

Athens Community Relations Commission  
October 31, 2024 | 1:00pm  
Athens Library  
Meeting Notes

Members present in bold: **Juli Goodman**, Natalie Johnson, Raymie McKerrow, Abigail Otchill, **Rebecca Robison-Miller, John Schmieding, Rachel Siegel**  
City Council liaison: Micah Carey  
City of Athens DEI & A Coordinator: Lacey Rogers

\*Make change to September notes

1. Reading of land acknowledgement - Rebecca
2. Review September meeting notes: It was suggested that any motions need to include language that they were passed pr not. Rachel made a motion that the notes be approved, Juli seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.
3. Rebecca amended the agenda to include bias report review.
4. Old business:
  - a. Discrimination reporting updates – Further discussion about changing the bylaws to incorporate DEI&A/city designee to be part of the bias and discrimination reporting process and review. This will be further discussed at the December meeting.
  - b. Anti-racism meetings/planning/advisory board updates – Lacey not able to attend today but no updates as far as present members are aware. The last update that was received was that the group is looking for an extended time to have deeper conversation.
  - c. Membership recruitment – One person has indicated interest. Recruitment was discussed keeping diverse representation in mind.
  - d. Community welcome event-Very aligned with CRC mission. Commission perspective was positive, city and school perspective would be appreciated. The commission will ask Lacey for an update at the December meeting. It was suggested that in the future volunteers could serve as “minglers” to help people feel included.
5. New Business:
  - a. Bias and discrimination report review-No reports to review.
  - b. 2025 event/priorities ideas:
    - Promoting reporting process and amplify messaging to the public about incidents.
    - Create infinity groups based on identity/experience/interests.
    - Review trends to identify group and education opportunities.
    - Support for housing initiatives.
    - Support/education around political polarization.

c. 2025 events:

- MLK Day – January 20<sup>th</sup> - ACRC pay for a table
- International Street Fair – April
- Juneteenth – June date TBD
- Athens Pride – June date TBD
- ACSD Welcome Event- Fall date TBD

Volunteers and activities for these events will be identified at the December meeting. Suggestions for activities/purpose of tabling: Share resources, encourage reporting, inclusivity tile making at the December meeting. Volunteers identified will be discussed as well.

6. Next meeting: December 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the Athens library. Jan 29<sup>th</sup> will be the first meeting of 2025.
7. John made a motion, Juli seconded, and approved by consensus to adjourn the meeting.