

Athens Community Relations Commission
November 30, 2023 | 9:00am
Athens Library Small Meeting Room
Meeting Notes

Present: Raymie McKerrow, Rachel Siegel, Lacey Rogers, John Schmieding, Rebecca Robison-Miller

1. Review September 28th meeting notes

Rebecca will amend the notes to include last names. Rachel approved and Raymie seconded.

2. Old business:

- a. **Recap of October welcome event:** Lacey reported there were 100+ people that sparked lots of good discussion. More intention will be give to reach out to new people in town. There is possible opportunity to partner with OHIO to find new folks. They will continue to work with the schools to promote as well and further develop the marketing strategies.
- b. **By-law review:**
Discussed and reviewed by laws and mission statement. Approval will be done via email once the newest version is reviewed.
Rebecca will send mission for review/
- c. **Follow up on ACRC support of LGBTQ community:** PRISM needs a new home. Lacey is reviewing options within walking distance of AMS. John suggested that if space needs to be paid for that ACRC can support this. Lacey is looking for new artists as well. More specific support will be prioritized for the January meeting.
- d. **Planning for Food for Thought and/or other community engagement:** This will be discussed in January.
- e. **Update on middle and high schools anti-racism work:** Additional marketing efforts are needed to recruit new and more students. Current students have ideas to visit academic coaching classes. John, Lacey and Rachel will talk with the students about this on December 1st.

3. New business:

- a. **Leadership transition:** Rachel is interested in chairing or co-chairing with Rebecca. This will be discussed further.
- b. **Support and resources for Lacey Rogers as City of Athens DIEA Coordinator:** Tis will be discussed in January.
- c. **Membership:** The commission needs new members. Lacey will check in about city employees participating. Rebecca has someone she will ask also.
- d. **2024 activities/events:** For discussion in January.
- e. John suggested we get a table for the MLK breakfast. Rebecca will check the cost.
- f. Rachel suggested we use funds to buy stickers, hoodies, or other swag to promote the AMS Better Bystander program. Members were supportive, we will revisit this in January.

4. January meeting date: January 11th at 9am at the Athens library, open meeting space

