

University City Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters

Minutes February 08, 2011 Call to Order: By Barbara Romero at 7:01p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Julie Bianchi	Melcine Henderson	Barbara Romero	Councilman Arthur Sharpe, Jr.
Marilyn Cathcart	Dan Martin	Barbara Santoro	Tom McCarthy, UCMCAL Liason
Diane Davenport	Kelly Martin	Joy Wade	Excused Absence:
Patricia Hayes	Adelia Parker-Castro		Kim Chilton

Approval of Minutes: Barbara Santoro moved to approve, Diane Davenport seconded. The motion passed.

Corrections to January Minutes: Adelia Parker-Castro was an approved absence.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Martin reported there was \$13,565.76 in the commission's checking account with outstanding check liabilities of \$345. There was relatively little accounting activity during January.

City Council Report: Arthur Sharpe, Jr. reported that at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Blick Art Supplies Store, the manager offered to assist in UCMCAL projects. The city is continuing to work on its budget. Beyond the 10M dollars held in cash reserves, there is a disparity between the amounts thought to have been available to the city (2M in arrears) versus the amount currently believed to be available (\$538 in the black.) A report issued by a consultant engaged by the city to advise on strategies for reorganizing itself arrived a few hours prior to the UCMCAL meeting. Councilman Sharpe will study the contents and report back to UCMCAL at a later meeting. The city is also formulating "what to do" plans for the community in the event of various severe weather emergencies. The Olive/I170 improvement plans continue and the city will be hiring a full-time PR person.

Staff Liaison report: Tom McCarthy reported that an anonymous donation of \$250 was received. He suggested UCMCAL actively solicit funds using a mailing with a return envelope. Julie Bianchi volunteered to develop the mailing materials. Barbara Santoro and Diane Davenport will provide mailing lists.

Returning Artist: Diane Davenport complimented the commissioners for their enthusiastic turn-out for the Returning Artist Series. Dan Martin requested feedback from those who attended. Julie Bianchi, Adelia Parker-Castro reported on witnessing very positive shared-learning experiences among the students, high school teachers and the Returning Artists. Diane also noted that the elementary school student very much enjoyed the "Toolboxes and Hard Hats" theme used to reinforce the dance and music vocabulary introduced. She also made teacher-packets with follow-up activities to be used once the series is over. The reception for the artists will be held at the U City High School library 7-9 pm on February 9th. A program and posters were printed for the event through the graphic arts collaboration of Washington University and University City High School students.

Sculpture Series: Marilyn Cathcart reported that the Sculpture Series kick-off reception will be held Sunday, April 3rd from 2-4. She will bring a sign-up sheet to the March meeting for commissioners to volunteer for set-up, cleanup and food donations. Tom McCarthy added that the Plexiglas sculpture originally designed for Rabe Park will be installed at the Green Center instead due to its potential disruption of the Rabe Park playing field.

Starlight Concert Series: Tom McCarthy reported Kim Chilton has only one or 2 bands left to secure for the Series.

Marketing Development: Tom McCarthy suggested UCMCAL formulate a "Request for Proposal" for various PR pieces. Joy Wade volunteered to help make an informational brochure about the work of UCMCAL.

Old Business: Barbara Santoro requested that UCMCAL be allowed to proofread future city communications that involve UCMCAL; such as the citywide calendar. Melcine Henderson, as chairwoman of "Fair U. City," reported that plans are proceeding well with lots of booth rentals. Barbara Romero will host a booth to advertize for UCMCAL. Dan Martin suggested UCMCAL provide a giveaway for its booth. Commissioners will bring suggestions to the next meeting. Trish Hayes asked if the UCMCAL would be charged to host a booth with a free activity. Melcine indicated that any booth costs will depend on the UCMCAL booth's needs. Her office hours are 11-3 Tuesday and Thursday and her office telephone number is 505-8696.

New Business: None.

Motion to adjourn: at 8:07 p.m. by Barbara Santoro, seconded by Julie Bianchi. The motion passed.