



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters
City of University City
November 12, 2013
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President Adelia Parker-Castro called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Other members present were Garrie Burr, Ann Cortinovic, Frederick Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Barbara Romero, Mary Dee Schmidt, Susan Stang, Winnie Sullivan, Charlotte Tatum, Bonnie Tesson, Joy Wade, and Kay Watts.

Lynda Euell-Taylor, Staff Liaison

Excused Absence: Bobette Patton

Disposition of Minutes from October 8, 2013

Ms. Schmidt moved for approval of minutes. Ms. Watts seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

Scheduled Citizen Comments

Ackert Walkway Pavilion: Chandler Ahrens, assistant professor of the Sam Fox School at Washington University, presented a proposed public pavilion for Ackert Walkway. His class, who also attended, worked on the design together. The University City Zoning Commission had already been approached about the work and sent Mr. Ahrens to Arts & Letters for approval of the design. The Parks Commission would be presented with his proposal next. All funding for the pavilion, including any necessary repairs and upkeep, would come from the Sam Fox School and Quadrangle Housing. Ms. Watts made a motion to approve their project, Ms. Schmidt seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

“Lit in the Lou”: Brad Cook of the St. Louis Writers Guild, along with Nancy Hughes of the St. Louis Poetry Center, presented their plan for a new annual literary event in University City called “Lit in the Lou”. The event would be held in October 2014 and they were looking to the commission for approval and financial assistance. The help in funding would go toward hiring a marquee speaker and to support a literary “Award for Excellence.” Ms. Stang made a motion to approve \$1,000 funding in October 2014 for the Literary Event. Mr. Burr seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

Sculpture City: Meridith McKinley reported on the upcoming international event which would be held in St. Louis and would connect with the Arts & Letters/Sam Fox Sculpture Project.

Treasurer Report

Ms. Parker-Castro reported in Ms. Patton's absence, distributing hard copies of the financial reports for August and September 2013.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Euell-Taylor explained the FY13-14 budget and that the commission and individual committee budgets for July 2014 to June 2015 were needed by Friday, November 15.

Council Liaison Report

No report given in Ms. Carr's absence.

Committee Reports

- Marketing: Mr. Burr reported the new committee met and planned out priorities including a new brochure. Deadline and 'need' sheets were created and distributed for the individual committees to document what Marketing can do to help promote their events.
- Photo Show: Ms. Wade said the brochure was on the design table for their next scheduled show.
- Returning Artist: Ms. Watts noted Mr. Yancey was currently working on the posters for the program. Mr. Weltmann has signed his contract.
- Sculpture Show: Ms. Schmidt announced the student's presentation before the commission was on-schedule and they would begin at 6:30 p.m. on December 10 in the Commons.
- Starlight Concert: Ms. Henderson said she was looking into the possibility of handling some aspects of the Saturday events differently, including charging vendors and food trucks.
- 2-D Print Series: Ms. Parker-Castro reported there would be a meeting with Dean Buzz Spector on November 15, to discuss the spring event.

Old Business

- By-Laws committee: Ms. Henderson said there was no news.
- Nominating committee: Ms. Tatum reported they had put together a slate of candidates for January 2014, which will be voted on by the commission at the December meeting. The candidates are: Ms. Parker-Castro for President, Ms. Henderson for Vice President, Ms. Tesson for Secretary and Ms. Sullivan for Treasurer. Ms. Tatum noted that a review of commission membership showed Ms. Parker-Castro's tenure would be officially over in April. At that time Ms. Henderson, as Vice President, would assume those duties until a President could be elected.

New Business

- Ms. Parker-Castro said that the establishment of a new Literary Committee would be examined in January.

Adjournment

Mr. Burr made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 pm, Ms. Sullivan seconded.