



Regular Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters  
City of University City  
September 10, 2013  
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President Adelia Parker-Castro called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Other members present were Garrie Burr, Maria D'Agrosa-Sweeney, Frederick Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Bobette Patton, Barbara Romero, Winnie Sullivan, Charlotte Tatum, Bonnie Tesson, Kay Watts and Paulette Carr, Council Liaison.

Lynda Euell-Taylor, Staff Liaison

Approved Absence: Ann Cortinovis, Mary Dee Schmidt, Joy Wade

**Disposition of Minutes from July 9, 2013**

Ms. Henderson moved for approval of minutes. Ms. Romero seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Guest Speakers**

Tina Charumilind, University City Finance Director, explained the commission's history with the Not for Profit status. She said the commission would lose tax exempt status if papers were not filed by November 15. Material containing details on the status were given to the commission for its review.

Lehman Walker, University City City Manager, detailed the city's budget process, noting the yearly preparation begins in October for drafting to city council in February and voted on by council in June. The commission's budget is submitted through the staff liaison.

Ms. Parker-Castro asked that 5013C discussion be tabled until the October meeting. Ms. Stang made a motion that 30 minutes be set for the discussion of the non-profit status at the meeting and that a vote would be taken afterwards. Ms. Watts seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Scheduled Citizen Comments**

Style in the Loop: Mary Gorman reported on her efforts for this year's Style in the Loop and asked the commission for funds to assist in the program. Later in the meeting a motion was made by Mr. Burr for the commission to give \$300 to Style in the Loop. Ms. Sullivan seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Treasurer Report**

Ms. Patton reported: she distributed a copy of the latest commission bank statement along with three separate accounting reports which included, along with the primary report, one on the Marvin Levy fund and another for CSIRKL. Ms. Watts made a motion to approve the report. Ms. Tatum seconded. Ms. Henderson asked the vote be made subject to audit. Vote taken: all approved.

**Staff Liaison Report**

Ms. Euell-Taylor reported the Bird Garden group wants to put up signs and will bring them to the commission for preview. No approval is needed for the signs.

The commission was also reminded that dates for events are needed for the 2014 calendar by September 13.

## **Council Liaison Report**

Ms. Carr reported on the city council approving the creation of two new commissions: Commission on Seniors and a Commission on Youth.

## **Committee Reports**

- Sculpture: Mr. Burr reported (in Ms. Schmidt's absence) on the committee's meeting with Noah Kirby of Washington University's Sam Fox School, who will be working with this year's students.

Because of modifications to the Sam Fox curriculum Mr. Kirby proposed two changes for the project:

1) Students would present their project proposals to the Arts & Letters commission at our November meeting and we would select from those proposals only one sculpture which would then be worked on as one large group project by the students, as a team.

2) The project proposals would tie in thematically with the Sculpture City St. Louis event, entitled "Monument/Anti-Monument," which is scheduled April 10-12, 2014. Sculpture City is, according to their material "an international conference that will bring together artists, art historians, curators, academics, architects, urban planners, designers, archaeologists and other experts to explore contemporary thinking about the intersection of sculpture and public space." More info can be found at their website, [sculpturecitystl.com](http://sculpturecitystl.com).

- Returning Artist: Ms. Watts reported that UCHS alum, Musician Marty Ehrlich, would perform October 3 at the high school and that he also planned to meet with the students. The committee would meet work out the details. She also reported that musician Sandy Weltman was scheduled for the regular Returning Artist event in January.
- Photo Show: Ms. Romero said there was nothing to report.
- Starlight Concert: Ms. Henderson reported that they did very well in attendance this year. The committee is currently going through the applications for next year.
- 2-D Print Series: Ms. D'Agrosa-Sweeney reported the committee met with Dean Buzz Spector, of Washington University's Sam Fox School, about the event in April. The committee will be meeting monthly with the Dean about the event.

They proposed that separate invitation postcards will be created for the 2D and Sculpture combined reception.

Sites are being considered for the display of this year's works, there will be no prizes for first, second and third place this year.

- Marketing and Development: Mr. Burr reported on the material for the commission which was on display at the Fair UCity table, including sculpture maps, commission poster and sign-up sheet gathering email addresses for those interested in receiving electronic announcements of U City Arts & Letters events.

## **Old Business**

Commission Retreat: Ms. Parker-Castro reported on the success of the retreat. The results of the survey were pending the completion of all the surveys. A write-up on the event will be distributed to commissioners later.

Movies: Mr. Burr reported the attendance was up for the final three movies of the series and that the special pre-movie events with the Green Center, the University City Youth group and Teen Swag, along with the PTO participation, made this year's series more successful than last year. The Movies in the Park committee would be meeting about the possibility of continuing in 2014.

### **New Business**

CSIRKL: Stephanie Weeden-Smith, Deborah Morley and Shelley Gable-Parker reported on how the project was going. Ms. Weeden-Smith said that, three months into the 18 month project, they were reaching out to local youth, contacting the schools about meeting with students, and that they plan to work with the newly-formed municipal commission on youth.

By-Laws Adhoc Committee: Ms. Henderson will chair this committee, with Ms. Patton and Ms. Tatum as members.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Henderson moved to adjourn. Mr. Burr seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:12.