

AMAC meeting minutes

Jan. 8, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Arts/West 132 West State Street
Athens, Ohio 45701

In attendance: Devin Sudman, Tina Wilson, David Telega, Kelee Riesbeck, Andrew Chiki

Regrets: Holly Ittel, Katherine Ann Jordan, Kate Fetterolf, Jeff

Call to order at 5:30 pm at Arts/West

Review minutes from the November 13, 2024 meeting

Tina Moves, David Second, APPROVED

Legislative updates

- Jeff Risner and Andrew Chiki
 - Council has passed a budget, and soon the city will be able to begin operations (purchases, etc)
 - Andrew has asked that AMAC had funds to attend the Governor's Awards for the Arts, Printing for MapAthens, and honorarium for the Poet Laureate. They have been approved.
 - Kelee brings up that Holly has an unexpired term with AMAC. We have an opening for the vice chair. She asks if we have any volunteers.
 - David notes that he is interested in vice-chair if nobody else is open to it. Devin is interested in it, but someone would need to step into the role of Secretary.
 - Devin, David, and Nancy have their term end this year.
 - Devin is interested in continuing his service, but David is not.

Public Projects

- Kelee Riesbeck Tina Wilson: Sculpture Park opening
 - Three sculptures have been installed, two are waiting to be installed, and some look a bit fragile.
 - Kelee notes that maybe we can have some signs about 'please don't touch the art'
 - David asks if there is any surveillance on the sculptures. Andrew says, yes.
 - Andrew notes that we are about 80% done with the installation of the commission pieces. He said there is about a day's worth of work to finish the two remaining installations. There was a rogue sculpture installation on the cement pads by a CoFA professor. Fire department stated that the pieces were not safe and a danger to the public. Andrew reached out to the professor to remove them (there was a misunderstanding on the installation) and the professor has not responded yet.
 - Kelee notes that she can connect Andrew with the Chair of the Department to get a connection. She believes it is not the best optics for the city to remove student art without proper channels of communication.
 - Andrew says that they DO want to work with the university on art installations, but what is there now is not safe and there is not an agreement in place.
 - Andrew asks what are the next steps for the Sculpture Park. We have additional pads.

- How many do we want to work with OU/Hocking/Students? How do we go about selecting/rejecting/advertising/etc?
 - We need to create a procedure/process for when we want to change out the art.
- Kelee asks what happened with the opening party plans for October. We can use the same plans for when we will do our new event. We currently don't have a date set for the new event. TBD
 - Devin notes that International Sculpture Day is in April.
- Athens City Mural audit and enhancement: David Telega and Kelee Riesbeck
 - Progress is being made, they have walked the paths. Make sure that we have language about accessibility.
 - Kelee notes that they have additional ideas on how to expand on the project (voice reading, website additions, etc)
 - Recommendations have been made from the Accessibility Commission, AMAC is taking them into consideration. David noted that we could make a disclaimer that those who produced this are not experts in accessibility and cannot guarantee and challenges.
- Art Outside the Box project: Tina Wilson, Kate Fetterolf
 - All have been sent over to Nancy Stevens at mApp Athens.
 - Tina wants to make a designation for walkable (blue square) vs driveable (yellow square).
 - Kate is not in attendance, but Tina notes that we have not heard from Nancy since around Thanksgiving.
- Athens Poet Laureate: Tina Wilson
 - Met with the current Poet Laureate before the holidays to generate ideas and names. Tina has about five people ready to serve on the ad hoc committee to begin the process of finding the next PL.
 - Noted that Stephanie said that the payment process is a bit difficult from her perspective. Tina relayed the message to Andrew.
 - Andrew will look into this to see if there is anything that can be done on his end to help.
 - Kelee said that Arts/West is available for the committee to meet at. Also noted that we need to release to the city that we are looking for the next APL.
- Art in City Spaces Project: Nancy Epling and Kate Fetterolf
 - Kate and Nancy are not in attendance for updates.

Arts West / APRD Update: Katherine Ann Jordan

- The performance floor should be completed with clean-up and trim today! Y'all check it out tonight!
- The sculpture RFP is out and I re-posted it today. We haven't had any submissions, but we've made it into the local newspapers and it's on the OAC's website for individual artist opportunities. Please share with your contacts as well.
- FamJam 25 is happening on January 25th @ the community center from 6-8 pm. There will be dancing, food, and a silent disco area as well - this is a family friendly event.

Announcements and other business

- None to note

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn Tina, Seconded by David, APPROVED

Meeting ends at 6:45 pm

Next Meeting: Feb. 12, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM, Arts/West