

Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
DRAFT: Athens Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Name: Monthly Athens Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) Meeting

Meeting Date: 8 August 2022

Meeting Called to Order: 6:02 pm EDT

Location: Lyndon House Arts Center

Virtual? In-person meeting with WebEx available for guests

Public Input Requested or Received? Meeting was noticed and posted; no public input received.

Attendees:

Members Present: Madeline Bates (vice-chair/acting chair); Mickey Boyd (ex officio); Donna Brumby (secretary); Jan Bush (ex officio); Kimberly Davis; Linda Ford; Helen Kuykendall; Ezra Santesso; Serena Scibelli (ex officio); Darcie St. Onge (treasurer).

Members Absent: Victoria Prevatt; Jesús Rubio (ex officio).

- (A quorum was present at the meeting.)

Advisors / Staff Present in person: Stephanie Raines (Leisure Services Arts Administrator); Tatiana Veneruso (Public Art Coordinator).

Advisors / Staff Present via WebEx: Madhuri Angadi (SPLOST); Didi Dunphy (Leisure Services Lyndon House Program Supervisor); Diana Jackson (SPLOST); Kent Kilpatrick (Leisure Services Director).

Attendees Leaving Before End of Meeting & Time of Departure (if applicable):

Linda Ford exited the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Items Discussed:

1. Acting Chair's Report

- Acting Chair Madeline Bates made a statement requesting that ACAC members treat each other and A-CCUG staff with respect going forward.
- A call will be issued for two new ACAC members to fill the slots of two members who recently resigned (Beatrice Brown and Andrew Salinas). Tatiana Venerusa has submitted this call request to the A-CC Mayor and Commission. It was clarified that any ex-officio ACAC member who is eligible and wishes to apply to become a regular member must go through the required application process, but does not have to resign as an ex-officio member in order to do so.
- Nominations for all ACAC officers (Chair; Vice-Chair; Secretary; Treasurer) will be accepted by Madeline and a slate will be voted on at the September 2022 meeting.
- It was clarified that ACAC members must comply with the ACAC bylaws concerning meeting attendance and officer terms.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Darcie St. Onge is reviewing the closing of FY22 and will report at the September meeting.
- The ACAC membership will vote on the FY23 proposed budget at the September meeting.

3. Outreach Committee Report

- Helen Kuykendall has drafted a scope of work statement to submit to potential vendors for the ACAC website update. To meet with County guidelines on budget expenditures under \$15,000, ACAC needs three quotes/proposals. ACAC is not obligated to automatically accept the lowest bid, but will accept the proposal that best fits the Commission's expectations and the information needs. Athens-based companies will be given preference. Anyone with suggestions for potential vendors may send those to Helen; she will also check for potential vendors on the Athens Creative Directory.

4. Project Reports

Tatiana Veneruso reported on the following projects:

- The next two calls for Greenway projects are still open until August 28. There has been a lot of interest expressed by artists in these projects.
- The County is still working on the Clayton Street installation.
- The Mayor and Commission have approved sites for Firefly Trail Phase II. Calls are being drafted and will go out soon. Funding for the Winterville Road site will be \$75,000 and the Trailhead site will be \$38,000. These projects are expected to be sculptural. There may be leftover materials from the trestle available for the selected projects. Firefly Trail Phase III funds will come from T-SPLOST.
- The Classic Center Arena calls are still in draft due to changes being made in the architectural plans.
- The Poet Laureate term is in its second year and ends in August 2022. A new committee will need to be established for selecting the next Poet Laureate; this will probably be discussed for April 2023.
- Four out of five of the new Athens Music Walk of Fame plaques have been delivered and installation will be scheduled. Stephanie Raines described what will be Athens Cultural Affairs Commission's diminishing role in the Athens Music Walk of Fame selection and management in the future, due to ACAC SPLOST funds for the plaques running out at some point. The criteria for honorees can be found on the Music Walk of Fame website. Tatiana Veneruso accepts public nominations for honorees, which she forwards to the Mayor. The next round of selection will probably start in January 2023.

5. Old Business

- There was a discussion concerning adding a standing committee for Arts in Community Awards to the ACAC Bylaws. The resulting vote is reported below.
- The Acting Chair dissolved the temporary Strategy Committee.
- ACAC is awaiting clarification from Lisa Pappas regarding Article 8 of the ACAC Bylaws (committee/panel membership and attendance requirements) and regarding whether art project site visits fall under open meetings and records rules.

- There was a discussion concerning ACAC's role in providing funds for public art maintenance and operational costs; identification plaques for public art projects will be included in this larger maintenance discussion.
- There was a discussion concerning continuing the recently proposed ACAC task forces or reinstating the Bylaws-provided standing Project Committee instead. This topic will be revisited at the September meeting.

6. New Business

- The Acting Chair led a discussion concerning the potential for partially reallocating the \$25,000 operating funds approved by the Mayor and Commission for FY23 Arts in Community Awards, which were proposed at five awards at \$5,000 each). Members were asked to come up with ideas for using those funds for appropriate, similar purposes and discuss those at the September meeting.
- The Acting Chair congratulated Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services Arts Division on a successful 2022 Arts Summit.
- Ex-officio member Mickey Boyd submitted his resignation from ACAC, which was accepted by the Acting Chair.

Votes Taken with Motion / Second / Results (Unanimous or Number of Yes / No Votes and names) (if applicable):

- Helen Kuykendall moved, and Ezra Santesso seconded, acceptance of the draft June 2022 meeting Minutes with no changes. They were unanimously approved (6-0).
- Helen Kuykendall moved, and Darcie St. Onge seconded, acceptance of the draft July 2022 meeting Minutes with no changes. They were approved by a vote of five in favor with one abstention (Ezra Santesso).
- Ezra Santesso moved, and Linda Ford seconded, that a standing committee for Arts in Community Awards be added to the ACAC Bylaws, to be composed of four members with staggered terms. Donna Brumby asked to amend that motion in order to wait until the temporary Bylaws committee submits a completed revision instead of making only this one change at this time, and to instead make the AICA committee a temporary ad-hoc committee until the revised Bylaws are voted on at a later date. The amended motion carried with a unanimous vote (6-0).

Meeting Adjourned: by Acting Chair

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:36 pm

Next Meeting Date, Time, and Location: 12 September 2022; 6:00 pm EDT; location TBA

Minutes Drafted By: Donna Brumby