

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
August 27, 2008

Commissioners Present: Gisela Flanigan Don Meyers
 Jeanine Howe Lora Quesenberry
 Jeanne Killgore Katherine Rhein

Commissioners Absent: Pam McLaughlin, Vera Mulder, and Tanya Smith

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. With regard to the minutes of the Commission's two previous meetings, it was noted that in the first paragraph of the June 25 minutes, the date of the previous meeting – May 28 – was omitted, and that in the first paragraph of the July 10 minutes, the Commission Vice-chair was listed as Lora Quesenberry rather than the actual Vice-chair Don Meyers.

A motion was made by Don Meyers, seconded by Jeanne Killgore, to approve the minutes of the Commission's meeting on June 25, 2008 as corrected. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Lora Quesenberry, seconded by Jeanine Howe, to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting on July 10, 2008 as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: The Commission reviewed a draft Resolution revising the City's 1% for Art public art program, as suggested by the City Manager and as discussed at the Commission's July 10 meeting. The Coordinator explained the various changes from the original 1997 Resolution, noting that the major revisions would allow for the placement of art in locations that are the most visible and beneficial to the general public, and would allow for pooling funds from smaller CIP projects so that more significant and sizeable artwork could be purchased. The revised Resolution would also increase the minimum capital improvement project budget toward which the 1% for Art appropriation applies from the current \$50,000 to \$100,000, so that very minor projects would not be part of the program.

After further discussion and amendments, a motion was made by Jeanine Howe, seconded by Don Meyers, to recommend that the City Council adopt Resolution 125-08 to make certain revisions to the 1% for Art public art program. The motion carried unanimously. The Coordinator noted that this recommendation would be presented to the Council on either September 15 or 17, and she would let Commission members know the exact date.

OLD BUSINESS: With regard to the most recent selection through the 1% for Art program, the Commission discussed possible locations for the work of art by Denver artist Reven Swanson, providing the proposed piece is redesigned, and reconfigured to be free-standing. Placing the piece somewhere on the new Riverside Parkway was suggested, particularly somewhere along the bike path and/or in the large landscaped area where the parkway crosses Fifth Street. The Coordinator will ask the City Public Works Department about the possibility of art on the parkway bike path.

The Commission discussed the idea brought up at the June 25 meeting to form an arts education committee and do a project in 2009 to bring in a speaker or speakers for a teacher in-

service training about the importance of consistent and in depth education in all the arts. The Coordinator suggested postponing the previously scheduled September 3 committee meeting until sometime in October, which was agreed upon, and the Commission will reschedule the committee meeting at their next regular meeting. In the meantime Commission members will gather information and studies which document the benefits of studying all the arts for all grade levels. Jeanine Howe also volunteered to serve on the new Arts Education Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE: With regard to one of the Commission's grant awards, a letter was read from Grand Valley Community Theater requesting to change the play they plan to perform from "My Fair Lady" to "Hats". The consensus of the Commission was that this change was acceptable and would not affect the grant award.

A thank you letter from the Museum of Western Colorado and the Two Rivers Chautauqua Committee for the grant they received was noted.

REPORTS: The Cultural Arts Coordinator's reports for July and August were distributed and reviewed. The Coordinator updated the Commission on the City's various public art projects in progress, noting that the two tile murals will soon to be installed on the new restroom buildings at Duck Pond Park and Sherwood Park.

The Coordinator reported that the Commission will be working with Mesa County early next year to select an artist and artwork for the new Grand Valley Transit facility, since it is a county building being constructed on City property.

The Coordinator also reported that construction of the additional tennis courts and other facilities at Canyon View Park has begun and should be completed by the end of 2008, noting that the Commission had discussed purchasing an Art on the Corner sculpture "Grand Current" for this 1% for Art project. The Commission discussed the fact that the 1% amount available for this purchase is only \$9,200, and the piece is \$30,000; however, the Coordinator stated that the Downtown Development Authority has agreed to waive their 25% commission from the piece, which reduces the price to \$22,500. The flaking and rust on parts of the piece over the last year and a half was also discussed, and the Coordinator reported that the artist has promised to repair any and all deficiencies on the piece to the Commission's satisfaction. The consensus of the Commission was to contribute funds from their budget toward this sculpture, and a motion was made by Killgore, seconded by Howe, to purchase "Grand Current" by Micheal Ford Dunton from the Art on the Corner exhibit for Canyon View Park. The motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming Commission supported cultural events were discussed with regard to attendance at these activities by various Commission members. A meeting of the Champion of the Arts Awards Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, September 17 at 4:00pm at Parks.

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