

AMAC & RAB Joint meeting agenda  
May 14, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM  
Location: Arts/West

**In attendance:**

Kelee Reisbeck, Devin Sudman, Andrew Chiki, Jeff Risner, David Telega, Kate Ferrerolf, Tina Wilson, Mateo Galvano, Megan Russell, Katherine Ann Jordan, Annie Valeant, Emily Guseman, Stuart Goldsberry, Pete the Dog.

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.

**AMAC agenda items**

Review, discuss, and move to approve or update the minutes from the April 9, 2025 meeting.  
- Move to approve minutes: Devin, Second: Kate, Approved: Unanimous

**Legislative updates**

● Andrew Chiki,

- Mateo Galvano: No issues are anticipated in Mateo being accepted into AMAC. Appointment is expected at the next City Council meeting.

- Armory: The Armory is close to completion, perhaps by mid-July. The storefront construction is scheduled for completion in early July, so mid-July is cutting it close. There are 7 funding sources for the project. The upper level will be occupied by the anchor tenant, Athens Co Foundation. The main floor will be multi-use / multiple purpose space. The lower level will be shared working spaces managed by Blue Dot. A Space/Facility Manager employment opportunity is open. Andrew is open to offering tours of the Armory afternoons – 12:30 – 2:00.

Discussion/Feedback:

- Stuart – Will rental spaces be retail or office? Office.
- Mateo – Will there be allocated artist studio spaces? Not specifically, but office space could be rented for art studio purposes.

AMAC Admin:

● AMAC Commissioner By-law Change: Kelee Riesbeck

-Commissioner Appointment By-laws: Currently, 4 commissioners must be from within the city limits, and 3 from the township, but all 7 can be from the city. Currently, all 3 township seats are taken, yet others from the township want to serve but are unable. Is the best way forward to open up and expand commissioner residency requirements? Kelee met with the City Law Director and others in order to understand the process and procedure for a city code change. At this point, the feasibility of such a city code change is being looked into.

Discussion/Feedback:

- Mateo suggested flipping the 4/3 city/township mix to 3/4.
- Does RAB have the same board member residency requirements?  
Andrew – There was an alignment across boards and commissions

approximately 3 years ago which may complicate issues. Meaning, if there were a change w/ AMAC, there would need to be changes in the other commissions and boards. The issue is code alignment and possible resultant conflicts.

- Kate: The residency requirement is a problem because we don't have enough people to take on projects such as the Art in City Spaces Project
- Kelee: It doesn't seem as difficult/impossible as before.

- Status of Mateo's candidacy: Kelee Riesbeck

Mateo's candidacy will be reviewed at the City Council Meeting next Monday. No issues are anticipated.

## **Public Projects**

- Sculpture Park

- Opening Ceremony - Tina – The event was wonderful. Four of the sculpture artists were present. Pictures were taken and sent out. About 50 – 60 people attended resulting in an resounding success.

- Available Pad Spaces - Kelee – There are two open sculpture pads available. Perhaps The City could collaborate with OU's sculpture / art people.

- Andrew – There are additional pads open and more can be built later. Regarding OU collaboration, The City will need to establish policies and procedures for removal of artwork, adding more sculptures, sculpture repair, amongst other related considerations such as delineating the responsibilities and duties of parties involved.

- Sculpture Plaques - Kelee – What about them? Andrew – They will happen at some point. Plaques info to include title, description, year, QR codes, other relevant info.

- Athens City Mural Audit and Enhancement

- Mural Walking Tour: Uptown and Around - First walk brochures were printed, second print run TBD. Andrew has 2 full cases left, so please come get them. Mateo wants a bunch to distribute at Bobcats Student Orientation.

- Art Outside the Box Project

- mAppAthens Update – Kate and Tina gave an overview of their project for the benefit of the RAB attendees. The project is not online yet, and updates from Nancy Stevens are hoped for.

- Athens Poet Laureate

- Updates – Tina is sending out advertisements and notices for applicants. Kelee will pass this along to Scott and Ryan. The application is ready to go and to be sent out.

- Art in City Spaces Project

- Updates and Plans for the Future – The lack of a full roster of commissioners is hindering progress. Kelee mentioned she would like to work on the audit, if she has time. Mateo would possibly like to help also.

## **RAB agenda items**

### **Continuing Business**

- Megan – opening remarks - This is busy season with a lot of programming happening.
- Approve Minutes from March Meeting
  - Move to approve minutes: Annie, Second: Emily, Approved: Unanimous
- Approve lack of April Minutes
  - Moved to the June meeting
- Updates from ad hoc committees
  - Community Center Sculpture Project - Sponsorship Bricks - Katherine – A manufacturer was found to make bricks for about \$15 compared to \$50 elsewhere. Now that price is established, the cost of sponsorship can be determined.

### **RAB New Business**

- Pending approval by council, Kylie Sauer will be invited to join RAB. This will lead to a full board once Kylie joins.
- Community Feedback & Comments (if any)
  - The Community Pool - Katherine - May 24th is the open date. The pool schedule was given. Season pass, splash pad passes will be available for sale 1 – 7 pm on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Athens Community Center is the best place to work out. The Best of Athens!

### **AMAC & RAB:**

#### Announcements and Other Business

- Upcoming RAB Meetings - Megan – June, July, August meetings will be at The Community Center in the conference room. Note: all summer meetings (June, July, August, and potentially September) will be held at the ACC to facilitate RAB participation in Concert in the Park series & other outdoor events on site.

- Cash-Cow - Dairy Barn Art Center Sculpture Fund Raiser - Kelee – April 29<sup>th</sup>, The Dairy Barn Art Center has a large cow sculpture that will be decorated by a local artist to be displayed in a public place. The location for for the sculpture needs to be discussed and determined.

- Andrew – Two things need resolved: 1.) For fundraising, with money involved, then the Cash Cow cannot be displayed on city property. 2.) If The City is not receiving the sculpture, then liability and responsibility needs to be resolved – ie duration of display, insurance etc.

Kelee – What are the next steps? And does AMAC even need to be involved?

Next Steps - Look for clarification about what Dairy Barn wants. They would need permission to put their sculpture on city property.

- Obetty's Sculpture was finished yesterday. It is now available to see.

- Hebe the Statue – Andrew – The base is being completed. The statue is currently inside the foyer of City Hall. There will be a period historical background image for the statue. Also, regarding the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of City Hall, a short documentary of the history of City Hall was made. Check it out on the city's media channel or You Tube.

#### Adjourn

- Move to adjourn meeting: Annie, Second: Megan, Approved: Unanimous

Next Meeting from AMAC: June 11, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM, Arts/West

Next Meeting for RAB: June 19, 2025, 5:30p-7:00p, at Athens Community Center

● Note: all summer meetings (June, July, August, and potentially September) will be held at the ACC to facilitate RAB participation in Concert in the Park series & other outdoor events on site.