

AMAC meeting minutes

Feb 12, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM

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

In attendance: Kelee Reisbeck, Jeff Risner, David Telega, Kate F., Tina Wilson.

Guests: Adam West, Micah McCarey

Regrets: Nancy Epling, Andrew Chiki

- Called to order by Kelee at 5:31pm, at Arts/West

Legislative updates

- Jeff Risner
 - Budget: what AMAC projects have been approved?
 - Athens Arts & Music Festival and the Printing of the Mural Walk, and to go to the Ohio Governor's Awards for the Arts on May 28th.
 - Sculpture Park progress update
 - Kate had a question about the platforms that are installed for the sculpture park, and is raising concerns about the safety of the pieces and if it is too late for changes. Kelee had mentioned that the ad hoc committee had thought of those points before the final decisions were made.
 - Kelee had noted that maybe we need to advocate for a maintenance check of the sculptures and art pieces in the city. Kate is arguing for future placement of sculptures.
 - Kelee had mentioned that there is still work that needs done to get the final art installations. Once they are done, we are hopeful for a March opening reception. Perhaps we can get the city to do an announcement on International Sculpture Day.
 - Jeff mentions that at the last council meeting that the mayor is going to be doing some rehabilitation work on a bridge over Rt. 33. He would like to have a 'Welcome to Athens' sign installed (on both sides), and suggested maybe some sort of art installation made by local artists. This is just a proposal at the moment, no timeline.

Review, discuss, and move to approve or update minutes from the Jan 8, 2024 meeting.

- Motion to approve minutes: Tina, Second: David, Approved: Unanimous

AMAC Admin

- Updates
 - Nancy Epling has submitted a letter of resignation to AMAC noting that she will be leaving Athens in the beginning of May. This opens another immediate seat for AMAC.
 - We need 2 people to fill seats that live in the city limits because our bylaws state that we have met our fill on townships.
 - We need to make sure that the vice chair is open, and Devin is interested in stepping in. David is open to filling the role of secretary for the time being.
 - Tina nominates Devin to be the Vice Chair. All vote in favor. Motion Passes
 - Jeff notes that Devin will be a great vice Chair.
 - Kelee nominates David as Secretary. All vote in favor.
 - Jeff notes that David will be a great Secretary

Public Projects

- Kelee Riesbeck Tina Wilson: Sculpture Park opening
 - See legislative updates.
- Athens City Mural audit and enhancement: David Telega and Kelee Riesbeck
 - ADA disclaimer language for printed Mural Walk 1: David
 - David notes that we can have the city law office approve language. Once language is approved we will get it to Andrew and get a budget approved for printing.
 - If the City prints the maps, AMAC will distribute them (ACCVB, hotels, etc.)
 - Kelee wanted to know if we have to print from a certain company. Jeff and Micah note that there isn't any specification, just the submission of an invoice.
 - Devin noted that maybe we can integrate/advertise it with the Athens Community Music & Arts Festival.
- Art Outside the Box project: Tina Wilson, Kate Fetterolf
 - Posted to mAppAthens yet?
 - Kate noted that we have not been able to get updates from mAppAthens.
 - Kelee notes that maybe we put a pause on this project until we have capacity.

Arts Parks & Recreation

- Updates:
 - Carpeted walls on the stage, Dairy Barn has donated their old gallery walls. Labor crew is making legs for them so that the performance space can become a true gallery space.
 - Accepting submissions for "Taste of Athens" Exhibitions. This is a freeform submission, the language is specifically vague so that people with connections to Athens can submit. All sales will be handled by the artist, the city will not take a commission.
 - Kelee asks if a member of AMAC can be a member of the Ad Hoc committee for the selection of the art.
 - Adam is looking for grant funding for other projects.
 - Community Studio is in progress. A space for socializing and gathering. Purchased materials for people to just drop in for co-creation. Wants to grow this to a recurring event twice a month and each event they can have a spotlight artist that is conversation based. Open to asking Dairy Barn and Majestic to host on the off weeks so that there is a weekly event.
 - Strings class with ACMS has grown to 18 students! Next semester they are hoping to increase their attendance due to having a consistent schedule.
 - 25th Anniversary Call for Artists ended on Monday, we have six submissions.
 - Kelee asks if they want to extend the submission date. Adam noted that they would most likely like to have this installed by the end of this year.
 - Devin noted that he will reach out and get a meeting on the books to get this rolling.

New Business

- Athens Poet Laureate: Tina Wilson
 - Updates on getting the word out, convening ad hoc selection committee
 - Councilmember McCrarey has joined us to talk about this position. Stephanie Kendrick has written a poem about Athens and she read it to the council. Wendy McVicker said that she would also be delighted to read a poem for the council. He is questioning if there will be a new Poet Laureate soon.

- Kelee noted that they normally are seated for two years, however extensions have been made due to COVID. Stephanie agreed to extend her term for one year while we figure out the next laureate.
- City Council Athens 2040 Plan - Council Member Micah McCarey
 - [Athens Ohio 2040 Plan](#) was created in 2020 and is working on being updated.
 - 9 Goals are listed, are we in line with them? Do they relate to us?
 - Support Athens Community arts & music festival
 - Armory Park should be value added.
 - Athens Art Calendar should be integrated into City Source App
 - *INSERT OTHERS*
 - Micah noted that there is a missing artistic representative to discuss any updates for this. The plan calls for a formal update every 5 years. We can review the existing document and suggest changes to these newly established groups.
 - AMAC may suggest that we have our own goals, and want our own page in the new guide.
 - AMAC can suggest questions to this new commission that will be included in the new evaluation.
- Art in City Spaces Project: Nancy Epling and Kate Fetterolf
 - Update
 - This project has been put on hold until we add our new commissioners.

Arts West / APRD Update: Katherine Ann Jordan

Announcements and other business

- Adjourn
 - Motion to end meeting: Jeff, Second: David. All in Favor. Adjourned at 7pm.
- Next Meeting: March 12, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM, Arts/West