



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
July 9, 2015

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Fred Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Barbara Romero, Barbara Santoro, Stephanie Schlaifer, Bwayne Smotherson, Winnie Sullivan, Nicole Thomas, Kay Watts

Excused: Brad Heinemann, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Myra Vandersall, Marian Reed, Joy Wade

Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 by chair, Melcine Henderson. A quorum was present. Mr. Burr requested that the agenda be changed to allow Noah Kirby to discuss Community Visuals themes for 2016 during Citizen Comments. Ms. Watts moved, Ms. Sullivan seconded, the motion passed.

Minutes from June 11, 2015: Ms. Watts moved approval, Ms. Schlaifer seconded; unanimous approval with two changes: "U. City Needs Me" is the title of the new program introduced in Citizen Comments and "Religion & Politics," not "Religion," is one of the possible themes for next year's Lit in the Lou.

Citizen Comments: 1) (from Jodi Lloyd.) The four students are scheduled to install their sculptures (temporary projects at North & South) by the end of August. There will be a meet-and-greet with the students on July 27. Commissioners would like to be able to view any art installations before giving their okay in the future. Melcine will look into this possibility, Noah will be a resource where appropriate.

2) Noah Kirby reports that themes for 2016 Community Visuals are "Spaces Between Us," "Margins," "On the Edge," "Boundaries." It was requested that the students be encouraged to choose sites away from the loop; the students will also be requested to attend an A&L meeting. Mr. Smotherson moved that we accept "Boundaries" as the theme, Ms. Watts seconded, motion approved. Mr. Burr will notify Mr. Kirby.

Treasurers Report

Ms. Sullivan distributed and explained copies of the Financial Summary, the year-end report. Ms. Romero moved approval, Mr. Fehr seconded; unanimous approval. Ms. Sullivan requests submission of any outstanding requests for reimbursement *no later than 60 days after invoice*.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Euell-Taylor will email a request for badge preferences to Commission members. Please start thinking about dates for 2016 calendar to be turned in to her no later than September 30.

Council Liaison Report -- no report

Committee Reports

- Community Visuals – Mr. Burr reported: 1) No gallery, only sculpture (30th anniversary) for 2016. The committee is working on a digital archive, website hosted by Washington University. 2) The Berger Gold & Silver opening will be held at the library; he will be available for photographs at Millar Park before the movie showing. 3) Sculpture reception to be held in April (9, 10, 16, or 17); time and definite site tbd. Strategies for more community involvement are being discussed.

- Marketing – Mr. Burr reported: Reminders and thanks for donations for sculpture, photo show, concerts, etc., are being posted to social media sites
- Photo Show – Ms. Romero: Two sponsors have committed prizes, other requests are outstanding. U. City in Bloom requests their name on any prize that they award. The reception will be held in City Hall; Ms. Wade will email if help is needed. Posters will be printed after sponsorships are known; Mr. Burr offers help proofreading copy. A decision will be finalized for the transfer of photos to display site after the show.
- Starlight Concerts – Ms. Henderson: Two rainouts, one partial so far. There will be additional police traffic coverage for Jazz Edge concert. Ideas for connecting with and informing community of changes to schedule (rainouts) and getting more community residents to attend are requested.

Old Business

- By-laws are accepted as recommended by Ms. Sullivan and committee with the inclusion of two changes so moved by Ms. Santoro: 1) Article 6, 3rd paragraph – “Public notice *conforming to Missouri Sunshine Law requirements*, of the time, date, 2) Article 7 (duties) – “*The Commission’s staff liaison may be designated to give official notice of meetings and to serve as custodian of records.*”
- There was further discussion of length of term and how to ensure that prospective commissioners know details of service.
- Ms. Henderson passed out Robert’s Rules information

New Business – no new business

Other Business

Ms. Sullivan: St. Louis Literary Consortium is hosting Dine. Drink. Donate. on July 20 to raise funds to support Lit in the Lou. (Poet Claudia Rankine will be the keynote speaker for Lit in the Lou, “Religion & Politics” will be the theme)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.