

AMAC meeting minutes for January 12, 2022, 5:30-7:00 PM  
Arts West  
132 West State Street  
Athens, Ohio 45701

In Attendance: Chelsa Morahan, Emily Beveridge, Andrew Chiki, Katherine Ann Jordan, Holly Ittel, Kelly Lawrence, Josh Birnbaum, Kelee Riesbeck

Guests: Andrea Baird and Madeline Kramer (Sojourners Resiliency Center)

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

Jeff has nothing new to report concerning art and city council save that plans are being made to beautify East Union Street and College Street like that done to West Union between Court Street and Congress.

II. Minutes from December 8, 2021 for approval: Josh Birnbaum

Date of next meeting changed to 2022  
MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES: **PASSED**

III. Arts West / Arts of APRD Update: Emily Beveridge & Katherine Ann Jordan

-The Itty Bitty Print Exchange show is on display in the Arts West Gallery through the end of January.

-Moonville Print Shop will be displaying prints in the Arts West Gallery for the month of February.

-The Tantrum Theater Middle School Drama Club started this week at Arts West, and has more than 50 participating students. The 6th grade performance will occur at the end of February.

-The PRISM LGBTQ after school arts program began at Arts West this week after being on hiatus for in person programming since March of 2020.

-The first session of the Spring semester of the Arts West After School Arts program began in January.

Katherine Ann met with Dean of Fine Arts, Matthew Shaftel, and they talked about experiential learning opportunities. They talked about enabling the community music program (Athens Community Music School) to have some classes hosted at the community center. They discussed gallery space for student artists as well, at the community center and the Habitat House.

a. Mural/Art Opportunities: Katherine Ann Jordan

i. West State Street Park Concession Stand

Lots of improvements happening. APRD will paint the outside of building with logos, and create some mural space on the concession stand. Also they secured big belly trash cans, and they are exploring if these can be wrapped with art. How can we tie in themes in our area with arts in city spaces?

ii. Skate Park

To be discussed at a later meeting.

IV. Ongoing Public Projects:

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

Holly will update the RFP soon and send it out.

b. Athens Community Center Mural: Beth Braun & Kelee Riesbeck

Can we share this news via the city's Instagram, Twitter and Facebook since this mural came out last year? Social media could be a more appropriate method and venue. We could include a lot of info and photographs of the process. Teachers can share with students. Perhaps for the anniversary we could do a formal press release with event.

c. Mural Walk: Josh Birnbaum

Lynn Garbo will host mural walk in Nelsonville on Sunday, Jan. 16. We should add Katie Simo to the list. She did the murals on the Armory and Kelly's store, Chosen Pathways.

Josh is still collecting data from mural artists like Terry Fortkamp, Keith Wilde, and Jerod Black.

d. Possible future projects

i. Blue Eagle Bench

Kelly talked to JD's family. The bench would be a bad idea because it would have to be brought in every night. The family suggested going

to Donkey, and the owners are excited. The family wanted Wendy Minor Viny to be the artist. She likes the idea of the bench, but also the idea of a painting or mural in the performance space or on the side of Donkey or somewhere in the city. Mimi Hart had also reached out to Donkey, so Kelly will talk with her as well. They have money from Athens Area Arts (Roman's group) and maybe they can have a show at the Union to raise funds. If it's outside in the public right of way, there's a chance the city would consider allocating some funds to the effort. There are new city trash cans that could be wrapped in some memorial artwork too.

- ii. 6th Floor Parking Garage mural / green space: Steve Patterson

Will be discussed at a future meeting.

- e. OAC Heritage Fellowship Award

This award is for a person who is honoring a traditional craft in Ohio through education, community engagement and their practice. Holly would like to nominate Don Macrostie. Deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup> to nominate on the OAC website, where you answer questions and provide photographs and letters of support. It can also be a group, like The Textile Artists of Southeastern Ohio, including Danette Pratt, Mary Roediger, Meta Van Nostrand, Lana Galloway, and Teresa Winning. The winning artist/group gets a spotlight, \$5,000 and support. The Ohio Arts Council chooses a good number of people for this award.

- V. Ongoing Commission Business:

- a. Ohio Arts Council Governor's Arts Awards 2022

No update here. Still waiting!

- b. 2022 Event Discussion/20th AMAC Celebration

The city hopes to host a concert series, May through August, once a month on the third Thursday. It will be at 4 parks throughout the city and starting at 6 p.m. The very first one would be an AMAC celebration. There would be cupcakes, an acoustic opener, a headliner, and we'd be able to pay artists and a sound person. Maybe there will be a kid-friendly activity. The plan is to invite food and beverage vendors, who will need a vending license and a health department license. They can get that at the code office.

Should we post this to city feeds and through press releases before we start marketing events? Holly will try to draft a brief release, and will get some history of AMAC together to incorporate.

There will be an exhibit too. Do we want it to be at the community center and have additional show sponsored by AMAC here at Arts West? Yes. We could do a special version of "For the Love of Athens" photo exhibit, photos taken from around the county. Do we keep it a county show as we usually do, or limit it to the city? We could say that priority could be given to photographs that showcase AMAC-sponsored projects. Do we have releases for those art projects? Do we have an archive of photos of the projects that allow us to advertise the works? This would be good to start building when we contract artists for future RFPs.

AMAC could help jury the show in April (and this date could be announced as a public meeting) so artists have time to get their work printed and framed. Are we asking them to only print, and then we get AMAC frames to utilize? How many frames do we need? If using the same style of frame, we would maybe need 30-40 frames of same size? Prints could be matted to fit different print sizes and aspect ratios. Art Park Framing could give AMAC a bulk discount.

Also this year is the 225<sup>th</sup> year of Athens (founded 1797) so that could be a part of the celebrations!

VI. Commission Action Items:

a. New Member Handbook Items

Still working on this.

VII. Announcements and other business

There is an opening reception at the Dairy Barn on Friday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> for "OH+5" starting at 5:30. Vaccination card required.

VIII. Adjourn

Next Meeting: February 9, 2022, 5:30-7:00 PM at Arts West