



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
June 10, 2014
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President Melcine Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Other members present were Garrie Burr, Fredrick Fehr, Bruce Lucas, Adelia Parker-Castro, Bobette Patton, Barbara Romero, Stephanie Schlaifer, Bwayne Smotherson, Winnifred Sullivan, Bonnie Tesson, and Kay Watts

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

Excused Absence: Myra Vandersall, Susan Stang, Joy Wade

Disposition of Minutes from May 13, 2014

Mr. Burr moved approval of minutes as corrected, Ms. Sullivan seconded. Vote taken: all approval.

Discussion:

President Henderson discussed the difficulties with the Mannequins in Loop Project not following proper procedure. Ms. Audrey Jones did not attend meeting.

Treasurer Report

Ms. Sullivan distributed the financial summary for May 2014. She reported all of the thank-you/tax letters had been sent to the donors who had contributed to the Marvin Levy Fund. Ms. Sullivan presented some recommendations for internal fiscal controls, and requested commission members review and be prepared to vote on them at our July meeting. There was a discussion about the CSIRKL account and the secretary was asked to send a letter advising CSIRKL that Arts and Letters would no longer be acting as their fiscal agent. Ms. Watts moved to approve the May financial report. Ms. Romero seconded, Vote taken: all approved.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Euell-Taylor indicated she is in process of updating our roster as the new members are sworn-in. She also stated the commission has been approved for an Arts and Letters' Facebook page, but it must be through the auspices of the City. Ms. Euell-Taylor then asked for a vote of the Commission to approve the permanent installation of "A Play of Perception" by Sarah Theis in the University City Bird Garden in honor of Mary Ann Shaw. Ms. Watts moved approval. Mr. Fehr seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

Council Liaison Report

Mayor Shelley Welsch was in attendance and indicated she had appointed Mr. Arthur Sharpe as our Liaison, but due a scheduling conflict, we would be unable to serve. Mayor Welsch stated she would be serving as our Council Liaison.

Mayor Welsch also indicated: there will be public hearings on the budget, that there is a slight surplus in the budget and the budget must be approved by June 27. She also discussed Fair U City and scheduled activities, which will include a fun run, the puppy pool party, the Jazz festival and if possible Focus on Veterans. The fair will occur on Sept 12-13.

Committee Reports

Two Dimensional Print Series: A complete written report "Community Visuals" was submitted by Adelia Parker-Castro. Ms. Parker-Castro discussed the Marvin Levy Celebration event. She discussed the awards presented and the budget details of the event. Ms Parker-Castro was recognized and thanked for her years of service.

Literary Series: Ms. Sullivan discussed the development of the "Lit in the Lou" event. The Festival will occur in Ackert Park and Walkway. The Mayor will open the festival and there will be activities for both adults and children. There will be a short story contest. Promotional materials are being prepared at this time.

Marketing Development: Mr. Burr discussed website updating and Arts & Letters Facebook page possibilities.

Photo Show: Ms. Romero reported the winners of the photo show and the prizes awarded. She also passed out a list of the photos chosen for the calendar.

Sculpture Series: Caitlyn Penny will be speaking about her sculpture at the Green Center. Ms Henderson asked that she be invited to our July meeting to discuss her presentation.

Starlight Concert Series: President Henderson reported on last week's concert. She also distributed posters for the series. She also reported information about the food trucks. Food trucks are required to obtain a permit and pay a fee. Ms. Henderson asked for volunteers to sell raffle tickets. Ms Tesson moved that two VISA cards in the amount of \$25.00 each be purchased for each concert to be used in the raffle; Ms. Watts seconded the motion, Vote taken: all approved. There will be two special Saturday concerts this year. On June 28, the U City Jazz Band (with 2014 returning artist Sandy Weltman), Cheryl Brown and the Soulard Blues Band will perform. A second special concert will be held July 19 from 4-8 pm and will feature Nikko Smith, Jeff Hardin and Theo Peoples.

Old Business

Invitational Art Show will occur at the Library in June 2014. This will feature University City Artists and hopefully will occur every two years in the future.

A By-laws committee was formed, Bobette Patton, Kay Watts, Winnie Sullivan, and Barbara Romero will be working with President Henderson to get a draft of the by-laws completed by September.

Ms. Patton reported State Farm turned the commission down for liability insurance.

New Business

Mr. Burr reported our RAC grant proposal was approved; Ms. Schlaifer volunteered to work with Mr. Burr on the Sculpture Series.

The commission will vote on the proposed \$250.00 check limit at the July meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Watts moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Fehr seconded. All approved. The meeting ended at 8:15