



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
April 13, 2017

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Fred Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Richard Massie, Marian Reed, Barbara Santoro, Stephanie Schlaifer, Nicole Thomas, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Myra Vandersall, Kay Watts

Excused: Felicia Hickman, Winnie Sullivan

Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor

Council Liaison: Bwayne Smotherson

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by president, Garrie Burr, who noted the passing of local author Patricia McKissack.

Minutes from March 9, 2017. Melcine Henderson moved approval, Kay Watts seconded, approved unanimously

Citizen Comments: None

Treasurer's Report: No report in the absence of the treasurer.

Staff Liaison Report: Ms. Euell-Taylor has been in touch with the interim City Clerk about Commissioner term limits. She will bring definitive information and a new chart to the next meeting.

Council Liaison Report: Bwayne Smotherson reported that the City Council has approved a motion to re-start recording municipal meetings. 2) John Nolan (audio for Starlight Concerts) passed away last year. Bwayne would like to have a proclamation in his honor approved by the Council. Melcine moved, Nicole seconded Mr. Smotherson's suggestion that the City Council be requested to issue a proclamation in Mr. Nolan's honor; all commissioners' names will be listed, and this season's concerts will be dedicated to him for his care and professionalism on our behalf. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Finance – Our RAC grant has been approved. Talks will be held with Sam Fox faculty to consider possible future funding.
- Marketing – Discussion was held about a postcard for the photo show; the website has been updated with McKissack and Sculpture information. ROARS has information from Myra for the next publication.
- Policies & Procedures – A meeting will be held in the near future.
- Literary – (from Ms. Euell-Taylor) Storybook Walk will be installed in Heman Park from early May and for two months. Stories were chosen by UC library staff
- Photo Show – Theme is “Why I Love U. City.” Elementary through high school-aged residents are invited to participate. Details of deadlines, reception, site will be determined and the announcement will be sent out before the end of public school term. There was discussion of best ways to disseminate the information. The best 13 photos, regardless of age of photographer, will be chosen for the calendar.
- Public Art – “Coming Soon” sign is up and students are working on site. The reception has been postponed to 4/29 due to rain; all commissioners are requested to attend.
- Returning Artist – no report
- Starlight Concerts – RAC grant funds are available. Contracts are expected to be received in the next couple of weeks. There was discussion of the availability of food service. Marian will meet with UCHS student council next week and there is a possibility of A&L selling pre-packaged items.

Old Business: Ad hoc committee will begin to work on a mailing list and future funding possibilities.

New Business: Wilmetta asked to determine A&L interest in taking on the Movies in the Park as the City isn't doing it this year. People appreciate the series; funding/grants should be available. Wilmetta, Garrie, and Marian will work on a proposal to bring to the Commission.

Announcements: 1) The May 11th meeting will be held at Centennial Commons. 2) Mannequins will be coming in the loop soon. If additional artists would like to submit, they can mention A&L and fee will be waived. 3) U. City in Bloom will have another Plein Air event on September 24. They will probably request volunteers from A&L. 4) The U. City in Bloom plant pre-sale evening will be held on the last Friday in April, \$20 admission fee.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.