

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
May 28, 2008

Commissioners Present: Jeanine Howe Vera Mulder
 Jeanne Killgore Lora Quesenberry
 Don Meyers Katherine Rhein
 Pam McLaughlin Tanya Smith

Commissioners Absent: Gisela Flanigan

The regular meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Kat Rhein called the meeting to order at 4pm. A motion was made by Jeanne Killgore, seconded by Pam McLaughlin, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting on April 23, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

MARKETING AND PROMOTION: The Coordinator presented a draft copy of a new Grand Junction Area Gallery Guide brochure recently done by a Mesa State College student for a graphic design class, suggesting that the Commission consider publishing the brochure to promote local art galleries. The Coordinator noted that the design fee plus printing costs for 3,000 brochures would be about \$1,000 - \$1,100, depending on the time required for revisions. The Commission discussed which stores and galleries should be included and whether or not to charge each of the galleries in the guide a fee (from \$25 – \$100) to cover printing and design costs. The consensus of the Commission was to proceed with publishing the brochure and to refer finalizing the specifics about the guide and galleries to the Art in Public Places Committee. A committee meeting was scheduled for June 5 at 5pm at the Parks & Recreation office.

CHAMPION OF THE ARTS AWARDS: The Coordinator asked if the Commission wished to make further changes to the up-coming 2008 Champion of the Arts Awards selection of artwork, noting that she would be sending out flyers for nominations and for artwork awards in early August. The consensus of the Commission was to continue with selection of artwork as has been done in the past, and Pam McLaughlin recommended that the request for proposals be sent to artists several months in advance rather than several weeks in advance.

CITY "BIKE TO WORK" CONTEST: The Coordinator presented a request from one of the City staff members organizing the up-coming "Bike to Work" Day on June 25 to judge the bike helmet decorating contest at City Hall. She suggested that since this would coincide with the next Commission meeting, if any of the Commission members are willing to do this, they could meet at City Hall at 3:30pm prior to the meeting. The Commission agreed to judge the contest and recommended that the June 25 meeting then be held at City Hall at 4pm.

REPORTS: The Cultural Arts Coordinator's report for May was distributed and discussed. The Coordinator noted that she will be out of the office on the date of the Commission's regular July meeting but that at this point she knew of nothing coming up on the agenda, since she will be focusing on completing the revisions to *The Sourcebook* artists directory in June and July. Rather than reschedule, the consensus of the Commission was to cancel the July meeting.

The Coordinator reported that she will be giving presentations in Fruita and Grand Lake, CO, about Art on the Corner and the City's 1% for the Arts program. Commission members looked at two websites from other communities suggested by Jeanine Howe as good models for ideas for the Commission's redesign of their own www.gjarts.org website later this summer.

Vera Mulder reported that the mural being done by local artist Corky Miller at the Orchard Mesa Community Pool looks very good and the plastic pieces have been ordered. Mulder noted that Miller needs to paint more fish in the ribbon around the room. The Coordinator noted that the deadline for completing the artwork is the end of June. She noted that the 24 Road/I-70 sculptures probably won't be finished and installed until the end of the summer.

The Coordinator noted a recommendation from a City's Forestry Department staff member that the Commission hire an artist to carve a sculpture out of the trunk of a very large ash tree near the playground in Lincoln Park which is dying and will probably have to be taken out later this year. The consensus of the Commission was to wait until later in the year to determine if there is funding in the budget to do this.

REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY COMMISSION GRANTS: A thank you letter from the Art Center for a Commission grant for their Summer Art Camp was noted.

Art & Jazz Festival – reactions from Commission members attending were generally positive, however, Jeanne Killgore noted that the change this year which placed some artist vendor booths on 6th Street rather than on Main Street made some those stuck on 6th quite irate.

Downtown Bike Festival – Vera Mulder noted that there were three or four sculptures in the bike sculpture contest and Don Meyers reported that he tried to attend the bicycle-themed film showings in the evening but had not seen any films being shown.

Artspace & Open Studios Arts Management Classes – Mulder stated that some of the classes are very good but some not as much, saying that the series needs to be more consistent.

Center for Independence Art Classes for the Disabled – Pam McLaughlin reported that the mid-May art show and sale had been cancelled. The Coordinator noted that the Center for Independence's first series of art classes and show that the Commission funded last year had been cancelled as well, but that the fall classes and show had taken place.

OTHER BUSINESS: A thank you letter to the Daily Sentinel for running several advertisements promoting art education in the schools at no charge was approved and signed by the Chair. McLaughlin stated her wish to become more involved, through the Commission, in improving art education in area schools. Several statewide art education promotional efforts and conferences were mentioned and both Mulder and the Coordinator will get McLaughlin more information. The Coordinator noted that there is money in the budget for conferences and business trips, and that former Commission member Joan Meyers had served on the board of the Colorado Alliance for Arts Education for several years on behalf of the Commission.

As there was no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator