

Athens Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
8/21/25

Athens City Council Chambers

- I. **Call to Order:** Established Quorum, Megan Russell
 - In attendance: Megan Russell (Chair), Anne L'Heureux, Stuart Goldsberry (Secretary), Katherine Anne Jordan (Rec. Director), Jeff Risner – 2nd Ward City Council (Council Rep.), Emily Guseman, John Leite
- II. **Establish Quorum:** Established
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** No agenda this evening
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes approved, seconded by Megan
- V. **New business:** Nothing to report at this time.
- VI. **APR Staff Report Updates:** (Report from Katherine Ann)
 - Great pool season
 - Should we have a pool satisfactory survey
 1. Cleanliness
 2. Friendliness
 3. Programming
 4. Did attend anything (special events)
 - Rotary involvement – has been quiet – reached out and no response
 - Golf Net – no communication from OU
 1. They made us put it in to get long term lease then a couple of months later let us know closing - \$80k

VII. **Continuing business:**

- **Project updates:**

1. **25th Anniversary Sculpture in the front of community center**

1. Waiting on staff to have the time for construction of wall
2. Hardscaping September

2. **West State Street Park**

1. New Restrooms – on track for restroom install in October
2. Crosley/WCG Parking area – complete; will install split rail fencing and parking curb

3. **Community Center**

- Waiting on proposals to renovate offices in community center – had productive meetings the past 2 weeks – hoping for reasonable quote

3. **Skatepark**

1. Work has begun – done by Skate Jam – very cool, check it out

4. **Sells Park**

1. Sculpture install complete – take a look – very nice

5. **Highland Park**

1. Shelter complete; water leak fixed; concrete contract signed (waiting on work)

6. **Tennis Courts resurfacing**

1. Underway – total tennis should have done soon

- **Department Happenings:**

1. **Special events:**

1. Community Center 25th anniversary - October 14 from 5:30-7:00

- Treats – cupcakes
- Mayor recorded presentation (not able to be there)
- \$200 brick

2. Concert in the park – August and September

3. Dog Swim - September 6th 4-7pm

2. **Programming:**

1. Fall soccer registration

2. Adult fitness programs

3. Kids/youth sport and dance programming

4. 25th anniversary gallery – collecting pictures and stories of memories

5. Open studio time at the Community Center – in exercise studio

6. Deer Archery program – registration open

7. Before/after care – a few spaces left!

8. Pre-k full!

9. Wee wiggles picks back up first Friday of September

- **Arts:**
 1. Murals planned for Highland Park restroom
 2. Mural added to Pre-k room!
 3. Adult ukelele class almost full
 4. Lost Flamingos Theatre Company scheduled for fall
 5. Planning a gallery for fall
 6. Planning a fiber class in late September/early October – perhaps a Halloween themed sock making class
- **Parks:**
 1. AED's and cabinets – we need to program and install
 2. Summer mowing and groundskeeping
 3. Have done quite a few memorial benches and will do more this fall
 4. Need to repair broken slide on pre-k playground
 5. Prepping fields for fall ball at WSSP – Hocking College; OU club softball and baseball; Charity tournament; individual groups
 6. Prepping soccer fields
 7. WVU game – parking somewhere – Richland Ave Park
- **Pool:**
 1. National Night Out at the pool August 5th – great turn out!
 2. Last day – Labor Day
- **Upcoming staff changes:**
 1. 2nd round interviews for program specialist for athletics and fitness
 2. Need to hire lead building supervisors
- **Budget season is upon us:**
 1. 270 budget – outdoor budget
- **Hocking River:**
 1. Official river water trail
 2. Water trail designation
 3. Working with Hocking Conservancy
- **Sells Park:**
 1. Signage/improving the trails
- **Camp Rotan:**
 1. Someone is raking leaves off the trail and these are supposed to stay
 2. Survey should be done in September
 3. Hoping to gain access across some land to connect trails
- **Disc Golf Course:**
 1. Almost installed
 2. Available to play – 18 holes – map and signage will be available

VIII. **Next Meeting:** September 18, 2025