



**CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION ON ARTS & LETTERS
Heman Park Community Center . 975 Pennsylvania
Thursday, May 8, 2025 . 7:00 pm**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Citizens' comments: General comments may be made prior to agenda beginning. Citizens must make a written request to speak on specific agenda items as items are addressed (Note: Comments are limited to 5 minutes).
4. Treasurer/Finance Report
5. Staff Liaison Report
6. Council Liaison Report
7. Committee Reports
 - Starlight Concerts
 - Returning Artists
 - Public Art
 - Marketing
 - Literary
 - Finance
 - Calendar Art
8. New Business
 - University City School District Community Partnership Survey
 - Monthly Committee Report
9. Old Business
 - FY25-26 Budget
10. Announcements
11. Adjournment

Please Note: An attempt will be made to keep all agenda items and presentations to no longer than 10 minutes.

Enclosures: Draft of Minutes – April 10, 2025; University City School District Community Partnership Survey; Monthly Committee Report

**Please note: If you are unable to attend, please contact Staff Liaison, Lynda Euell-Taylor by or before Noon
Thursday, May 8, 2025**

314.505.8525 or 314.505.8625 or email: letaylor@ucitymo.org



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

Thursday, April 10, 2025 – 7:00 PM

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

Absent: Karla Brown

Also participating: Staff Liaison: Lynda Euell-Taylor, Council Liaison: Bwayne Smotherson

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Commission President Jones

Minutes: Motion by Ms. Hedges to approve March 2025 minutes, seconded by Mr. Ruderer; Ms. Mullins abstained; approved by acclamation.

Presentation: Loop Mural Festival artist Alex Jove provided a rough draft of art to paint on the second half of the garage on Delmar. Discussion ensued about changing the art to better blend with the current image, fire image seems out of place and a QR code was suggested to explain the art to the public. Motion by Ms. Steely to approve the art for the council view, seconded by Ms. Fitter. Approved by acclamation.

Treasurer Report: Ms. Mullin provided handouts and explained about three bank accounts: Levy Fund: \$7728.12, Main Account: \$12856.82 and New QR Code/Donation Account: \$95. Motion by Mr. Ruderer to approve Treasurer Report was seconded by Mr. Williams and approved by acclamation.

Staff Liaison Report: Ms. Euell-Taylor asked that commissioners email meeting handouts to her, to share and meetings and to keep on file.

Council Liaison Report: Mr. Smotherson guided the commissioners on handling the mural art presentation action. Suggested that art should be changed, viewed and approved by A&L in advance of the City Council's review. Discussion ensued, it was suggested that the Mural Festival provide art to A&L three months prior as described in the binder and rescind previous motion of mural art approval. Motion by Mr. Williams requesting that Mr. Jove show A&L what he will present to the Council as his final mural

art draft prior to Monday, April 21, 2025, seconded by Mr. Ruderer, approved by acclamation. Ms. Zelenovich will draft this request and add the three-month timeline for the 2026 Mural Project.

Mr. Smotherson will address Mr. Ruderer's legal inquiry regarding sponsorships.

Committee Reports:

Ms. Jones made a motion to move the Starlight Report to the ending of the reports, seconded by Mr. Ruderer, approved by acclamation.

- **Returning Artist:** Ms. Fitter reported: dancer Andrea Peoples is secured as the 2025 Returning Artist.
- **Public Art:** Ms. Allen reported the Sunday Public Art event was nice. Ms. Euell-Taylor suggested always having a contingency plan for events for weather and the like, therefore in the future put the Community Center or Centennial Commons meeting space on hold. Ms. Allen offered her paperwork for future grant help.
- **Marketing:** No report.
- **Literary:** Ms. Mullins is working on a list of candidates for the next event.
- **Finance:** No Report.
- **Calendar:** Ms. Zelenovich shared calendar theme: U. City Fun Facts: Did U Know? And requested A&L event photos.
- **Starlight Concert:** Mr. Massey shared the artist contracts with Ms. Mullin, discussed that the out-of-own artist has a connection to St. Louis, budgeting is confusing as the concerts happen between fiscal years. Mr. Smotherson will work to clarify the budget. Motion by Mr. Ruderer for Ms. Mullin to sign the contracts and pay the out-of-town artist the deposit, seconded by Ms. Steely. Ms. Temple abstained, approved by acclamation.
- **New Business:** Ms. Jones asked that commissioners to share by way of the A&L email address (ucityartsandletters@gmail.com) any ideas outside of the realm of what we currently do.
- **Old Business:** None.
- **Announcements:** Ms. Fitter shared two upcoming high school free concerts on April 23 and 30.

Adjournment: Motion by Ms. Allen; seconded by Mr. Ruderer; approved by acclamation.

...draft...



April 17, 2025

Dear Community Partner,

The School District of University City is partnering with the City Connects program to develop a system to enhance support for University City students and provide out-of-school support and enrichment opportunities. The goal of City Connects is to strengthen the connections between students and community resources like those you offer, ultimately connecting the right student to the right services.

An important step in building this new program is to learn from our valued partners in the community about what you see as the challenges, strengths, and needs of schools in the community. This is a friendly reminder to complete this confidential survey—your voice is critical to this process. You can access the survey using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/UCityCommunitySurvey>

Individual responses will not be shared with anyone at the district. We would appreciate your response by April 25, 2025.

**In Service of Our Children,
Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, PhD, PHR
Superintendent of Schools**

The School District of University City would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact The School District of University City directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.



**CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION ON ARTS & LETTERS
Monthly Committee Report
(Once report is presented, please forward to Secretary)**

For the month of _____ **Year** _____

Committee - check appropriate box

- ☐ Calendar Art
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Literary
- ☐ Marketing
- ☐ Public Art
- ☐ Returning Artists
- ☐ Starlight Concerts

Committee Members: _____

Our committee would like to report to the Commission the following:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____