

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes – Special Meeting
November 8, 2006

Commissioners Present: Gunilla Bishop Vera Mulder
 Doug Clary Robert Oppenborn
 Jeanine Howe Lora Quesenberry
 Joan Meyers Katherine Rhein

Commissioners Absent: Karen Kiefer

A special meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date at Bookcliff Activity Center to discuss the possibility of purchasing artwork for the interior of the lobby at BAC and to review photographs of the George Crawford memorial sculpture.

PUBLIC ART – GEORGE CRAWFORD: Copies of numerous digital photographs of the Crawford model from all angles and in different lighting situations were distributed and discussed. Comments from the Commission members were that the statue's clothing is accurate and well done, the hands and foot posture are good, but that the face, cheeks, and nose are a bit too full in comparison with the photograph of Crawford from the Museum of Western Colorado.

Commissioners suggested that the artist should make the face slightly less happy and slightly less healthy-looking, since Crawford was reportedly a rather small and sickly person, and that the eyes are a bit too far apart. The consensus was that the sculpture is good and just needs to be refined, and the Coordinator will ask the artist to send close-up photographs of the face.

The Commission's recommendation to City Council to approve commissioning a 1½ times life size statue was discussed, the Coordinator noting that a 1¼ size piece would cost \$45,500 and a 1½ life size statue would cost \$56,000. The consensus of the Commission was to allocate half the difference between the original estimated cost of a Crawford sculpture (\$40,000) and the actual cost of a 1½ life size statue (\$56,000) from the Commission's budget (\$8,000), if the Council will approve funding the other half.

PUBLIC ART – BOOKCLIFF ACIVITY CENTER: Commissioners looked around the lobby area of the activity center and discussed possible artwork to help decorate that space, including a ribbon-like tile mural on either side of the restroom doorway which echoes the outside tile mural, perhaps done by Bookcliff Middle School students, and/or stained glass in the upper bank of windows above the front door, and/or a painting behind the counter. Vera Mulder suggested working with the Bookcliff art teacher on tile artwork. The Coordinator noted that a call for entries should to be done for the stained glass project, since it is important to open the project up to local artists for proposals. The consensus of the Commission was to proceed with these two ideas.

PUBLIC ART – OTHER PURCHASES: The Commission discussed purchasing Jim Hutton's painting of the Avalon Theatre at night for the lobby of the Avalon, but because the Avalon Board has already decorated all the walls in the building with historical photographs, the Coordinator recommended waiting for their input before making a decision. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator