



100 Dayton Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

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www.YSDC.org

Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 9, 2025 | 4:30–6:00 PM
Miami Township Conference Room

Present: Lisa Abel, Johnnie Burns, Jeannamarie Cox, Jane Fernandes, Brian Housh, Joanne Lakomski, Kevin McGruder, Marilan Moir, Philip O'Rourke, Michael Slaughter,

Board Members Absent: Will Foster, Trish Gustafson, Terri Holden, Rebecca Potter

Staff Present: Aaron Arellano, Meg Leatherman

Guests Present: Natalie Kubat, Antioch College Director of Advancement, Lacy _____ (ASL interpreter for Jane Fernandes)

1. Call to Order/Agenda Review & Approval

Brian called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm. Lisa suggested that if we have time, that a discussion of the solar project should be added to the agenda. Brian suggested discussing challenges with meeting quorum if we have time;

2. Treasurer's Report-

Marilan reviewed the July 31, 2025 Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activity for the period July 1-31, 2025. She asked about the website \$500 per quarter fee, and noted a decline of ~\$2,000 in assets since 7/31/2024. She noted that one member has not yet paid their dues for 2025. She then reviewed the 990 form for 2024.

3. Consent Agenda

Marilan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as well as the minutes of the July meeting; the motion was seconded by Joanne, and unanimously approved.

4. Director's Report- Meg

Meg drew the Board's attention to the branding information that was included in the Board packet. Members offered suggestions regarding ensuring that the font types be readily available fonts, the need for more vibrant colors, the need for the images and logo accompanying the text to convey the economic development mission of YSDC. Meg agreed to incorporate the suggestions into the next iteration that she will share by email.

Aaron reported on regional emerging business noting that he and Meg attended the AMP Ohio Jobs seminar that focused on how energy is the foundation for economic growth; he noted that Ohio has the cheapest hydro carbons in the nation; he noted that there was also a discussion on generative AI for which exponential growth is projected.

Aaron reported on the Jobs Ohio Relocation program in which STEM employers can receive an award of up to \$15,000 for hiring employees who relocate to Ohio with a cap of \$250,000 per company with no claw back provision. Meg noted that information about the program can be found on the YSDC website. Lisa observed that the amount is probably not enough of an incentive to make a difference for employers' selection of candidates.

5. Develop Local

Jane Fernandes noted that there are six developments at Antioch College that will impact residents:

- a. Antioch's 175th anniversary activities are highlighting some of the history of the college with monthly themes that connect with the present. Jane indicated that she would like more community engagement with the celebration, and encouraged everyone to participate in the Victory Points initiative (which awards points for anniversary activities such as putting up a 175th anniversary yard sign, buying Antioch swag, etc. She explained that details are available on the Antioch website;
- b. Jane reported that fall enrollment was nearly doubled compared with 2024 the result of digital marketing campaigns allowing them to target certain groups. She noted that 72 prospective students have completed applications for next year which is a first, and that 10 students will start in the Winter quarter. She explained that she is excited and optimistic about the future of the school, and that the students are excited;
- c. She reported that on Thurs., Oct 2nd there will be a ceremony unveiling a Rod Serling historical marker, with everyone in the Village is invited. She observed that the event is a reminder of the wonderful things graduates do after Antioch.
- d. Jane reported that the college Learning Hubs [centers for curriculum connection and revenue generation: Antioch Review/Antioch Writers' Workshop; Coretta Scott King Center; C-Shop (store and café at Olive Kettering Library); Foundry Theater; Herndon Gallery; Wellness Center] are planning an open house in the Spring of 2026 to better engage Yellow Springs residents;
- e. She noted that a request for proposals (RFP) is available on the Antioch website for people interested in Learning Hub RFP implementing an entrepreneurial, social [mission driven] enterprises for the Herndon Gallery, the Antioch Writers' Workshop, and the Antioch Review.
- f. Jane noted that preliminary plans are being developed for Antioch Hall/Main Building that will allow the College to begin using the building again.

In response to Board member questions, Jane explained that information regarding the RFP is on the Antioch website, as is information regarding the 175th anniversary. She noted that the Rod Serling event is being organized in conjunction with the Yellow Springs Film Festival. [670 seats] would be a venue for the community and Antioch would love to get it open again.

Brian noted that the Village has a robust social media presence that can be used to assist Antioch in promoting events and activities. He explained that Johnny can connect Antioch with Ben Guenther, who is the main communications person.

6. New Business Announcements

Lisa reported that the solar project has reached an impasse due to the legal ramifications associated with the plan to install solar at 10 Lawson Place, the Village-owned apartment building. She noted that the Village attorney had many questions that need to be resolved. She noted that in considering other sites, those involved with the project would like to look at other buildings with lower income residents. She explained that the design of the roof is a criterion. Unfortunately, several of the apartment buildings have bad roofs and probably won't put a new roof on before the solar. In response to a suggestion that Village-owned parking lots be considered, Johnny noted that rooftop solar is much cheaper. Lisa explained that YSDC will not get the 30% rebate of funds since the project will not be completed by the end of the year. She noted that the site does not have to be a Village-owned building, and that YSDC could own the solar array or be an intermediary receiving a fee.

7. Community Feedback- no members present

8. Executive Session for purpose to consider purchase, sale or other disposition of property
_____ offered a motion to enter Executive Session, which was seconded by _____ and approved unanimously.

Marilan offered a motion to exit Executive session which was seconded by Joanne, and approved unanimously.

Other: Jeannamarie suggested calling people who haven't been attending Board meetings. Lisa noted that the Township will appoint new members.

9. Adjournment

Lisa offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Michael, and approved unanimously at 6:07pm.

Kevin McGruder 10/2/25