

MINUTES

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, October 28, 2015, Parks and Recreation Office, Lincoln Park

Commissioners Present: Laura Bradley, Betsy Brodak, Darcy Johnson, Gary Ambrosier, Mary Olkowski, Jennifer Hancock, Lancer Livermont, and Emily Pfeifer.

Commissioners Absent: Jeremy Franklin, Marjorie Haun, and Betsey Dick.

Also present: Lorie Gregor

Chair Darcy Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Lancer Livermont moved to approve the minutes of the September 23rd meeting. Laura Bradley seconded and the minutes passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Friends Sculpture: Sculptor, Yon Regan: presented his plan to accept bids for his “Friends” sculpture, of cancer patient Delany Campbell and her friend Kamryn, from 15 cancer treatment centers throughout the US. Since Delany is from Grand Junction Yon hoped that the Arts Commission would use their influence to encourage a local purchase. The bids are coming in around \$21, 000. This cost covers the bronze and other materials. Yon was very inspired by Kamryn shaving her head to show solidarity with Delany while she goes through chemo, and consequently being suspended from school for doing so. Because of this the bid amount reflects the cost of the materials only without a cut for Regan.

Election of Vice-Chair: Gary Ambrosier nominated Jennifer Hancock as the Arts Commission Vice-Chair and Lancer Livermont seconded the motion. Jennifer was unanimously voted in.

Budget Update: All funds for the 2016 Arts Commission grant cycle have been cut by City Council due to budget constraints. Lorie will notify current recipients and update the website.

OLD BUSINESS

Strategic Plan Update: Thursday, January 21st, is the date set for our Cultural Strategic Planning event with the Arts Commission and key community counterparts. Jennifer Hancock is spearheading this event and presented the cost comparison between booking Escalante vs. the University Center at CMU vs. the Hospitality Suite at Stoker Stadium. The commission is planning for 40 people. After the discussion, it was decided that the Hospitality Suite would be most cost effective, but it is still left to be determined whether its space is big enough for the five breakout groups. The five breakout groups, and the commissioners assigned to them, are as follows: Economic Impact -- Jennifer Hancock and Betsy Brodak, Creative Industries -- Jeremy Franklin and Darcy Johnson, Cultural Facilities and Urban Design -- Lancer Livermont and Laura Bradley, Public Art -- Gary Ambrosier and Emily Pfeifer, History, Science and Culture -- Betsey Dick and Mary Olkowski. December is the important month to contact the key community players in each of these areas and solidify their attendance for this event. The commissioners will also take this time to better familiarize themselves with their assigned category.

Economic Impact Study: Lorie shared an update about the Economic Impact Study. Boots hit the ground on January 1st to attend as many cultural events as possible in our valley and to procure a total of

800 audience intercept surveys over 2016 that will serve as a key contribution to the calculation of the art's economic footprint on our city. Lorie will create a blurb to be read at all these events expressing the importance of these surveys to further validate the role that the arts play in our community. We hope this will inspire people to want to fill them out. We will also come up with a fun incentive for them to do so.

Champion of the Arts: Lorie also emphasized the need to rustle up more nominations and artist submissions before the Champion of the Arts deadline on November 13th. There is only one person nominated and one artist submitted at this time. The Champion of the Arts reception will be held at City Hall on Wednesday, January 20th, at 6:00pm. Jennifer Hancock, Lorie Gregor and Gary Ambrosier will meet at 5:15pm to set up. All commissioners are strongly encouraged to attend this reception along with the City Council meeting afterward at 7:00pm where Darcy will introduce the winners.

Riverfront Mural Trail: Lancer gave an update about the stakeholders meeting for the Riverfront Mural Trail -- they are all giving their unanimous support. They agreed that the content should involve nothing religious, political, sexual, violent or profane. CDOT owns most of the potential mural locations (i.e. bridges etc.) and wants the mural sketches vetted before the pieces are created. The vision for this endeavor is to tie in Grand Junction's downtown and Main Street to the riverfront. There are ideas to create signage for each piece and also to paint the power boxes heading to the riverfront from downtown as a type of "follow the yellow brick road"-type of fun trail marker..

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CMU Repertory Theatre: Gary Ambrosier attended *The Stone Cutter* presented by the CMU Repertory Theatre last June. He said the production was top notch in every way and fulfilled all that was required of the Arts Commission grant recipients.

Chautauqua: Due to the birth of her baby, Betsey will report on Chautauqua at the November meeting.

WriteOn/Reception: Betsy attended the "Write On!" Reception and it went well. The essay winners came and read their poems. They were disappointed because the videographer did not end up coming as promised.

The next regular meeting of GJCAC will be at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, at the Hospitality Suite at the stadium. As there was no further business, Darcy declared the meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Emily Pfeifer