

AMAC Meeting Agenda

May 13, 2026, 5:30-6:30 PM

Location: Arts/West

Present: Kelee, David, Beth, Andrea, Meghan, Kate, Tina, Katherine Anne

Guests: Steve Patterson, Paul Logo, 2 additional guests (Anne)

Not Present: Mateo

I. Preliminaries: Opening Announcements of Relevance

II. Minutes: Review, discuss, and move to approve and/or update the minutes from the last meeting

Kelee moves, Kate seconds, minutes approved

III. Legislative Updates: Mayor designee - Meghan / City Council Representative - Beth

- Megan: Nothing in addition to membership changes
- Beth: Has list of approved street closure events
 - Beth points out ACAMF, invites AMAC's involvement, Kelee says that AMAC classically tables
- Beth points out DORA opening event, 5/16, will be kickoff Porch Fest
 - Porch Fest West Side first year
 - John Prine movie at the Athena Cinema
 - Kate: What does DORA stand for? Mayor Patterson: Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area
 - Mayor shares where DORA extends, mentions extensions and temporary expansions for Porch Fest
 - DORA in effect Friday of commencement through last weekend before OU move in
 - Mayor mentions other college towns having year-round DORA, points out how close Court St student housing is to most of the bars, says council wants stick to the summertime schedule. Considering extending to move in weekend
 - Beth points out location for uptown stage for Saturday night of Porch Fest, the first street closure
- PLUGS
 - Kelee mention's separate John Prine movie is also showing at Stuart's, also in May
 - Beth mentions event "South East Ohio Fiber Shed" at new Hocking Hills Garment Center 5/30 from 2-5
 - Steve mentions Don Allesta (printmaker) came to council this past Monday to propose a historic designation of Lasher Hall, asks AMAC to write a letter of support of the idea of

Lasher Hall be designated as a historic building to be the “Print Museum”. If we so choose, send support letter to city council. Was home to the Athens Messenger.

- Megan mentions that she could share Don’s project proposal to review before writing letter of support
 - Kate asks if it will include something about book making
 - Steve says yes, there will be paper printing and paper binding resources/education etc
 - We have roughly one month to get this letter in
 - David has motion to write the letter, Beth moves, all approved
- Steve mentions David Griesmyer, sculptor, donated 3 ballerinas dancing on Sells Pond, also did fairy in sculpture walk
 - 682 Roundabout – once it is complete, in the center of the roundabout, there will be a substantial piece by DG, it will be a “head of Athena” with her arm/hand
 - Kelee asks about why AMAC wasn’t consulted for the RFP
 - Because the project was under the \$75,000 price tag, Steve is allowed to direct contract with someone
 - Steve mentions the price that David is doing for us reflects his love for the city
 - Kelee mentions AMAC does appreciate being looped in for this type of advisory work
 - Steve mentions a large factor was timing and working with ODOT
 - Steve also mentions he values art
 - Kelee asks that next time a large-scale project like this that comes up, asks that the Mayor will give AMAC enough of a heads up to anticipate this coming down the pike and prepare for involvement
 - Kate asks if it would be possible to retro actively add art into existing roundabouts that don’t have it
 - Steve says yes, it is possible, would love to have one at the Richland roundabout
 - Steve says if AMAC were to advise that the city consider art for roundabouts, wrap in Meghan our city planner, it could happen
 - Kate mentions she is glad the upper torso of Athena isn’t included in the proposed artworks because it would cause traffic disruptions (har-har..)

IV. AMAC Projects:

- 1.) AMAC Membership/Eligibility Change: Kelee
 - a. Had first reading on May 4th
 - b. 1 member of council member requests a language change “At least 5 members of AMAC shall be electors of the city, 4 members may live outside the city”
 - i. Kelee moves, Beth seconds, AMAC approves
 - c. Kate gives insight to new attendees of today’s meeting that the whole purpose of this is to expand our numbers from 7 to 9
- 2.) Local Arts Group Coalition Formation: Kate & Beth
 - a. Says the last month has been stagnant, Gracie the intern who is working with Kate is on vacation in Italy, will be back next month

- b. Kate says although members have offered to help, she realized she needs another voting member commit to her subcommittee
 - i. Realized as she heard all of the event plugs in the beginning of the meeting, she realized how important it is to have this Arts Group Coalition formed ASAP
 - ii. Asks AMAC who can step up as an additional voting member, she would also like Anne (today's attendee, non-voting member)
 - iii. Kelee mentions she has been in touch with Athens County Planner and is exploring her involvement with them once she rolls off of AMAC in April 2027. Once she has a better understanding of her commitment, she can give Kate a better idea of how much she can help
 - iv. Kelee mentions once we get expansion of 7 to 9 members approved, hopefully we can wrap more in to help with this project + the conference
 - v. Kelee mentions that Anne suggested the conference could be a great time to roll out the Coalition
 - vi. Anne mentions possibility of accessing Sugar Busch Foundation funds, would need to fit the framework of their mission
- 3.) AMAC / OU Partnership Update
 - a. Mateo not here, got us in contact with Alena (present guest)
 - i. Alena says she is a member of public art committee in Marietta, mentions some of their work (electrical box covers), metal sculpture
- 4.) 2027 AMAC Conference Update: Dave / Tina / Andrea
 - a. David references his pass out mentioning proposed dates, (Friday and first part of Saturday of ACAMF 2027)
 - b. Points out generic schedule, conference, social, breakfast before ACAMF
 - c. Themes: 2027 Municipal Arts Conference
 - i. Group is asking our intention of will we do this conference every year?
 - ii. Mayor suggests considering continuing it for a few years to see how it grows, likes the idea of becoming more involved with other county's with AMAC business
 - iii. Group likes "2027 Municipal Arts Conference" to become more inclusive, easy to pass along to other communities
 - 1. Kate suggests beneath the generic title a more specific "Arts in Athens", something that can change based on theme or where it is held
 - iv. David gets approval from the mayor to reach out to other cities to invite them
- 5.) Art Outside the Box Project: Tina / Kate
 - a. Skipped this section
- 6.) Arts West /APRD Update: Katherine Ann
 - a. ArtsWest will host at Porch Fest
 - b. Adam/KAJ submits OAC sustainability grant info to keep that grant cycle going
 - c. Summer concert series is happening, dates are changing to Friday's
 - d. Monday morning mingle – first Monday of every month, meet up at the community center for snacks and mingling. Government channel helped make the morning mingle jingle

- e. Athens Arts Guild moved into the house in front of the Community Center, will be helping with Community Center arts programming over the summer, will have gallery hours, sales etc. Not sure if they will be open during

VI. Announcements and Other Business

- 7.) Mayor mentions old conversations of a “Friends of AMAC” 501c3 so AMAC could access more funding to support initiatives. Asks group to consider advantages and disadvantages of doing this

- a. Kelee confirms if this would need to be approved through council, Mayor and Beth says no

Adjourn

Beth moves, Kelee seconds, approves adjournment

Next Meeting: June 10, 2026, 5:30-6:30 PM, Arts/West