



**GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE
AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023 - 4:00 PM**

Making arts and culture part of everyday life in our community!

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes from meeting of January 25, 2023

New Business

4:02-5:30 PM Grant Funding Disbursements

Old Business

Reports

Adjourn

Our Mission & Goals.

Mission:

- To help create & nurture a climate and conditions in Grand Junction in which the arts & culture can thrive & grow.

Goals:

- Complete, implement, & periodically revise a community strategic cultural development plan.
- Encourage and facilitate cooperation, collaboration, & partnerships with & between the arts community, local government, education, & the business community.
- Provide information & education to local artists & arts agencies to enhance funding, management, & marketing skills.
- Provide advice to the Grand Junction City Council concerning the establishment of community arts priorities & criteria for expenditure of public resources.
- Increase both private & public resources for the arts.

MINUTES
Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)
Wednesday, January 25th, 2022, Hospitality Suite, Stocker Stadium

Commissioners Present: Matt Goss, Matt Janson, Lindsay Jaeger, Kelley Raymond, Jan Moorman, Sarah Rahm, Diana Rooney, Erica Zajackowski

Commissioners Absent: Sarah Dishong, Ron Cloyd

Others Present: Marlene Godsey; Cynthia Underwood and Pamela Blythe, upcoming Commissioners; Melody Jones; Nora Jean Miller; Bryan Wade; Cody Kennedy from the community; and Wendy Knoble

Matt J. called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Sarah R. moved to approve the minutes of November 16. Erica seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Refresher Grant Training – Marlene handed out the training information, which included timeline and conflict of interest statement for Commissioners as well as grant outline for applicants. Applications close next Wednesday, February 1; by February 3, Commissioners will get assigned a grant to approve; they'll have until Valentine's Day to go through them and send out questions to organizations; and responses are to be given to Commissioners by February 16. Presentations will be on Presidents' Day (February 20th, with a back-up day of February 21st): 3-minute presentations by organizations, then 3 minutes for Commissioners to ask questions. Allocations of funds will be decided at the next GJCAC meeting on February 22nd, and grant recipients will be informed the following week.

Western Colorado Writers' Forum – Melody Jones reported the Forum offered 8 in-person and 1 virtual writing workshops in 2022. All events were held at The Art Center and were free to the public, thanks to the GJCAC grant. Attendance ranged from 12-40 participants, with an average of 21, which was up from last year. Presenters included a screenwriter, poets, comedy writers, and authors. A writer will present a workshop in March to help people learn to read their works in public. WCWF helped sponsor Slamming Bricks Poetry contest in September, in which all poets were LGBTQ+. The link to the Forum's podcast is on their website: <https://westerncoloradowriters.org/podcast/>.

Centennial Band – Nora Jean Miller described how their GJCAC grant provided several free concerts in 2022 to the community: in the spring at the Avalon Theatre; in July at Long Family Park; on July 28th at Sherwood Park; on August 27th, when the Band joined the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra for Evening Under the Stars, to which over 3,500 people attended; and the December 12th Winter Concert at the Avalon. In all, attendance was estimated at 4,650 for the year. The Band also participated in Take Part in Art at the Lincoln Park Barn with an instrument "petting zoo" for children as well as in Take Part in Art–Rocket Park. Expenditures for 2022 concerts were \$3,729. In addition, the Band purchased some new instruments and hired a person to record concerts, and also purchased new music, including armed forces music.

Grand Junction Film Festival – Bryan Wade said the film festival was held as part of the ArtFest downtown last fall. Friday and Saturday attendance was good; however, Sunday's films were not well attended, and therefore the student filmmakers didn't feel supported. Organizers have decided the film festival will pause in 2023 to reconsider how to better support the students in the future.

Charisma Chorus – Joy Thompson said the choir program started in 2019 as high-level choir instruction for children ages 9-14 in Palisade and Clifton and now reaches kids throughout Mesa County. In 2022, the Chorus had a total of 55 students in their spring and fall programs plus 2 weeklong summer camps, at which some of the students composed their own songs. The Chorus provided 26 scholarships, which accounted for 70% of tuition, and enjoyed a 92% retention rate. Students found the chorus through word of mouth, board members, music teachers, Peachjar, and siblings.

NOTE: Two presenters originally planned for today's meeting have been rescheduled to the March meeting: David Taylor's Zikr Dance Ensemble final report and Lee Borden with The Art Center.

NEW BUSINESS

WCWF/TED X Event – Marlene stated the Writers' Forum received a \$10K grant for 5 living room conversations, plus art-led facilitations regarding social justice, beginning in March through July-August. The Forum is offering paid positions for the living room conversations as well as for an overall coordinator. There will also be a social justice fashion show and art displays. Commissioners are welcome to reach out to the WCWF regarding the positions for themselves or someone they know.

Review of Bylaws and Statement of Intent Discussion – Matt J. recommended everyone look at the bylaws and then discuss them during the March meeting. Marlene is setting an internal Parks and Recreation meeting to review the Parks and Rec strategic plan, how the Arts Commission fits into it, and to identify how to have the area's marginalized communities be included in it. More to come.

New Grant Requirement – Marlene reported a new addition to grant requirements this year is marketing, and that Parks and Rec will offer marketing training to grant recipients.

The next regular meeting of the GJCAC will be at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023, at the Hospitality Suite at Stocker Stadium. As there was no further business, Diana moved to declare the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m., and Erica seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Knoble