

Study Session of the Municipal Commission on Arts and Letters
City of University City
February 1, 2014
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President Adelia Parker-Castro called the meeting to order at 12:05. Other Members present were Garrie Burr, Frederick Fehr, Melcine Henderson, Barbara Romero, Mary Dee Schmidt, Winnie Sullivan, Charlotte Tatum, Bonnie Tesson, Joy Wade and Kay Watts

Lynda Euell-Taylor, Staff Liaison

Absent: Ann Cortinovic, Audrey Jones, Bobette Patton, Susan Hacker Stang

President Parker-Castro announced Roberts Rules of order would be dispensed with during this session and that no voting on issues could occur at this session.

Summary: A round table discussion took place regarding the number of events that the Commission currently is involved in presenting. A discussion was centered on exploring what if any events should be eliminated. A lively discussion occurred about what events could be moved to another time of the year Ms. Sullivan reminded the group of our goal to see if each event fulfills the mission of the commission. Ms. Romano and Ms. Wade discussed the Photo Show and the date and why it should be maintained at its current time. The deadline for the Photo Show is March 25. A discussion of how to improve attendance and participation occurred. Photo show participant who live outside of University City will be sent calendars. Ms. Sullivan stressed the importance of a literary event and reminded the group that the Lit in the Lou is currently just for 2014. Ms. Watts encouraged Commissioners to attend the Returning Artist Events and the upcoming reception for Sandy Weltman. In summary there was a general concurrence that all of our current events should be maintained and that at least for the time being they should be maintained in their current calendar date.

Staff Liaison Lynda Euell-Taylor presented copies of the proposed budget FY14-15 Budget to the group. She explained that the money is funneled into the Centennial Commons budget, but that she know how much of the budget is for Arts and Letters

President Adelia Parker-Castro distributed a document entitled Arts and Civic Engagement for review and discussion. A discussion was sparked about looking at the ways that our events engage and better our community. There was discussion about ways to improve the engagement and relationship between Washington University and the City of University City. There was discussion about publicity and the need to have updates on our website as needed. It was determined that each event needs to develop a way to evaluate itself and perhaps construct and evaluation tool. This evaluation should be related to the Mission of the Commission

Meeting was concluded at 1:40.