

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 7, 2020

Attending:

Berry Dilley and Dr. Carolyn Lewis, Co-Chairs

Rose Dikis

Claire Gysegem

Dr. jw Smith

Dr. Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Dr. Smith moved to approve the minutes; Berry seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Lewis outlined the ground rules for Zoom meetings. Requests and participants must be sent to the Mayor's office, Patricia Morris-Widmer, at least a week before the meeting. Full agendas should be sent at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

ADA, Columns, and Letters to the Editor Update

ADA story ideas through The Cronkite School. Sent it to the papers for them to publish a story every other day through July. Claire's June letter to the editor was sent and published in the Athens News. Noah's column was published in the Messenger. Berry is currently working on a column about her sister Clarissa's initial disability work and for inclusion as part of the ADA's 30th anniversary July 26. Dr. Smith will email Berry about her story.

Updates from the Executive Team

Rose, Samorra Dower, Berry, Scott Dennis, and Dr. Lewis will look at the Commission's By-Laws as an ad hoc committee to review for any changes needed. Arian Smedley suggested putting together recommendations for marches, rallies, and demonstrations to make them accessible for people with disabilities. She will be working with Dr. Dianne Bouvier. A Letter to the Editor from the Commission regarding Black Lives Matter is currently being drafted by Sly Mata for the Commission to review and approve for July's submission.

Dr. Smith mentioned the radio stations have been airing the Commission's and Committee's messages about our meetings and how community members can participate.

Athena Award Ceremony?

- First option is ceremony in a public space with distancing. Arts/West is already reserved. The Community Center will be reserved as back up. Dr. Smith said the Community Center would be ideal for social distancing. Berry likes the intimate setting of Arts/West.
- Second option is closed ceremony and live stream.
- Third option is Zoom only.

We will continue to seek nominations regardless. There are several nominations already from last year. Berry requested the 2019 nomination received, and not included, be sent to the Committee so that we can get a head start on looking through the submissions. No one who was nominated last year will have need for their nominators to reapply this year. Nominators will be contacted with this information. Dr. Smith will contact the Chamber, civic clubs, and Veterans organizations to see how they are conducting their meetings and in what formats. This way, we can get on their programs for August and September about our projects, particularly the Athena Award nomination process and Calling All Artists. Rose suggested a news release to put our name out more and to remind people that we are here. Our statement is on the Website and can be shared to the Facebook page as well. Our statement of purpose is being included on materials going out.

Calling All Artists

Berry received a question from an artist asking if those submitting a prototype of an award would receive money for materials used in doing so. There will be a stipend of \$1,800 for the design and the production of six awards for the actual recipient. Dr. Smith said what we have now as a material award is great. We will look to enhance it. Dr. Lewis suggested appearing on Dave Palmer's radio show to discuss the call for artists. Dr. Smith requested a copy of the flier so that we can share it. No submissions yet according to Berry. January 2021 is the stated deadline on the flier.

Oral History Project

Berry talked with Dr. Joe Berman about doing a Zoom to record the oral history. Claire is going to look into some recording options that would make the oral history project ideal for editing. Dr. Lewis and Berry also researched old files to see who served on the first Commission and might still be available to participate.

Dr. Lewis motioned to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Gysegem, Acting Secretary