

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
February 25, 2009

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

Commissioners Absent: Vera Mulder

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 meeting of January 28, 2009, Commissioner Jeanine Howe asked that attendee Connie Robbin-Brady’s statement that “arts education is needed at all grade levels” be included in the fourth paragraph entitled “Arts Education”. A motion was made by Howe, seconded by Pam McLaughlin, to approve the minutes of the Commission’s meeting on January 28, 2009 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION GRANTS: The Commission discussed the 24 applications received from local nonprofit organizations to support arts and cultural events, projects, and programs. This year a record \$73,000 in funding assistance was requested. The following two potential conflicts of interest were noted for the record: Commissioner Don Meyers sits on the Legends Historic Sculpture Committee, and Commissioner Gisela Flanigan plays in the Grand Junction Symphony. Meyers and Flanigan did not vote with respect to those two grant requests.

The merits and the weaknesses of each application and project were discussed at length. Following this discussion, Commission members ranked each of the applications on a scale of 1 – 10, and the rankings were then added and averaged. Following additional discussion, the consensus of the Commission was to recommend that the City Council award full funding to the top eight ranked projects – those scoring an average ranking of at least 8.8 or higher. It was determined to award approximately 50% funding to the rest of the projects, with the exception of the Western Slope Chamber Music Series which was awarded considerably less than half of their request and the Western Colorado Botanical Gardens which was not funded at all because they were in essence doing a fundraiser and asking for general operating funds, both of which the Commission doesn’t fund.

In addition to City and State monies, the grant applicants expect to earn \$210,000 in ticket sales, concessions, sales, etc. plus they hope to leverage another \$160,000 in donations from other outside sources.

A motion was made by Jeanine Howe, seconded by Don Meyers, to recommend to the City Council at their meeting on March 2, 2009 that they approve the following grant awards:

Dual Immersion Academy Tony Ortega Mural Project (full funding)	\$5,150
KAFM Community Radio Arts & Entertainment Calendar (full funding)	\$5,000
GJ Symphony Orchestra Classical Mystery Tour Concert (full funding)	\$4,000
Artspace & Open Studios 2009 Open Studios Tours (full funding)	\$3,000
Grand Junction Downtown Partnership Art & Jazz Festival (full funding)	\$3,000
Mesa County Public Library One Book One Mesa County (full funding)	\$3,000

RMPBS-KRMJ “Western Bounty” arts segments (full funding)	\$3,000
Two Chairs Theater Company “Acts of Brevity” plays (full funding)	\$750
Legends Historic Sculpture Project William Moyer sculpture	\$5,000
Museum of Western Colorado Two Rivers Chautauqua Festival	\$2,000
Hilltop Community Resources Opportunity School Art Classes	\$1,550
Super Rad Art Jam Student Art Exhibit	\$1,250
Western Colorado Center for the Arts Summer Art Camp	\$1,250
Western Colorado Watercolor Society National Juried Art Exhibit	\$1,250
Bookcliff Harmony Chorus Youth in Harmony program	\$1,000
Grand Junction Centennial Band music purchases	\$1,000
High Desert Opera New Year’s Eve Gala	\$1,000
The Reader’s Festival	\$1,000
Sweetwater Shakespeare Company “Merry Wives of Windsor” play	\$1,000
Western Slope Chamber Music Series March concert	\$1,000
Messiah Choral Society “Messiah” performance	\$500
Western Colorado Chorale African music concert	\$500
Graham Celtic Productions music purchases	\$300
Total Grant Awards	\$46,500

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION BY-LAWS: At the request of the City Council, and to be in compliance with the recently adopted Council Resolution No. 21-09 which allows up to thirteen members on the Commission on Arts and Culture, a motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Howe, to amend the Commission By-laws, Article III, Section 1 to read “The Commission shall consist of no fewer than nine members and no more than thirteen members, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Grand Junction City Council.” The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: The Commission addressed a question about photographs for the new Commission website.

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES: The Coordinator reported that she will be meeting with Mesa County representatives on March 10 to discuss the type and location of 1% for Art artwork at the new Grand Valley Transit bus station and invited Commission members to also attend that meeting. Commissioners Flanigan, Killgore, and Meyers said they could probably attend depending on the time. The Coordinator will check that and let them know.

The Coordinator distributed a computer generated photograph and drawing of the new 1% artwork to be created by Reven Swanson for the 5th Street/Riverside Parkway interchange.

As there was no further business to come before the board, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Art Coordinator