



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters  
City of University City  
Tuesday, October 14, 2014  
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President Melcine Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Other members present were Garrie Burr, Barbara Romero, Barbara Santoro, Bwayne Smotherson, Stephanie Schlaifer, Susan Stang, Winifred Sullivan, Myra Vandersall, and Kay Watts.

Lynda Euell-Taylor, Staff Liaison

Approved Absence: Frederick Fehr, Bobette Patton

Unapproved: Bruce Lucas, Joy Wade

**Disposition of Minutes from September 9, 2014**

Ms. Santoro made a motion to approve minutes, Ms. Watts seconded. Vote taken, all approved with request to correct spelling of Winifred Sullivan.

**Citizen Comments**

Councilperson Paulette Carr distributed copies of Missouri Sunshine Law, revised edition published in 2014.

**Treasurer Report**

Ms. Sullivan presented the financial information available as of the end of September 2014, including the financial summary, and bank statements for the general account and the Marvin Levy Fund. She is working on a draft of the commission's budget for presentation at the November meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Santoro to accept Treasurer's Report. Ms. Watts seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Staff Liaison Report**

Ms. Euell-Taylor noted the change in meeting date and time for the commission. In January, 2015 the regular meetings will occur on the second Thursday of every month in the Heman Park Community Center. She will send more-detailed information about the change to commissioners via email.

She also distributed copies of the proposed Arts & Letters budget for FY 2014-15. A change was requested, that the Community Visuals funding be taken from the Marvin Levy Fund. She will make the requested change and email the revised version to commissioners.

She also reminded commissioners the November 2014 meeting would be on Friday, November 14 at 7 p.m. The regular Tuesday meeting had been scheduled to this date because of Veteran's Day.

### **Council Liaison Report**

Ms. Henderson read an email copy of the report from liaison, Mayor Shelley Welsch. Mayor Welsch wanted to note that the city's Comprehensive Plan was being worked on by the Planning Commission. She also wanted to remind commissioners about "Make A Difference Day" scheduled on Saturday, October 25 in Centennial Commons.

### **Committee Reports**

*Community Visuals:* Mr. Burr reported on the commissioners' visit to Washington University's Sam Fox School on October 7, where they discussed the initial pitches for the Public Arts students' "Citizen" themed sculpture projects. He noted the students will present a more-finalized presentation of their proposals to the Parks Commission on Tuesday, October 28.

He also said that the December 9 meeting of Arts & Letters would consist of Professor Buzz Spector presenting the art he had gathered for the 2015 Gallery presentation for Community Visuals, followed by the final proposals from the sculpture students. At Professor Noah Kirby's request up to three of the projects would be chosen for funding. As in past years food from the Bread Company would be provided by the commission for the student's dinner. The meeting would begin at 6 p.m. in Centennial Commons.

Ms. Watts made a motion to use up to \$1,125 for the January 24 Gallery Reception and the April 11 Sculpture Reception from the Marvin Levy Fund. Ms. Santoro seconded. Vote taken, all approved.

Mr. Burr requested that \$2,250 from the Marvin Levy Fund be used to fund up to three sculpture proposals for the 2015 project. Ms. Schlaifer made this motion, Ms. Santoro seconded. Vote taken, all approved.

A proposed budget for the Gallery project would be presented to the commissioners at the November meeting, according to Mr. Burr. He said that Heather Corcoran, director at Washington University's Sam Fox School, was scheduling a meeting with the Community Visuals Committee and Mrs. Henderson. The Community Visuals Committee and Mrs. Henderson will also schedule a meeting with Mr. Frank Ollendorff about working with the Levy family.

*Literary:* Ms. Sullivan reported on the successes of the first Lit in the Lou festival and about the presentation of the awards at the opening reception. On behalf of the St. Louis Literary Consortium she thanked the commission for their support. She also read complimentary messages from many of the authors who attended the festival.

*Photo Show:* Ms. Romero delivered information on the 2015 show, for publication on the commission's website. This updated information included the reception date of April 19 in Centennial Commons and the gallery dates in April at the Green Center and Royal Bank. They will accept entries for the 2015 show between March 28 and April 3.

*Returning Artist:* Ms. Watts reported they now have a signed contract with the 2015 Returning Artist, poet and writer DuEwa Frazier. They are working on an exact schedule of activities.

*Starlight Concert:* Ms. Henderson said they have almost finalized the complete schedule of artists for the 2015 series. Mr. Smotherson said they have one slot left to fill.

### **Old Business**

*By-Laws:* Ms. Henderson said they will be working with Ms. Andrea Riganti before proceeding to the next step.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Smotherson encouraged commissioners to look into using the digital community application at nextdoor.com where you can set-up a neighborhood email group.

### **New Business**

Mrs. Henderson asked for volunteers to work on a slate of candidates for the commission's Executive Committee. A vote will be taken on the slate at the November meeting. Ms. Santoro, Mr. Smotherson and Ms. Watts volunteered to work on the slate.

Mr. Burr read a motion: "per our understanding of the Sunshine Law we make the motion to compile the July 2014 emails containing the commissioners' thoughts on the proposed new U City logo and to publish this compilation as a public document." Ms. Watts seconded this motion. Vote taken, all approved.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.