Arts & Letters Minutes

Present: Garrie Burr, Marilyn Cathcart, Ann Cortinovis, Trish Hayes, Melcine Henderson, Dan Martin, Adelia Parker-Castro, Barbara Romero, Barbara Santoro, Mary Dee Schmidt, Charlotte Tatum, Joy Wade, Kay Watts

Excused: Maria D'Agrosa-Sweney, Diane Davenport

Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Barbara Romero.

Minutes of February 14, 2012 were approved on a motion by Melcine Henderson and Mary Dee Schmidt.

New Commissioner Kay Watts was introduced.

Treasurer's report was submitted by Dan Martin. An appropriate thank-you will be sent to Marvin Levy after correct wording is determined to note tax-exempt status. The report was accepted on a motion by Melcine and Adelia Parker-Castro.

Council report: Arthur Sharpe, Jr. was excused

Staff report: Lynda Euell-Taylor has submitted the RAC grant application. Photo Show and Sculpture Series information has been or will be given media exposure and on city sign boards as appropriate.

Order for new commissioner badges is to be placed tomorrow.

Andrea Riganti will submit to us a policy and procedures document for the Sculpture Series as soon as this Series is complete.

Sculpture Series: Reception is to be April 1, 2 p.m. There are three sculptures; the "Shadow Play" sculptor has obtained the former Tantrum storefront for his venue. All commissioners are requested to attend the reception; Mary Dee is responsible for refreshments and will call on others for help as needed.

Thanks to Garrie Burr for the press release and website update; postcards have been designed by one of the students.

Marilyn Cathcart will step down as committee chair after this Series. Ann Cortinovis has agreed to be on the committee along with Mary Dee and Garrie. They will decide leadership.

A Sculpture Department graduate student has approached the committee in hopes of installing a folding chair sculpture (four pieces) along Loop sidewalks during the Sculpture Series. He has been advised to check with the City for requirements; we have heard no further information and feel that the installation cannot be approved for the same period.

Returning Artists: Melcine reported that the program went well. The committee will consider where the structure could be strengthened, including playing to individual artists' strengths and limiting students' inattention. A written report will be submitted next month.

Photo Show: Joy Wade indicated that all brochures (flyers) have been circulated. Photos will be accepted at the Commons beginning on March 21; prizes will be determined and purchased by the numbers of photos and amounts of money accepted. The reception will be held at the library on April 15, 2 p.m. A sign-up sheet was available for volunteers.

Starlight Concerts: All bands have been engaged. Melcine intends to have all contracts signed by the end of April. (Lynda will receive originals and will prepare checks.) Melcine will ask if Todd Yancey's high school students can prepare posters. She will talk to the Superintendent of Schools about student

musicians and steppers and will continue communication with the Police Department about their concerns for safety. Food trucks will be considered.

Marketing Development: Garrie has coordinated with Andrea Riganti so that we follow the same rules and regulations for our website as are followed for the City one.

Old Business: Melcine asked for information about the High School Poetry Slam team. Barbara Santoro will follow up with the teacher coach.

New Business: Garrie will attend the Arts Marketing Seminar. The Media and Entertainment Roundtable discussion is taking place on 3/15, 2 p.m., at the MO History Museum; another media workshop is being presented by the Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts on 3/20, 3-5 p.m.

Barbara R. would like suggestions on more programs dealing with Letters. Garrie has contacted Washington University (writing center) to ask them for a proposal to work with U. City high school students and will continue to pursue. Other ideas: poetry reading at City Hall as was done previously, a workshop culminating in a publication of works. Adelia and Garrie have discussed a print project to display more art at City Hall. They will develop a catalog, eventually expand to local banks and other venues. Oral histories from the seniors now housed at the Commons are a possibility, comparable to Rob Milam's "Sounding the Chord" project.

Garrie reported that the City's monthly Movies in the Park have been planned for April 21 through October. We are invited to participate, if we choose. We will help publicize by adding the schedule of movies will be added to our website.

Adelia added that the print series (above) will be implemented by fall. Any ideas, concerns, suggestions from commissioners are welcome.

The meeting was adjourned (motion by Adelia, Barbara S.) at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Santoro