

Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters  
City of University City  
September 8, 2016

**Members Present:**

Garrie Burr, Felicia Hickman, Richard Massey, Marian Reed, Barbara Santoro, Stephanie Schlaifer, Winnie Sullivan, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Kay Watts

**Excused:** Fred Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Myra Vandersall

**Absent:** Lawanda Hinton, Nicole Thomas

**Staff Liaison:** Lynda Euell-Taylor

**Council Liaison:** Bwayne Smotherson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by president, Garrie Burr who welcomed Bwayne Smotherson, our new Council liaison.

**Minutes** from July 14, 2016. Stephanie Schlaifer moved approval, Felicia Henderson seconded; they were approved

**Citizen Comments:** None

**Rain Man Update:** Gateway Foundation has rescinded its request to take ownership of the sculpture because of the length of time which passed before a decision was made. Winnie Sullivan sent a transfer of rights form to the City, effectively cancelling any rights which the Commission might have held.

**Treasurer's Report:** 1) Winnie Sullivan presented the financial summary of activity for July and August. 2) She will convene the Finance Committee and provide a year-end report. 3) She also presented and explained our new expenditure request form. This is primarily to be used for restricted funds (Levy and Starlight). A two-week lead time is advised for requests.

**Staff Liaison Report:** Flyers for the upcoming Yard Sale, Document Shredding, and Puppy Pool Party were distributed.

**Council Liaison Report:** Bwayne Smotherson reported that there has been a proposal for the Olive/Midland lot which currently holds Washington University students' sculptures. The proposal is still under consideration by Council.

**Committee Reports**

- Finance – No report
- Literary – Ms. Sullivan announced confirmed authors Marc Brown and Jacqueline Woodson. The administration enthusiastically confirms that Jackson Park School will be available at low cost for the children's events. A volunteer list will be presented at October's meeting; many volunteers are needed for Friday evening (Literary Excellence Award from Arts & Letters will be announced) and Saturday's events. Marketing help will be needed, also.
- Marketing – In Myra Vandersall's absence, Garrie announced that they are researching ways to get better metrics on media success. An application for Wash U's "Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities" is being considered. They are helping to publicize the Lit in the Lou and U. City in Bloom's Plein Air fundraiser, also.
- Photo Show – Marian Reed has consulted with Carolann Cole, Patricia Washington, and Superintendent Sharonica Hardin-Bartley in order to obtain their approval to use U. City School District youth on the 2018 calendar. They agree that we may do so.
- Policies & Procedures – No report. Kay Watts noted that a committee meeting will be held.
- Returning Artist – Kay and committee are developing a format with several points and dates that should be covered for future planning. Theo Peoples has agreed to be the Returning Artist for 2018.
- Public Art – Garrie reported that the committee has met with the Wash U staff to discuss changes in the curriculum that will affect our collaboration. The class will be one semester only; future topics will include site proposals, funding totals, and vetting committee.
- Starlight Concerts – There will be a conference call with Melcine Henderson to discuss scheduling and funding for the 2017 concert series. A RAC grant application will be completed to provide funding after July '16.

**Old Business:** 1) The nominating committee of Fred Fehr, Nicole Thomas, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo will schedule a meeting soon. 2) The December meeting has been cancelled. In lieu of the meeting, there will be a holiday celebration. 3) Volunteers are needed to help U. City in Bloom with their Plein Air fundraiser. Volunteers will need to purchase tickets for the event. 4) Judy Prange (Exec. Director of UCIB) would like to use the 2017 monthly calendar photo for their Facebook cover photo as a thank-you to our Commission.

**New Business:** No new business

**Other Business:** 1) Stephanie Schlaifer will read from her new book at the Pulitzer on Friday, October 14, at 8 p.m. 2) There is a fundraiser for Lit in the Lou at BarnesandNoble.com ("Labor of Love") through tomorrow, September 9.

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.