

City of Athens Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2022, 5:30 pm
Athens City Council Chambers

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The members in attendance are Brandon Thompson, Travis Gatling, Ash Allanson, Andrea Lewis, Rebecca Dillon, Daniel Brown, Director Kathrine Ann Jordan, and Councilmember Alan Swank.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – No additions were made, and the agenda stands as approved.
3. **Approval of April Minutes** – No minutes were up for approval
4. **Old Business** – No old business was discussed
5. **New Business**
 - a. Welcome New Members! – Old members of the board were asked to introduce themselves, their interests in being on the board, and to talk about their interests in the community.
 - i. Ash Allanson, Rebecca Dillon, Andrea Lewis – New members of the board were asked to introduce themselves, their interests in being on the board, and to talk about their interests in the community.
 - b. Nominating Committee needed for Next Committee Member – Chairman Thompson informed the board that Member Gatling will be resigning from the board and a nominating committee will need to be created to review new member applications.
 - c. AMAC/APR Member Meeting Attendance – Chairman Thompson informed the board that AMAC is looking for a liaison between the two boards. Chairman Thompson suggested for multiple people to go to the AMAC meetings for more input or one person could be designated at the designated person to attend the meetings. Member Dillon expressed some interest in being the member to attend the AMAC meetings.
 - d. June/Meeting Date Change? AMAC Third Thursday events – Chairman Thompson made the suggestion to move the recreation advisory boards to a different date to avoid the AMAC events and better availability for Director Jordan. Members of the board decided to move the meeting to 4:30 on the third Thursday of the month.
 - e. 5 Year Plan Committee Plan – Chairman Thompson wanted to discuss the goals of the board and to create a plan which could help keep the board on course. Councilmember Swank talked about the retreat he attended in November of 2019 and the goals of that retreat. He advised the board that those plans have been sitting on the shelf and would be a good way to start the process of creating a

5-year plan again. Chairman Thompson expressed his support for creating a 5-year plan because it would help keep out outline of what the board wishes to accomplish and also helps separate the goals of ARAB and AMAC. Chairman Thompson would also like to work with the Mayor and City Council to find out what they want to see from the Recreation Advisory Board.

- f. Community Engagement Plan – Chairman Thompson suggested to find a plan to gather community engagement and connect the community with the board. Member Gatling had the idea to promote the meeting more and invite community members to come speak at the meetings. Member Dillon likes the idea of moving the meetings to different locations around the city to get closer to community members.

6. Other Items – no other items were discussed.

7. APR Staff Report – Director Jordan gave an update on the Skatepark repairs. Director Jordan gave an update on staffing for the pool and the training for new lifeguards. The health department has inspected the facilities and the City passed inspection. The pickleball courts and tennis court project bid documents are being reviewed. Director Jordan is working with Ohio University and has come to an agreement for a right-of-entry for soccer fields. Councilmember swank asked about pool staffing and an opening date for the pool. Director Jordan will release the information next week. Chairman Thompson asked about the timeline for the pickleball court project and what the process looks like. Director Jordan walked through the process and hopes to be able to move forward with construction in late summer.

8. Reminders: Next Meeting – June 16th, 2022, 5:30 pm

9. Adjournment – Chairman Thompson Adjourned the meeting at 6:23 PM.