



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

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Stephanie Schlaifer, Felicia Hickman, Marian Reed, Kay Watts, Winnie Sullivan, Myra Vandersall, Bwayne Smotherson, Fred Fehr, Lauren Masterson-Rodriguez

Excused: Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Lawanda Hinton, Nicole Thomas, Richard Massie

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 by president, Garrie Burr, who reintroduced new commissioner Lauren Masterson-Rodriguez.

Minutes from June 8, 2017: Felicia Hickman, moved approval and Marian Reed seconded, approved with corrections.

**Add 2017 to Treasurer's Report, CWE Literary Festival*

Citizen Comments: None

Treasurer's Report:

- Continued issue from 6/8, inappropriate check:
 - Dan Martin was a former treasurer
 - Duncan was in MA, he was a former student, unsure who cashed, no negative impact to A&L
 - Issue considered resolved
- Starlight:
 - Concern that funds are getting low, with more concerts forthcoming
 - Funds anticipated from RAC & UCity
 - Revenue \$874.86
- End of Year report expected for the September
 - Waiting on additional information

Kay Watts moved approval and Myra Vandersall seconded.

Staff Liaison:

- No report in Ms. Euell-Taylor's absence.

Council Liaison Report:

- Budget has been passed.
- Request was made for Mr. Smotherson to spread awareness about the Arts & Letters Commission and the events.

Committee Reports:

- *Finance:*
 - No Report.
- *Marketing:*
 - Committee hasn't met.
 - Need to explore social media in order attract new younger attendees to the meeting.
 - Back to School Drive-August 1st – Carolyn Cole is the contact for a table
 - Roars was published with two emails for A&L Commission.
 - Need to explore other avenues for sharing information.
 - Quality concerns with the Roars newsletter- request for input by Mr. Smotherson.
- *Policies & Procedures:*
 - No Report
- *Literary:*
 - Met Tuesday- all members present
 - Tradition of literary excellence ceremony will take place, in UCity.
 - Idea for an award for a young writer, HS students, attend UCity HS, or reside in UCity
 - Connect with UCity teachers to gather input
 - Fall 2018 goal for launch
 - Raining Poetry Project:
 - Select poetry, spray paint on side walks
 - Spring 2018- National Poetry Month
 - Little Free Library:
 - Talk to 5 people who are already participating
 - Promoting locations on a map.
 - Book Lover Adventure Map:
 - Literary Maps- more information & cost info needed
- *Photo Show:*
 - Submission process is in full swing; need to continue to share information about the competition.
 - August 1st promotion of the competition.
 - Need Judges before the end of August, need to decide on prizes and awards.
 - Kay Watts moved to approve \$50 to promote the photo contest with back to school items, i.e. erasers, rules, or pencils to be handed out with flyers Aug. 1st Felicia Hickman seconded. Encourage folks to “like” Facebook, but, no require sharing or liking anything on Facebook.
 - 4:30 PM - ~7:30PM to man the table
- *Public Art:*
 - Garrie to meet with Noah about next year's plan, should have more information in September.
- *Returning Artist:*
 - Working to identify an artist—need more insight on the date Oct. vs. Feb.
 - Homecoming is also in October
 - Literary Excellence award is in October
 - Leaning towards the Feb. date
 - Mr. Smotherson to talk to Theo and circle back with Kay.
- *Starlight Concerts:*
 - Unusually nice weather, larger attendance
 - Expecting a larger attendance this Saturday
 - 3 shows after this weekend- Garrie to email schedule
 - *Canopy Purchase:* Stephanie Schlaifer moved to approve up to \$150 to purchase a new 12x 12 canopy for the concessions tent and other commission activities
 - *Discussion:* Myra Vandersall- is there a need to purchase this right now? Concern with whether or not this will continue next year with committee members rolling off.
 - Approved.

Old Business:

- Ad hoc Committee for fundraising appeal letter
 - In progress
- Winners of utility box painting
 - Not yet announced- having issues with the website
 - Artist names & photos- over 60 entries
- Mannequins in the loop
 - People's choice award- winning mannequins chosen by 2,000 digital votes
 - Promoted A&L commission

New Business:

- Lauren proposed forming a Friends Group, more discussion planned at the executive meeting

Announcements:

- No Meeting in August

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.