

# MINUTES

## **Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC) Wednesday, July 22, 2026 – Lincoln Park Hospitality Suite**

**Commissioners Present:** Robbie Breaux (Chair), Julie Matthews (Vice Chair), Hank Braxtan, Pamela Blythe, Libbie Early, Bill Lebach, Mayor Laurel Lutz (TEAMS), Gilberto Ramirez Macias, Porcia Silverberg, TJ Smith (TEAMS), Amy Wall, Cynthia Zaitz (TEAMS)

**Others Present:** Ken Sherbenou, Haley Van Camp, Jonathan Wheatley

Chair Robbie Breaux called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and brief introductions were made.

Julie Matthews moved to approve the July 22 regular meeting minutes. Bill Lebach seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **BUSINESS**

Ken Sherbenou presented information on the 1% for the Arts fund in response to a letter the GJCAC sent to City Council regarding the fund earlier in the year. It was explained the City took it seriously, and conversations were had with multiple departments including Engineering and Finance to ensure the City could provide an accurate response, which mainly had to do with understanding how the 1% for the Arts works in terms of mechanics and eligible projects. There was discussion on past 1% for the Arts projects listed in the presentation. There was concern among the Commission that the presented information made it look like there were more funds spent on 1% for the Arts projects than there should have been, and did not want to be held accountable for overspending when it was those project amounts that were given to the Commission to work with. It was made clear that would not be the case, and a new document would be provided representing the funds balancing out to zero moving forward. Additionally, it was explained that the departments are working together to identify eligible 1% for the Arts projects with a mutual understanding of those projects and applicable funds moving forward.

Discussion was had regarding the current GJCAC Funding Program requirements and criteria. Specifically, there was discussion on the Certificate of Good Standing requirement, with a consensus that it should continue to be required, but it can be signed within 365 days of the application deadline. There was also discussion on whether the event/project/program must take place within City Limits or the Grand Junction area including Fruita and Palisade. There was a consensus that any funded event/project/program must take place within City of Grand Junction limits. Due to limited time, there was a consensus to table additional discussions on presentations for the GJCAC Funding Program.

Discussion was had regarding the Strategic Cultural Plan Subcommittee and its members (Robbie Breaux, Pamela Blythe, Bill Lebach). Libby Early also volunteered to be on the subcommittee, and there was a consensus to add Libby to the subcommittee. Haley will send out an email about setting up a meeting for the Strategic Cultural Plan subcommittee as well as the Bylaws Subcommittee.

### **CITY STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES**

Haley provided an update on the current 1% projects in the works including the progress of the artwork in the Community Recreation Center.

### **COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

Bill provided a brief report on Mesa Summer Theater's Our Town event and that it was overall successful, and also provided additional thoughts on improvements.

Robbie provided a brief report on Charisma Chorus's Summer Camp concert and that it was very well done, and that she provided the director a few suggestions on improvements.

As there was no further business, Libbie Early motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Cynthia Zaitz seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Van Camp