

MINUTES

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 – Lincoln Park Barn

Commissioners Present: Robbie Breaux (Chair), Julie Matthews (Vice Chair), Pamela Blythe, Hank Braxtan, Dora Fang (via TEAMS), Libbie Early, Kristin Mercer, Porcia Silverberg, Amy Wall, Cynthia Zaitz

Commissioners Absent: Laurel Cole, Nora Hughes, Porcia Silverberg

Others Present: Haley Van Camp, Jonathan Wheatley, Nicole Reeves, Guests from Hilltop

Chair Robbie Breaux called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. followed by brief introductions of all in attendance. Julie Matthews moved to approve the May 28 meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Kristin Mercer, and the motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

Gail Tuohig, Judy Chapman, and Dani Tupper with the Western Colorado Watercolor Society presented a final report about the 2025 Rockies West National exhibition, supported by a grant from the Commission.

Discussion was had regarding the final proposals for the Community Recreation Center Mural project, and what alterations may be needed for each proposal based on the feedback received from BRS, the Community Recreation Center Architect team. Public comments were also given during the discussion from guests from Hilltop. Based on the discussion and the Commission's scores of the proposals, Cynthia Zaitz moved to recommend artist Stacey Reynolds' proposal with the recommendation of utilizing a lighter color palette. The motion was seconded by Libbie Early, and the motion passed unanimously. There was also an understanding that the landscape and details of the proposal might be altered to fit and translate to the tile and vinyl mural areas.

There was brief discussion around the Wind Phone Project idea that was brought to the Commission by City Staff. The Commission reviewed other Wind Phone Projects and brainstormed a few ideas on what the end result could be. There was a public comment regarding the importance of keeping the Wind Phone accessible to all modes of transportation. The Commission agreed and also discussed it should not be culturally specific, or if it is, to be very detailed with all languages. There was a consensus that the Commission would like to continue the discussion and would like to have a more concrete plan presented at a future meeting.

Further discussion was had regarding the Public Art goals and strategies of the Strategic Cultural Plan. Haley Van Camp provided additional information on the City's public art maps, as well as Downtown Grand Junction's/GJ Creates' public art map. There was brief discussion on how the City's map can be improved to be more user-friendly and up-to-date with all of the art collection. There was also discussion on multiple ideas including the possibility of collaborating with Visit Grand Junction to create a specific arts and culture "track" for visitors with arts and cultural activities to do in Grand Junction.

CITY STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES

Haley gave a brief update that the roundabout artwork for Horizon and G and 24.5 and Four Canyons Parkway are coming along. Hank confirmed that he will be in contact with the 24.5 and Four Canyons Parkway artist, Alex Bond for installation footage in October.

The Commission reviewed a collaborative piece of artwork from GJ Creates that was created at the recent Colorado Creative Industries Summit in Grand Junction and there was a consensus to have it displayed in one of the City facilities as part of the Public Art Exhibit program. This artwork was also part of a grant GJ Creates received from the Commission.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Robbie gave a brief grant report of the Grand Junction Centennial Band concert as well as the Altrusa Art Fair, both events occurred in April. Cynthia also gave a brief grant report of Zikr Dance Ensemble's "Mysteries", also in April. Robbie reminded the Commission of the importance of Commission members completing the grant report forms upon attending the events/projects/programs they are assigned to.

As there was no further business, Cynthia moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Amy Wall seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Van Camp