

AMAC meeting minutes for September 8, 2021, 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
Athens Community Center, Room A  
701 E State Street  
Athens, Ohio 45701

In Attendance: Chelsa Morahan, Andrew Chiki, Jeff Risner, Kelly Lawrence, Kelee Riesbeck, Beth Braun, Josh Birnbaum, Holly Ittel

I. Call to Order and legislative updates: Andrew Chiki & Jeff Risner

N/A

II. Minutes from August 11, 2021 for approval: Josh Birnbaum

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES: **PASSED**

III. Arts West / Arts of APRD Update

-Arts West is now accepting applications for a Program Coordinator Position. Applications must be received by September 18th.

-The Arts West Gallery is hosting Whitney Goller's gallery show of wall hung ceramics work In My Next Life now through September 27th.

-Local photographer Matthew Shaw's "Portraits on Porches" at the Community Center has been extended through September 30th.

-PRISM art based after school programming will begin meeting regularly on Mondays starting Monday, September 13th, pending the start of in person classes at Athens City Schools .

-After School Arts Classes for grades K-5 and 6-8th will begin Monday September 13th at Arts West.

-A retrospective of Ohio University Printmaking faculty, Art Werger will be on display at Arts West, along with an alumni print exchange for the month of October. Opening reception will occur on Saturday, October 2nd from 5-7pm.

-Ohio Valley Summer Theater's production of Clue show dates will begin October 8th and run through October 17th.

-Auditions will be held on Saturday, September 18th from 2-6pm for Ohio Valley Summer Theater's Broadway Cabaret.

-A new individual has been appointed as Director of the Arts, Parks and Recreation department in the city. The appointment went through City Council because the individual requested more money than was presented in the initial pay scale. The Arts, Park and Recreation Advisory Board was not consulted. Who was consulted? Who was involved in the interview process? What is the process? This position is a mayoral appointee. There is no requirement to involve an advisory board in the appointment process. Some AMAC members feel that it would have been prudent to at least consult the relevant advisory boards so at least people feel heard. It could put the new appointee at a disadvantage regardless of their qualifications if public perception of the process is poor. AMAC wants this new Director to succeed and would like to invite them to an AMAC meeting to meet commissioners and learn about us.

#### IV. Ongoing Public Projects:

##### a. Art Outside the Box - Round 4: Holly Ittel & Kelee Riesbeck

The RFP has been updated, and Holly will include the new web address and dates. There will be at least three people on the ad hoc committee that will jury in early 2022. Holly will decide whether to do the jurying in-person or digitally. Can we get new photos on there? Deadline for submission is scheduled for Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, while potentially opening for submissions on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> or Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. We could promote at OU in the Colleges of Fine Arts and Communication and perhaps local high school teachers who know students who graduated (above 18).

Tom O'Grady has a volunteer at the History Center who can work with artists who want to include historically relevant and accurate information about the city or region. We could include QR codes to direct people to more information in a proposed upcoming mural art walk app. We may suggest in the RFP that they may draw inspiration from history and the past. Could the History Center host a page on their website? What are the 20 most interesting facts about Athens we could present to give people ideas?

##### b. Athens Photo Project Youth Exhibit: Josh Birnbaum

The youth photo exhibit will be opening on Sept. 30th from 5-7 p.m. at the Parking Garage installation space on W. Washington Street. All are invited! Josh shared the postcard and poster designs.

#### V. Ongoing Commission Business:

- a. Ohio Arts Council Governor's Arts Awards 2022: Josh Birnbaum & Kelee Riesbeck

AMAC's application was submitted successfully. AMAC members all contributed to the application. It was a team effort! Thanks to Kelee for drafting the narrative, and Chelsa and Beth for putting in revisions and final touches.

VI. Commission Action Items:

- a. New Member Handbook Items

Will discuss at next meeting

- b. Social Media Coordinator

Will discuss at next meeting

- c. Review Daily tous le jours (<https://www.dailytouslesjours.com/en/work>): Chelsa Morahan & Andrew Chiki

Commissioners should view the work of art and design studio, Daily Tous Les Jours. A lot of these things could fit well in Athens. We could request permanent or temporary installations. It has a lot of interactive opportunities for the community. Andrew saw some samples of this work in Lawrence, Indiana. The projects are a great integration of arts, science, environment, interaction, and collaborativity. There is a white paper on this website about the economics of these projects.

VII. Announcements and other business

- a. Keith Wilde Carpenter Street Mural

He has been working on the Carpenter Street Mural (entitled "Level 42") and will be there another month and it is looking great.

- b. Other

Passionworks is doing a mural on Larry's Dog House.

Athens International Film and Video Festival is happening Oct. 15-24 with lots of international films. WOUB did a series of documentaries with local kids to give a view on their day-to-day lives and they will be screened on a Sunday afternoon during the festival. It is the 47<sup>th</sup> + 48<sup>th</sup> festival combined.

Current round of traffic box art wraps will be installed in the next month.

VIII. Field Trip (weather dependent) to see the Community Center Mural

- a. Discussion on “dedication” event and press release  
AMAC members viewed the mural. A press release will be written!

IX. Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 13, 2021, 5:30-7:00 PM at City Council Chambers