

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

**Call to Order:** By CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL, on January 9, 1997, at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Thomas A. "Tom" Beck, Vice-Chairman (R)  
Sen. John "J.D." Lynch (D)  
Rep. Matt McCann (D)  
Rep. Tom Zook (R)

**Members Excused:** none

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** Nan LeFebvre, Legislative Fiscal Division  
Debbie Rostocki, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: **HOUSE BILL 9** - Cultural and  
Aesthetic (C & A) Grant  
requests, 1/7/97  
Executive Action: none

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 9

**Ms. Arni Fishbaugh**, Director of the Montana Arts Council, explained that the amount of recommended funding in the request from the Council for the Arts, Inc., Lincoln, contained an error: it should be listed as \$2,500 instead of \$2,600.

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 717  
UPPER BLACKFOOT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Mr. Ben Maher**, Vice President of the Society, spoke; questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 1.7-8.5}

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HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 729  
COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS, INC., LINCOLN

The Rev. Jack Preston, Vice President of the Council, gave a short presentation; questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 8.6-14.3}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 715  
FORT CONNAH RESTORATION SOCIETY

Mr. George Knapp, Chairman of the Society, gave a short presentation. EXHIBIT 1 Questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 14.4-24.3}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 745 - MISSOULA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Ms. Caralee Blair, Executive Director of the Association, gave a presentation; questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 24.4-Tape 1:b:3.2}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 725 - VIAS, INC.

Mr. Joseph Mussulman gave a short presentation; see written testimony EXHIBIT 2.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 3.3-13.7}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 724 - MISSOULA WRITING COLLABORATIVE

Ms. Janet Zupan, a writer currently under contract with the Collaborative, gave a short presentation; questions were asked.

Ms. Fishbaugh stated that SEN. KEN MESAROS, SD 25, wanted to go on record as being in support of the project.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 13.8-21.0}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 721 - THE MONTANA TRANSPORT CO.

Ms. Amy Ragsdale, Artistic Director of the Montana Transport Co., spoke in support of the request, with a video presentation; Ms. Karen Kaufmann spoke about the school program. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 1; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 21.1-end of side b}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 739 - WOLF POINT PRODUCTIONS

Mr. Michael F. Wustner, President of Wolf Point Productions, gave a short presentation. He introduced SEN. LINDA NELSON, HD 49 and REP. CHARLES DEVANEY, HD 97, two proponents of the grant request. Questions were asked.

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{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-9.9}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 790 - HELLGATE WRITERS, INC.

Ms. Janet Zupan spoke again, this time on behalf of Hellgate Writers, Inc. as their Program Director. Questions were asked.  
{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 10.0-16.5}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 735 - BROADCAST MEDIA CENTER

Mr. William Marcus, Director of the Broadcast Media Center at the University of Montana, testified in support of the request.  
EXHIBITS 3, 3A Questions were asked.  
{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 16.6-22.8}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 727 - LIVINGSTON DEPOT FOUNDATION

Ms. Kendra Anderson, a member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, gave a short presentation. EXHIBIT 4 Questions were asked.

{Tape: 2; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 22.9-end of side a}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 791 - YELLOWSTONE BALLET COMPANY

Ms. Anderson also spoke on behalf of the Yellowstone Ballet Co.  
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 0.0-5.8}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 718 - SOUTHWEST MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

Ms. Victoria Fridley, Executive Director of the Council, spoke in support of the grant request.  
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 5.9-12.4}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 793 - WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER

Ms. Lynda Bourque Moss, Director of the Center, gave a short presentation. EXHIBIT 5 A video presentation was given about the Yellowstone Heritage Partnership.  
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 12.5-20.0}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 769 - YELLOWSTONE ART CENTER

Ms. Donna Forbes, Director of the Center, gave a short presentation; questions were asked. EXHIBITS 6 and 7.  
{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 20.1-26.8}

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HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 768 - ALBERTA BAIR THEATRE

Ms. Ann Miller, Interim Executive Director of the Theatre, spoke. EXHIBIT 8 She pointed out errors on the application: under total project expenses, the city/county support should be listed as \$158,000 annually and \$90,000 - \$100,000 should be included under in-kind contributions. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 2; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 26.9-Tape 3:a:5.2}

HEARING ON C & A REQUESTS NO. 767 and 759  
BILLINGS PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

Ms. Ruth Towe, Executive Director of the Moss Mansion, spoke in support of the requests. EXHIBIT 9 Questions were asked and comments were made.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 5.3-18.5}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 783 - MSU - BILLINGS

Mr. Keith Edgerton, Assistant Professor of History at MSU-Billings, rose in support of the grant request. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 18.6-23.9}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 784  
MSU-BILLINGS INTER-TRIBAL INDIAN CLUB

Mr. Tyrone Morgan, President of the Club, gave a short presentation. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 24.0-29.1}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 734 - THE WRITER'S VOICE - WMCA

Mr. Corby Skinner spoke up on behalf of the project. EXHIBIT 10 {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.2-Tape 3:b:3.2}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 764 - BILLINGS SYMPHONY SOCIETY

Ms. Rina H. Reynolds, Director of Development for the Society, gave a short presentation; questions were asked. EXHIBIT 11 {Tape: 3; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 3.3-9.7}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 723 - GROWTH THRU ART, INC.

Mr. Allan R. Lenhardt, Executive Director of Growth Thru Art, Inc., rose in support of the request. EXHIBIT 12 Questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 9.8-12.9}

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HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 775 - SUNCREEK FILMS

Mr. Jon Vannoy, President of SunCreek Films, gave a short presentation; questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 13.0-19.7}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 716  
GRANITE COUNTY MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Ms. Esther McDonald rose in support of the request; questions were asked.

{Tape: 3; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 19.8-25.3}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 788  
VIRGINIA CITY PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

Mr. Jeff Smith, Historical Preservation Officer for the Alliance, gave a short presentation. EXHIBIT 13

{Tape: 3; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 25.4-Tape 4:a:2.3}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 743  
LIBERTY VILLAGE ARTS CENTER & GALLERY

Ms. Trudy Skari, representing the Arts Center and Gallery, spoke in support of the proposal to bring Phillip Aaberg home to Montana. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 4; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 2.4-8.0}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 746 - SANDERS COMMUNITY HALL, INC.

Ms. Judy Cole, Co-Director of the Community Hall, gave a short presentation. EXHIBIT 14

SEN. MACK COLE, SD 4, rose in support of the project.

{Tape: 4; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 8.4-14.8}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 801  
CARBON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. Jon Axline, a historian for the Dept. of Transportation, gave a short presentation in support of the Society, as a private citizen. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 4; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 14.9-20.3}

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HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 736 - WHITEFISH THEATRE COMPANY

Mr. Richard Hildner, President of the Whitefish Theatre Company and Carolyn Pitman, Project Director, gave short presentations. Questions were asked. **EXHIBIT 15**

{Tape: 4; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 20.4-27.1}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 737 - HOCKADAY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Mr. Mark Holston, Board of Trustee member, appeared on behalf of Ms. Joan Baucus in support of the request. **EXHIBIT 16**

REP. TIM DOWELL, HD 78, rose in support of the Hockaday Center.  
{Tape: 4; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 27.2-Tape 4:b:3.7}

HEARING ON C & A REQUEST NO. 742  
DEACONESS - BILLINGS CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM

Mr. Richard Becker, developer of the project, gave a short presentation. Questions were asked.

{Tape: 4; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 3.8-16.1}

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL announced that in addition to executive action on HB 9, discussion would be taking place the following day regarding what level the ending C & A fund balance should be set at and whether or not to fund more of the Montana Arts Council administrative budget from the Coal Tax Trust Fund interest earnings.

{Tape: 4; Side: b; Approx. Time Count: 16.2-24.4}

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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 noon.

  
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REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEN, Chairman

  
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DEBBIE ROSTOCKI, Secretary

EB/DR

This meeting was recorded on four 60-minute audiocassette tapes.