coming events: Lora Quesenberry – April 13 Pomona Elementary Student Art Show; Joan Meyers – April 21 Mesa County Public Library's "One Book – One Community" Artist Reception and the April 16 "Messiah" Concert. The Coordinator reported on having attended the Western Colorado Watercolor Society's March 3 Opening Reception at the Art Center and that the exhibit is excellent as always.

The Coordinator presented a request from the Aquatics Coordinator, Tina Ross, that the Commission sponsored Lincoln Park Moyer Pool Kids Tile Painting Project be done this year during the pool's 20th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, June 11 rather than on the pool's opening day. The consensus of the Commission was that this date would work well. The Coordinator noted that installation of the Pat Olson sculpture at the pool is progressing but very slowly as usual.

The April City Hall Art Exhibit installation and reception were discussed. Kiefer and Quesenberry volunteered to assist with the installation April 3, and Kiefer and Meyers planned to help set up the reception April 7.

The Coordinator reported on the plans underway to celebrate Grand Junction's 125th anniversary in June 2007, suggesting that since there will be some kind of art component with the celebration that this would be a good project for the Public Art Committee. She will keep the Commission and committee members updated on any meetings of the 125th Art Committee.

As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator