

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
Athens Community Center
August 17, 2016

Call to order: 5:36

Attending: Lori Kinney, Joe Wessinger, Noah Trembly, Darrell Purdy, Scott Dennis, Lara Edge, David McNelly, Carolyn Lewis (called in)

Minutes from June:

Approved with the caveat that Lara Edge will fix typo of/for in last bullet point.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominations for Vice-Chair:

- Tabled until September
- Direct nominations by email with a deadline by next meeting

Joint PACDAP Meeting

- Invite the mayor to a meeting to discuss whether it's valuable to pursue the relationship with PACDAP (comments from commission members referenced the difficulty of working with OU; OU is struggling to make things accessible - needs are falling on deaf ears; Is a co-relationship or one-sided?). Then schedule a meeting with PACDAP.

Discussion on Commission Goals in Context of PADCAP (see goals in attachment at end)

- **Accessing the city:** Noah began the work on accessing sidewalks. City did three areas this time last year and will do three areas next year.
- **Recognizing business owners who make efforts** - commission members agreed that was a goal that was not met.

Suggestions:

- Work with chamber of commerce; do a lunch where Darrell and Noah could do training.
- Create a sticker recognizing businesses that are accessible
- Create a guide to accessible businesses (like a visitors guide) - a dominant goal of the commission
- Establish deadlines
- Accomplish a goal every month.
- Form a subcommittee to list accessible businesses and HOW they do it (like Fluff has accessibility through the Pita Pit)

Tasks:

- Darrell volunteers to email to everyone a document that explains what accessibility is. (Don't be mad if it's a large document).

- Lori will ask Commerce and Visitor's Bureau for funding and/or help with the guide
- Darryl to do an ADA audit of Casa and Jackie O's Public House and Wendy's
- Explore grants

NEW BUSINESS

Parking

Tabled

Sells Park

Celebration scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 21, to recognize the completion of the accessible trail at Sells Park.

ADA Lift Chair Ceremony

Steve Patterson, Noah Trembly, and Lara Edge attended.

Other New Business

Athens County Fair Participation: Larry volunteers to get information about the fair to see if the Commission would be interested in participating next year.

Disabilities Symbol: Lara asks about symbol/brand for supporting people with disabilities. No one seems to know if there is one, but Scott mentioned he's seen something. Lara will do some research.

Collaborate with Seniors Day: Larry volunteers to explore.

Next meeting: Wednesday Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 6:55

**Activities & Goals of the
Athens Commission on Disabilities**

- 1. Solicit & advocate for citizen concerns on disability issues**
 - 2. Assess pedestrian safety via Athens walk with officials.**
 - 3. Assess streets, parking, and housing via the City tour.**
 - 4. Recommend needed modifications to City and businesses.**
 - 5. Make recommendations on business and housing projects.**
 - 6. Present Service Awards for accommodating individuals with disabilities.**
 - 7. Conduct annual "Challenged by Choice" Disabilities Simulations Day and "Disabilities Speak".**
 - 8. Discuss government and professional standards pertinent to Commission goals.**
 - 9. Educate public on disability issues via WOUB Radio, Town-Hall Meetings, Farmers' Market table, letters to editor, newspaper stories, and Commission brochure.**
 - *10. *Interactive Communication at Disabilities Festival, Farmers' Market, *County Fair, "Disabilities Speak Conference", International Day for Persons with Disabilities.**
 - *11. Collaborate with Athens City, O. U., disability service agencies, International Day for Disabilities, *Seniors Day.**
 - 12. Update Athens Web Site on Commission Activities, Resources Directory, Members, Committees, Contact Info.**
 - 13. One, five, and ten year long range goals initiated by our planning retreat.**
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