



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
November 14, 2017

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Fred Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Felicia Hickman, Lawanda Hinton, Richard Massie, Lauren Masterson Rodriguez, Marian Reed, Barbara Santoro, Winnie Sullivan, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Kay Watts

Excused: Felecia Hickman, Stephanie Schlaifer, Myra Vandersall

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by president, Garrie Burr.

Minutes from September and October were approved unanimously on a motion by Melcine Henderson, seconded by Kay Watts

Citizen Comments: None

Amendment of By-Laws/Election of Officers: In the absence of a slate of officers for 2018, the Executive Committee recommended amendment of the by-laws to allow officers to succeed themselves. After discussion, a motion was made by Melcine Henderson, seconded by Marian Reed, to postpone indefinitely the election of officers. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Winnie Sullivan presented September and October financial summaries, responded to questions, and explained year-end financial status.

Staff Liaison Report: Ms. Euell-Taylor reported the City has plans to create a map of public art. Calendar photos forwarded to the Director of Finance and final choices will be made by the City this year. Once again, Arts & Letters commissioner Lawanda Hinton and her family won the Recreation Division's 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat award.

Council Liaison Report: Mr. Smotherson reported a new City Manager may be chosen by the end of December. An RFP for demolition of building and sculptures on City property at Olive and Midland is being planned. Commissioners whose terms are expiring and are willing to serve another term will be re-appointed.

Committee Reports

- **Finance** – There is a grant application to consider and prepare, if that is decided.
- **Literary** – Thanks to all who attended the reception for the Tradition of Literary Excellence Award given to Michael Castro. The Youth Poet Laureate, Zach Lesmeister was introduced. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to the University City Public Library and Subterranean Books for their support.
- **Marketing** -- The committee has made a rough draft of a questionnaire for public interests. Please send comments and suggestions to Myra. Lists of applicable events from U. City in Bloom, The Black Rep, and other organizations will be added to our website.
- **Calendar Art** – We will begin to think about themes for the future calendars.
- **Public Art**--"Monument" was chosen as the theme for next year's projects. The committee will meet with Noah Kirby to discuss plans.

- **Returning Artist** – The reception for Raquel Smith Hunter will be held on February 8, 7 p.m., at the Pruitt Library at UCHS. Posters will be available mid-January.
- **Starlight Concerts** – The committee is working on final artists' info.

Old Business:

- 1) Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Marian Reed, Felecia Hickman and Lawanda Hinton are working on Movies in the Park for summer 2018; the Recreation Division will be showing "Cars 3" 11/10/17. After discussion, it was decided the Executive Board will approve funds for one movie (chosen for elementary-aged children) to be shown over UCSD winter break,
- 2) Policies & Procedures manual will be compiled soon.

New Business: A Great Rivers Greenway map will be drawn; we would like to be involved.

Announcements: 1) Holiday party, 12/14/17 at 7:00, Centennial Commons boardroom 2) Please send arts events to Marketing for publicity

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.