

AMAC meeting minutes for April 14, 2021, 5:30-7:00 p.m. via Zoom

In Attendance: Carol Patterson, Andrew Chiki, Jeff Risner, Josh Birnbaum, Beth Braun, Kelly Lawrence

- I. Call to Order and legislative updates: Andrew Chiki & Jeff Risner
  - a. Add to the agenda: Art Outside the Box to Section IV. d.
  - b. Updated Terms of Service – looking into every committee member’s terms and when they end. Chelsa will update us next month.
- II. Minutes from March 10, 2021 for approval: Josh Birnbaum
  - a. Changed spelling of “Terry” to “Terri”
  - b. Formatting will be improved in the future by using Microsoft Word

MOTION TO PASS MINUTES AS CORRECTED: **PASSED**
- III. Arts West / Friends of Arts Park Recreation Department (APRD) Update
  - a. Updates from Emily Beveridge:

Community Center:

    - Crafternoon! Classes, which meet on Mondays, are currently full through May.
    - The For the Love of Athens photo show is on display in The Community Center Gallery through the end of May.

Armory Park:

    - Arts West work study Paula Atfield will be hosting a community Art Making activity called Arts at Armory Park on Saturday, April 24th from 12-6pm. Community members can stop by the park to make banners which will be hung and displayed in the Park this Spring.
    - Passion Works will be hosting a sale of The Honey for the Heart Puppets on Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am-6pm.

Arts West:

    - The 4th Annual Cat Art Show is currently on display through the end of April, when it will move to Casa Nueva for the month of May. Over 60 pieces of cat art were submitted to the show.
    - The Circle Circle collaborative art show will be on display at Arts West for the month of May.
    - Afternoon Arts Ceramics classes will begin their second unit starting next week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- The Southeast Ohio Musical Lending Library is offering free instrument lending to all community members in April to celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month.

b. No recent updates from the Friends of APRD. They are still working on things.

#### IV. Ongoing Public Projects:

a. Athens Arts Alliance (formally Friends of Arts West) Update: Chelsa Morahan

The group has decided to alter the path by becoming a 501(c)3 that is going to focus on the arts, culture and racial equity. We are still in the early stages, but we are working on getting a board together and the materials required to apply for the non-profit status. We are hoping this Alliance (working title) will help bring local organizations together and help provide them with the JEDI (justice, equity, diversity and inclusion) tools to provide more inclusive and accessible programs and opportunities.

Could there be an art education component, in a broad sense? Not just techniques and crafts, but also history and culture, various forms of art. It makes sense to add this to clarify the language.

b. Community Center Mural: Beth Braun

Most of the teachers are painting with their students this week. This is a good week because it begins standardized testing week, so when the kids come to the art teachers, they will be brain dead and will need an art activity to engage them. Most supplies have been distributed, but one group is starting later in the month. It has been difficult to distribute paint in quantities that each group needs! They are negotiating details about outlines and touch up work to make it all even out when it comes together. Enthusiasm has been great. We should make sure that the Athens Messenger knows about this project.

c. Key to the City: Kelly Lawrence

Kelly is stuck. She has an artist that is willing and able to do the project, but they are not getting any response from the mayor. The artist does not have all the info he needs, like the quantities of keys to be made.

d. Art Outside the Box

Money is allocated to pay for the installation of last year's selected artists.

#### V. Ongoing Commission Business:

- a. Mural Walk, the mAppAthens project: Josh Birnbaum

Josh presented a long list of murals he has compiled. Should we include private murals visible from public spaces. Private (residential), public, or should we sort in some other way?

Geographic regions: cluster murals together to make convenient for walkers. This could include: Eastside, Westside, Uptown, Campus, Southside, County (Nelsonville, Glouster). How to connect them all is the question?

Which ones are the most reachable? Walkable? Andrew knows metrics. City Council ward maps do breakdown certain areas. Make the Athens-centric part then go to the county part.

We can perhaps use hashtag to promote the tour and encourage people to take pics and post to social media, utilize passport stamps on a certain day so they can complete the tour to win a prize.

- b. Review Ordinance 0.46.02 (Code Number 3.07.50)

This item will be moved to May meeting. Chelsa was not able to attend and she has done a lot of the research. Can she send out the list of items for commissioners to review?

- c. AMAC Member to attend APRD Advisory Board Meetings

Chelsa sent out the schedule. Josh and Beth will switch. AMAC member needs to remind Scott Thompson to send them an invite to the meeting. This procedure is meant to strengthen the relationship between AMAC and APRD Advisory Board.

## VI. Commission Action Items:

- a. New Member Handbook Items

Chelsa would like to get a handbook together to help acclimate new commissioners. What points do we want to express to new commissioners? What would they like to know right away? Ordinances, the establishment of the commission and Percent for Art (history), policies, expectations, and what about photo, bio and contact information? Should we have them up on the website? We are appointed and make recommendations. Logistical challenges to getting this on the website, and is it necessary? Perhaps it would help folks connect with AMAC and give the commission more visibility and personal connection.

VII. Announcements and other business:

- A group based at Stuart's Opera House will be presenting an Anti-Racism in the Arts Webinar.
- <https://stuartsoperahouse.org/events/anti-racism-in-the-arts/>
- [https://www.facebook.com/events/447303179668123/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%2252%22%2C%22action\\_history%22%3A%22\[%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22share\\_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22share\\_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra\\_data%5C%22%3A%7B%5C%22invite\\_link\\_id%5C%22%3A505489547138818%7D%7D\]%22%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/447303179668123/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%2252%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22[%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%7B%5C%22invite_link_id%5C%22%3A505489547138818%7D%7D]%22%7D)
- Lauren Genter who presented to AMAC a while back reached out to provide the following update on the Black Mamas Matter mural project:
- Location update: As a result of Covid, the original location has had to change as the building has sold. Fortunately, Eclipse Company town has agreed to house the mural!
- Progress update: The mural surfaces have been cut, primed, and painting is starting!! It's being painted off site and they are on track to install at Eclipse for Black Maternal Health week in April! A website has been made and is ready to launch that directs people interested in supporting organizations actively solving the disparities that inspired the work. They have had many donors to the GoFundMe and are in the final month of fundraising for the project!
- Here's the link: [gf.me/u/x9chvt](https://gf.me/u/x9chvt)
- Mayor has received two interested parties to replace Ann Judy as an AMAC commissioner. He will update us next meeting!
- Passionworks on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> will be selling many years' worth of puppets and Halloweens past at Armory Park.
- OAC Governor's Awards for the Arts will be virtual this year on May 10<sup>th</sup> at noon. Next year will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AMAC and we will be submitting an application again.

VIII. Adjourn

Next Meeting: May 12, 2021, 5:30-7:00 p.m. via Zoom