



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION ON ARTS & LETTERS OF
UNIVERSITY CITY**

University City Community Center

Thursday, November 14, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Members Participating: Sophia Allen, Karla Brown, A'isha Hedges, Carol Jackson, Linda Jones, Richard Massey, Eleanor Mullin, Rick Ruderer, Charlene Temple, Larry Williams, Meg Zelenovich

Absent: Grace Fitter, Marian Reed, Olivia Steely

Also participating: Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor and Council Liaison: John Tieman

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commission President Jones

Welcome: New Commissioner Rick Ruderer

Minutes: Motion by Mr. Ruderer to approve October 2024 minutes, seconded by Ms. Brown; one abstention, approved by majority with correction.

Presentation: Washington University 2025 Public Arts Projects. Professor Arny Nadler introduced the annual project. Six students shared their proposals. The commission voted and selected three for display in Janet Majerus Park. The six students were: Diana Hoffman, Peter Nesin, Elliott Andrew, Keren Guo, Maya Dabney and Eloise Harcourt. Nesin's "Let's Meet Here Again," Dabney's "Held in Absence," and Harcourt's "Honoring the Unseen" (for three sculptures were selected vs. six). Only three were selected due to the monies available in the Levy Fund. Budget of \$3564.02. Motion to approve the three projects by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Zelenovich, one opposed; approved by majority.

Mr. Ruderer mentioned sponsorship idea to include all six projects. Discussion ensued.

Treasurer Report: Ms. Mullin reported: General Fund Balance: \$8552.95, activity: paying Starlight concert bill (\$4737.79) literary event expenses (\$968.98) and hardware for Starlight banner frames (\$337). Levy Fund: Balance: \$10,288.91, interest activity \$6.97. Motion to approve report by Ms. Allen, seconded by Mr. Ruderer; all approved.

Ms. Jones requested physical copies of the Treasurer Report for each meeting starting with the next meeting.

Ms. Mullin also shared about her efforts with the state for the annual re-registration after receiving a notice to dissolve the Municipal Commission on Arts & Letters of University City (please note: this is the correct name for our group.)

Staff Liaison Report: Centennial Commons Recreation Facility is 99.9% open!

Council Liaison Report: Mr. Tieman spoke about new construction in University City, including Dierbergs, Subtext and a new Jewish Student Union. Also mentioned that Jeff Hales was elected Missouri State Representative, creating an opening for a Council Member from the 1st Ward. And note, Ms. Allen has a spot on the Commission for four more years.

Committee Reports:

- **Calendar:** No report.
- **Finance:** No Report.
- **Literary:** Ms. Mullin shared about the event on Sunday, October 20 in the high school library to honor Mary Jo Bang. It was poorly attended. Wondering if we need to have an event. Mr. Ruderer suggested holding it at a Council Meeting.
- **Marketing:** No report.
- **Public Art:** No report.
- **Returning Artist:** Ms. Brown shared that she needs posters. Chris Thomas, 1988 graduate and bass player, has visited the elementary school and the middle school, next the high school on November 22. The reception is set for December 2 (note new date) in the high school library from 7 to 8:30 pm. Set up will happen at 4 pm, and tear down must happen by 9 pm.
- **Starlight Concert:** Mr. Massey shared about filling out a Costco application for monies. Discussion ensued. Costco wants some name recognition. Mr. Ruderer has some contacts and will look into this process, but may be difficult as we are a municipal government. Also, QR code was mentioned, but discussion tabled until Ms. Reed returns. Next meeting the 2025 artists will be announced.
- **New Business:** Ms. Jones requested nominations for vice president position. Ms. Hedges and Mr. Ruderer nominated themselves. Ms. Hedges will be VP by a unanimous vote. Eleanor has a Square, good only with iPhones. A& L website being updated by StLCC students. If you buy items for A& L and you can get an electronic receipt, please do so.

- **Old Business:** QR code still needs to be researched by Ms. Reed, A&L binder review will happen via email, December 12: proposed date for a holiday gathering at Mi Ranchito. Also check your email.
- **Announcements:** Mr. Ruderer asked the group which committees needed help. After some discussion, he will join marketing and public art.

Adjournment: Motion by Mr. Ruderer; seconded by Mr. Williams; approved by acclamation. 9:21 pm