



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
June 11, 2015

Members Present:

Garrie Burr, Fred Fehr, Brad Heinemann, Melcine Henderson, Marian Reed, Barbara Romero, Barbara Santoro, Stephanie Schlaifer, Winnie Sullivan, Nicole Thomas, Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Myra Vandersall, Joy Wade, Kay Watts

Excused: Bwayne Smotherson

Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor
Council Liaison: Mayor Shelley Welsch

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by chair, Melcine Henderson. Roll call determined that a quorum was present and no changes requested to agenda.

Minutes from May 14, 2015: Mr. Burr moved approval, Ms. Schlaifer seconded; unanimous approval

New commissioner Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo was welcomed.

Citizen Comments: Chris Paavola introduced a new program, "Just U. C.," an independent organization of partners including MO Synod Lutheran church which is meant to strengthen support for youth, diversity, and arts programming in U. City. The organization plans to request information of citizens about their knowledge and support of such programming.

Treasurers Report

Ms. Sullivan distributed and explained copies of the Financial Summary. Ms. Watts moved approval as submitted; unanimous approval.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Euell-Taylor provided a new A&L phone list and requested corrections as needed. She will remove Council appointers and include end of term dates on an updated copy.

Council Liaison Report

Mayor Welsch reported that Fair U. City was a success with good attendance. A U. City Community Foundation will be given a portion of the gate to provide small grants for the betterment of U. City; a board will be named for the Foundation.

Committee Reports

- Community Visuals – 1) Ms. Schlaifer and Mr. Burr have met with Sam Fox PR people and Liz Kramer to begin planning for next year's events. 2) Choices for theme for 2016 CV proposals will be presented and voted on 7/9/15. 3) Dates: Gallery—last week in January, Sculpture—April, possibly 4/16 which is Alumni Reunion weekend so that past artists might be available for reception. Location: TBD, other than library and with ample parking. 4) Jonathan Berger's "Golden in Silver" will be hung in library gallery during July.
- Literary – Ms. Sullivan has met with the St. Louis Literary Consortium to begin planning for next year's Lit in the Lou. Current plans include an indoor location with a reduction in scale, new/additional activities, October date, retention of the award funded by Arts & Letters, and a reception. Possible themes are Race & Politics, Religion, Income Inequities, Gender & Politics.
- Marketing – Starlight Concerts and Photo Show continue to be advertised in website, Facebook, and NextDoor updated postings. Mr. Burr also provided A&L brochures, Starlight fliers, and Sculpture maps were handed out at Fair U. City.
- Photo Show – Ms. Romero reported that a mailing has gone out to possible sponsors. Applications will be available in August, to be returned in September.
- Starlight Concerts – Ms. Henderson reported that there was a good crowd at the first concert. Next year, we may avoid Fair weekend. Volunteer raffle ticket sellers would be appreciated at future concerts, 6:30-7:10. We appreciated help from staff after the Fair concerts and will need their help for the jazz concert. Two is the usual number of police officers at Monday concerts.

Old Business

- Arts Administration “Guide to Board Duties and Responsibilities” was provided to each commissioner. We’ll set a date and select a workshop topic at another meeting.
- MAC grants are due the first Monday; we’ll try for 7/6 and Ms. Henderson will get requested information to Ms. Sullivan. We will aim to submit a RAC opportunity grant by 7/31. (They are accepted 3x/year, three community arts groups submit together.)
- Robert’s Rules of Order will be presented at a future meeting
- By-laws – Ms. Euell-Taylor will email copies of the draft to all members so that all can be prepared to discuss on 7/9/15.
- The Temporary Sculpture Park will be located on Olive at Midland property. Mr. Burr confirmed that it will be installed in early July as approved.

New Business -- no new business

Other Business

- Mr. Burr reported a successful mannequins series (reception 6/7); \$250 in proceeds are to be donated to the UCHS art department.
- Ms. Thomas reported that represented A&L by joining CreateSpace artists to paint faces at Fair U. City. She also brought dancers to perform and they were a success.
- Ms. Reed has asked PTO’s to provide food for sale at the Concerts. They are expected at the Millar Park movies, also.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.