

AMAC meeting minutes for August 9, 2023

5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Arts/West

132 West State Street

Athens, Ohio 45701

In attendance: Kelee Reisbeck, Kate Federoff, Dave Telega, Jeff Risner, Erin Helms(standing in for KatherineAnn), Devin Sudman, Nancy Epling

Regrets: Andrew Chiki, KatherineAnn, Holly Ittel

Guests: Matt Starkey, Tina Wilson, Chelsa Morahan-Peters

Call to Order: Lee Reisbeck, 5:30pm

Legislative updates: Jeff Risner

- Council is back from recess. Main conversations about financials, nothing to report about the arts.

- Lady justice finally made her way back up above the court house. Hopeful renewal of brick work and other aspects that will have access to the public in front of the courthouse (Nelsonville/Athens brick, live tree for holidays, seating, etc).

Minutes from June 14, 2023 AMAC meeting for approval

- Motion to move for name correction: Lee name change, approval. Approved.

Route 33 Underpass Mural project: Guest Matt Starkey, PIO/Community Events Coordinator, Athens County Children's Services

- The mural idea started between the history center and the director of Children's Center, to commemorate the old children's home before the highway came through. They want to recognize the history and ongoing support. First step was to contact ODOT, they have approved this work.
- Two finalists have been narrowed down for the mural work, hope is to install this fall once green lit from city and odot. Perhaps there is funding from Andy/Mayor to do the other side of the underpass?
- Hope is to put spotlights underneath to help assist with aesthetics, open to consulting with the artist. Maybe use the same artist to keep it consistent?
- AMAC would be involved in the part 2 of the project since it would be a city funded project.
- Might be the biggest mural in SE Ohio? Letter of support for AMAC, Mayor, County Commissioners to show the public support along with MOU from city (for upkeep). Kelee mentioned that there should be a moment for the artist to speak about the process/public art. Matt shared the potential images for the mural with the commission. 216ft long by 23ft tall.

Public Projects:

- ACAMF (Aug. 12): Kelee Riesbeck
 - It's happening! Begins at 11am, ends at 11pm.
 - AMAC recommends that in the future the city writes a grant to support ASL for the program. They did for 2023 and got the funding.
 - Kelee stated that Scott Winland and his team feel they have the event under control and they may need minor AMAC support in the future.
 - Kelee is interested in a debrief with Scott. What can we do better/what is good/etc.

- Fire Headquarters - Percent for Art update: Kelee Riesbeck for Holly Ittle
 - Final RFP's need to be submitted by August 1st. We do not have access to form at this time to see how many submissions have been entered.
 - The sense is that we are going to extend the deadline. The committee will be in touch with AMAC with details on extending the deadline, etc. The goal is to have 7 projects installed on-site, so it is preferred that we have more than 7 submissions to review.

Other Projects:

- Athens City Mural audit and enhancement: Kelee Riesbeck and David Telega
 - Will be submitting to Map Athens and they are adding it to their agenda. A form has been created to help collect this information. David is taking pictures and Kelee is gaining info, from there will send to AMAC for review, and then passed over for website submission. Giving themselves a year to get this first goal completed.

Arts West / APRD Update: Erin Helms - Assistant Director of Arts, Parks, & Recreation

- ARTS/West Operating hours have been majorly adjusted as they navigate the transition from Emily to the new program specialist. A building supervisor is in the building who covers those hours.
- Application has been open for Program Specialist, civil service exam was given last Friday, response was overwhelming.
- Deep cleaning/painting/purging of materials from ARTS/West. Locks have also been updated. In addition, Fiber Optic cable has been installed, just not yet live to the building.
- Family Maps & updated Signs are being installed at ARTS/West
- Potentially working with schools to update the signage out front of the building, working with Beth Braun.
- Programming:
 - The School of Music (Cadet String Class) is coming to the space.
 - A few dance classes are being offered in the fall.
 - Oct/Nov events are being scheduled (mugs, ceramics, cookies)
 - OU Fine Arts Gallery is being installed by Chelsea Norton
 - Lost Flamingo Company and Tantrum Middle School Drama Club will be using the space for rehearsals and/or performances.
 - More Fall Programming TBD

Meet Tina Wilson: AMAC commissioner candidate

- Moved to the Athens area in 1998. Background is in music, and was also a radio announcer with NPR. Has taught music and general education in the local schools. Wants to be on the commission because she believes the arts are incredibly important.
- Athens County Board of DD - Integrate Athens, has been with them for 10 years up until retiring a year ago.
- Diversity and Inclusion is super important to her. Also did Leadership Athens County program.

Announcements and other business

- Candidate discussion
 - Motion to approve and recommend Tina Willison for the last seat of AMAC beginning whenever City Council has room in their agenda.
 - Nancy Seconds: All in favor: Unanimously

- CivicPlusPlatform: Issues with Kate registration. All commissioners need to login and get access. This is a way to keep the work we do transparent to the community. Kelee: Questions If a reporter were wanting to get info, what is that process? Jeff: Need to go through the right channels, cannot be an unlimited request.

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn: Devin, Kate 2nd, All in favor
- Meeting ended at 6:58pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 5:30-7:00 PM at Arts/West