

Athens City Commission on Disabilities Communications Committee
February 11, 2021

Present:

Rose Dikis

Claire Gysegem

Dr. Carolyn Lewis

Michael Rodriguez

Arian Smedley

Rose motioned & Dr. Lewis seconded to approve the January minutes.

New business & goals for 2020 were discussed at length.

Claire is working with Sydney Dawes to establish a monthly column with the Athens Messenger.

The column will be titled "Athens Abilities," and Dr. Lewis will pen the first feature!

The Messenger will also print our logo with the column which will increase our branding.

We will use the Medium account to additionally highlight the commission and our members.

Davey wrote an example last year. We would like to feature them in our first virtual publication.

Arian Smedley agreed to co-chair the communications committee. Claire will discuss with her moving forward about Arian leading the meetings so Claire may focus on note-taking.

Our commission will also be featured in the a special ACBDD edition of the Athens News.

Thank you Arian for this opportunity!

We are also developing a form for committees to feature their current projects. Whenever your committee would like something publicized, please let us know through this form! We will be ready to present it at the next commission meeting.

We would like to place particular emphasis on any meetings we have with civic groups and local organizations.

Claire discussed the possibility of cross collaborating with other city commissions on projects or publicity. Though people are familiar with the work of the Disabilities Commission, they might not be entirely fluent in what a commission means: that there are opportunities for all to participate! Of particular importance is the Community Relations Commission so that we may further discussions on the intersections of race and ability.

Arian announced that she received two children's books from her pediatrician about race. Could we provide the same resources to families or agencies about varying ability?

Rose made the motion to adjourn. Michael seconded. The next meeting of the committee will be on March 11, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Claire Gysegem

Communications Committee Co-Chair