



REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION ON ARTS & LETTERS

University City Community Center

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Members Participating:

Sophia Allen, Karla Brown, Marcie Dear, Grace Fitter, Carol Jackson, Linda Jones, Richard Massey, Eleanor Mullin, Marian Reed, Charlene Temple, Larry Williams, Meg Zelenovich

Absent: A'isha Hedges, Olivia Steely

Also participating: Staff Liaison: Darin Girdler Parks and Recreation (Interim) and Public Works Director filling in for Lynda Euell-Taylor: Council Liaison, Bwayne Smotherson

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Jones.

Minutes: Motion by Ms. Brown to approve March 2024 minutes; seconded by Ms. Allen; all approved.

Presentation: Loop Walls Mural Project and Festival presented by Derek Deavers of the Loop Special Business District (LSBD) who shared murals will be painted by mostly local artists in several locations in the Loop (walls on Tivoli, Hokey Pokey, Vintage Vinyl, Mesuggah Coffee, bike racks and electric boxes) to brighten up the Loop that is currently 40% vacant. Artist Alex Jove spoke along with curator Savannah Bosler about the May painting project that will be celebrated June 1 and 2 with live music. Discussion ensued about the event, concerns with timing and art.

Citizens Comments: No Citizen Comments.

Treasurer Report: Ms. Mullin shared a report indicating the general fund and Marvin Levy fund balances. Motion by Ms. Brown to approve Treasurer Report; seconded by Ms. Dear; approved by acclimation.

Staff Liaison Report: No report. Darin Girdler introduced himself.

Council Liaison Report: Shared that Family Dollar at Midland and Olive will be gone in June. Encouraged the Commission to make recommendations to the LSBD re: the Mural festival once the mural mockups are presented and suggested that the Commission submit a budget increase request through the Parks Department. Mr. Girdler shared the next Council meeting is May 13. A budget meeting will take place the end of May, with the budget approved by July 1.

Committee Reports:

- **Calendar:** Ms. Reed
Writers in University City: theme for 2025. All materials need to be submitted by July 1. Ms. Steely, Ms. Reed and Ms. Zelenovich will meet to discuss.
- **Finance:** No Report.
- **Literary:** No Report.
- **Marketing:** Ms. Jones will post photos from the Public Art event this week.
- **Public Art:** Ms. Allen attended the Sunday, April 7th; about 40 people in attendance, the art looks good and will be removed in September.
- **Returning Artist:** No Report.
- **Starlight Concert:** Three June artists are signed. Sound is set. Signing last two September artists this week. No food to be sold due to budget. Requested a banner with advanced funds. Fast Signs has the best pricing. Mr. Massey will work on the design with Carol Ann Cole of UCSD (note: she is retiring in January of 2025); need to get the concert schedule on social media.
- **New Business:** Ms. Mullin discussed the need for storage for Delmar Harvard Mosaic Murals. Mr. Girdler suggested the library. Ms. Mullin will ask.

It was discussed that someone from the executive committee should talk with Mr. Deavers about getting requests to A&L three months prior to vote on them.

- **Old Business:**
Ms. Jones inquired if everyone had selected their two committees and submitted budgets; budget deadline extended to Sunday, April 14. Inquired if Calendar needed money, it's paid for by University City, but Ms. Reed will also check.
- **Announcements:** Ms. Fitter (orchestra teacher) shared on April 24, 2024 University City High School will be presenting their Spring Orchestra concert beginning at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment: Motion by Ms. Mullins; seconded by Ms. Reed; approved by acclamation. Meeting concluded at 8:10 pm.

