



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
May 11, 2017

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Fred Fehr, Lawanda Hinton, Marian Reed, Stephanie Schlaifer, Winnie Sullivan, Nicole Thomas, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Myra Vandersall, Kay Watts

Excused: Felicia Hickman, Melcine Henderson, Richard Massey, Barbara Santoro, Bwayne Smotherson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

The minutes from the April 13, 2017 meeting were approved by Kay Watts and seconded by Frederick Fehr.

Citizen's Comments: Judy Prange spoke about the Department of Community Development's Call For Artists to submit designs to be painted on Olive Boulevard electric boxes.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported for two months on both accounts. The March report included deposits of \$975 from the sale of raffle tickets at the prior year's Starlight Concert Series. A third account was opened just for the Starlight Concert series because of the volume of transactions that take place. The current balance of that account is \$6308.00. The ending balance in the General Account is \$10,672.17 as of 4/28 and \$24,621.14 in the Marvin Levy account as of 4/28.

The April report reflected a \$1000 deposit from the City for the Returning Artist program. Disbursements included reimbursements for students who participated in the Public Arts Series.

Staff Liaison Report: Ms. Euell-Taylor distributed the names of commissioners and their terms. There is an opening on the commission to replace Bradley Heinemann. There were many questions about the terms and start dates of some commissioners. Ms. Euell-Taylor has also sent all contracts out for the Starlight Concert artists.

Council Liaison Report: No report.

Committee Reports:

- Finance – The chair shared comments from the Missouri Arts Council grant. The Council was pleased with the quality of artists offered during the series. They thought the application could be strengthened with video and audio samples. Several commissioners noted that they did have video from last season and were asked to send that to Ms. Sullivan for future grants. The committee looked at a variety of funding sources sent by Andrea Riganti.

The executive board is working on a fundraising letter to past commissioners. The letter would ask for funding or support (people power).

- Marketing – The chair updated us on the Facebook posts and the entries in U City Roars for Starlight. The committee produced a flyer for the Photo Show and distributed it to Commissioners for review. There were suggestions that the flyer be submitted to Shelley's newsletter and at summer camps and businesses in University City as well as the Green Center, Library and to City Council.

- Policies and Procedures will be discussed at the Executive Board meeting.
- Literary – Lit in the Lou might not be held in the fall. Left Bank Books is planning a fall literary event for their neighborhood and it is possible that the Literary Consortium will support that event. This will be finalized in June. Patricia McKissick's death was placed in ROARS.
- Photo Show – 2300 submission posters were printed. Carolyn Cole provided the numbers for the schools.
- Public Art – The reception went well. It was great to see parents, commissioners and the public. There will be a meeting with Noah about next year if you want to be on committee, please do join.
- Returning Artist – The chair is looking for someone to shadow to learn the process. A lot is done through email with the exception of meeting with the schools. Next year's artist will be Theo Peoples.
- Starlight Concert Series – We passed around a sign-up sheet of shifts. The Arts & Letters tent will be moved near the concession stand. Arts & Letters will treat the concession stand as a fundraiser since the PTOs are no longer interested in selling. Marian Reed already has the supplies needed for cooking and selling. Based on the need to re-do shifts to include cooking and selling food, Wilmetta offered to set up shifts on SignUp Genius. For the Saturday date, there was a suggestion that we do sno cones.

Old Business: Movies in the Park will submit a proposal

Announcements: Fair U City will take place from 6/9-6/11. Arts & Letters will have brochures and flyers about the Photo Show contest.

There will be a Creative City Alliance meeting – a meeting of community arts organizations – and the commissioners should send a representative to get resources and share information.

Pinx Academy of Dance has set their block party for September 10. Place TBD. They will give away school supplies so those wanted to donate supplies, should contact Nicole Thomas.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.