

Athens Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
12/19/24

Athens City Council Chambers

- I. **Call to Order:** Established Quorum, Megan Russell
 - In attendance: Megan Russell (Chair), Annie Valeant (Co-Chair), Anne L'Heureux, Stuart Goldsberry (Secretary), Katherine Anne Jordan (Rec. Director), Alan Swank (Council Rep.) – NP, Emily Guseman, John Leite - NP
- II. **Establish Quorum:** Quorum Established
- III. **Additions to the Agenda:** Annie – Motion, Emily - Approved
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Emily – Motion, Stuart - Approved
- V. **New business:**
 - Connected the Arts Ad Hoc committee
 - Sponsorship Ad Hoc committee – Erin
 - Joshua Tree Landscaping – Joshua
 - 324 Bricks to sell
 - Work on price point - ??
 - Stones for seating
 - Landscaping done late spring/early summer

VI. **Continuing business:**

- New member recruitment:
 1. One member must be within county.
 2. When posted put 1/31/25 as deadline for application.

VII. **APR Staff Report Updates:** (Report from Katherine Ann (KA))

- Sells Park – working with TSW Design on a site design to include parking, restroom, extended ADA path, dock in pond, amphitheater, shelter house/pavilion, and overall entrance enhancement...PRO BONO!
- Expecting a facility design in late summer/early fall – they are a new company looking to grow, out of Lexington, KY.

- **Department Happenings:**

1. Will work on Strategic Planning in 2025! Working with Mission Met who are coming up with a 3 year plan.

2. **Special Events:**

1. Scavenger hunt went well – 15-20 kids+ parents; planning another one – 12/7 – really cold but went well.
2. Community Center 25th anniversary planning.
3. Fam Jam Jan. 25th (6-8pm) – partnering with DSACO to provide Silent Disco!

3. **Programming:**

1. Basketball lined up with coaches, officials, and instructors! – ready to start.
2. Expanding Community Center operating hours!
 - Open 6-9pm M-F; 8-7 Sat; keeping Sunday the same – begins January 6th.
3. December: Winter Mileage challenge; New Year New You Membership Drive; Santa Mailbox
4. Adult Fitness Programs
5. Open futsal; open volleyball; open pickleball; open basketball
6. Pre-k; before/after care
7. Youth futsal, late night futsal and women's futsal
8. BB registration
9. Backpacking clinic free to community
10. Working through bringing back drop-in child service for parents wanting to use our facility
11. 25th anniversary gallery – collecting pictures and stories of memories

4. **Arts:**

1. LFTC scheduled shows for spring
2. Working on Art for public restrooms
3. Planning gallery – Adam working with gallery and staff

5. Parks:

1. Camp Rotan – need to get cabin state inspected to get electricity connected again
2. Pilot Controlled Deer Archery Program – ongoing
3. AEDs - working through purchasing and receiving donation from Athens Has Heart!
4. Parking passes for off-campus parking will go on sale early January
5. Pool Revenue – Up \$40k from year before; down by \$65k from previous year.

6. Things to be thinking about:

1. 20 year anniversary of Arts West in 2026

7. Budget 2025:

1. Ordinance approved
2. Big things we hope we can accomplish in 2025
 - New and accessible shelter house at Highland Park
 - Gravel parking area near West Side Gardens that will serve gardeners, overflow parking for WSSP events, and general users of the park
 - Continued Skate Park overhaul
 - Replacement of hoop motors, winch, cables, and safety straps on front half of gym
 - Office space and storage space upstairs in community center
 - Floor replacement in childcare, conference, and weight rooms

8. Projects Updates:

1. 25th anniversary sculpture in the front of the community center – late spring/early summer
2. Call for proposals is out; will push out again after holidays
3. Worked with Joshua Tree Landscaping to finalize the design; will get contract in place in January and hardscaping will hopefully be completed by later spring/early summer
 - Shrubs and English Ivy will be removed this winter
 - Estimated 324 donor bricks that we will need to sell – how much? (need target)
 - i. Ad Hoc committee – how much to sell the bricks for?

9. West State Street Park:

1. New restrooms – under contract with CXT for pre-fab restrooms; received plans from CXT, waiting on engineered stamps – on way to state for approval.
 - We will work on site plans and preparation for the building install – June install timeline
2. Ordering a communication board for playground

3. New agility piece and dog bag dispenser ordered for dog park

10. Community Center:

1. Waiting on new lockers
2. Working on Pre-K playground repairs/replacements; will remove 1 slide in 2025

11. Arts West:

1. Performance space is getting new oak floor – laying and sanding this week

12. Sells Park:

1. Tree removal on dam is complete

13. Skatepark:

1. Moved to 2025

VIII. Announcement/Feedback

- No new announcements
- Patty thank you and congratulations on her retirement.

IX. Next Meeting: 1/16/25 @ 5:30 (same place)

X. Adjournment

- Stuart Goldsberry
- Annie Valeant - Second