AGENDA

ATHENS COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023 AT 9:00 AM

1. **Disposition of Minutes:**

   - 1. Review September 28th meeting notes

2. **Old Business**

   - a. Recap of October welcome event
     b. By-law review
     c. Follow up on ACRC support of LGBTQ community
     d. Planning for Food for Thought and/or other community engagement
     e. Update on middle and high schools anti-racism work

3. **New Business**

   - a. Leadership transition
     b. Membership
     c. 2024 activities/events

4. **Adjournment**

The City of Athens supports the Americans with Disabilities Act. Requests for reasonable accommodation may be made with the ADA Coordinator in the City Building or by calling 592-3367.

Athens Community Relations Commission
September 1, 2023 | 9:00am
Athens Library | Small Meeting Room
Meeting Notes

Present: Jay Mattson (potential member), Rachel Siegel, Lacey Rogers, Raymie McKerrow, John Schmieding, Kristyn Neckles (by phone), Rebecca Robison-Miller

1. Review July minutes
   Motion by Rachel to approve and Raymie seconded

2. Membership discussion
   Welcome Jay Mattson who is interested in joining. Jay was previously a member of the commission.
   Izze Kaukonen is still interested in joining.

3. Old business
   a. Report on status of activities at Athens High and Middle schools
      AHS: Starting anti-racism class next week. Two recent AHS will be the facilitators.

      AMS: Programming for this year is still being discussed but likely similar to last year when Ohio University student actors present scenarios for discussion. The proposed start time is within the next month with programming running 3-4 weeks.

      There was an incident recently when a child was assaulted on a school bus after using racial slurs. There was a video that was released and circulated. Discussion ensued about offering varying layers of support and processing. It was also suggested that small group processing for the students on the bus could be provided to discuss alternative solutions and bystander education. Rachel is going to reach out to AMC principal, John Rogers about this.

      Members discussed wanting to be more of a resource to the schools and that a standard engagement and communication process with the schools, especially when incidents occur could be beneficial.

   b. Follow up on ACRC support of LGBTQ community
      Take Action Athens: The commission would like to ACRC support and amplify the work.
      There is a lot of unpaid work being done by a small group of people and resources should be considered and advocated for. This will be discussed more next month.

4. New business
   a. Planning for Food for Thought and/or other community engagement
   b. Lacey and Micah are working with Tom Gibbs on a welcome event for new community members, this is not necessarily just for ACSD families. This could possibly be tied into the Food for Thought event. The ACRC could potentially support this event logistically

and financially. Lacey will get more information and follow up about how the commission can assist.

5. Set fall meeting times

   Last Thursdays of the month at 9:00am at the library.
   September 28th
   October 26th
   November 30th