

*Athens City Commission on Disabilities*  
**Outreach and Communications Committee**  
*Minutes*

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

City Building, Front Conference Room and Zoom (for those ADA exempt)

Chairperson Carolyn Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

A quorum was established: Attending were Rose Dikis via Zoom, Debbie Burleigh, Carolyn Lewis, Chris Linscott, and jw Smith.

Chris made the motion to approve the October 11, 2022, minutes. jw seconded. The motion carried.

**New Business**

Chris made the motion to re-elect Carolyn as chairperson and to elect Debbie as vice chairperson. jw seconded. The motion carried.

Carolyn noted that most of the documents that our committee has developed for various projects are on her laptop. She is going to make a thumb drive for Patty in the Mayor's Office and zip drives for Outreach and Communications Committee members in order for the files to be accessible and available.

We discussed 2023 Goals and Objectives and decided to build on 2022 to do those goals effectively instead of adding new ones. We focused a bit on a concern Debbie has, which is a symptom of a larger problem, that there are no adaptive sources of recreation in Athens.

Names were suggested for additional Outreach and Communications Committee members and who will make contact:

Janet Wallisch (Carolyn)

A person from the Deaf community (Carolyn will contact Cheryl for suggestions)

Andrea Horsch (Chris)

James Heady (jw)

Marilyn Whitworth (Debbie)

Carolyn will send a one-page synopsis of the responsibilities of our committees to help as we're speaking with people or emailing them. We're hoping to get at least three new members plus a student after Kayla graduates.

We will participate in the DD Fest on Tuesday, March 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Community Center with a table to represent the Commission. We will also participate in Senior Resource Day on Thursday, May 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Center with a table.

**Old Business**

We reviewed the 2022 Athena Award Ceremony and were very pleased with the outcome and the attendance. jw and Chris noted there were some COVID protocol issues at the door and parking was still an issue. After some discussion about venues, jw made the motion and Chris seconded, that we reserve the Community Center for Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 5-6 p.m. The motion carried. Carolyn will contact Vanessa at the Community Center to reserve the space. (The space was reserved on March 8, multipurpose rooms A, B, and C with the kitchen. We will cancel the space at ARTS/West.)

**Announcements**

Next meeting, Tuesday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m.

City Building, front conference room or via Zoom for those with approved ADA accommodation.

**Adjournment**

Debbie made the motion to adjourn. Chris seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Bailey Lewis  
February 14, 2023

## **Outreach and Communications Committee 2023 Goals and Objectives**

- Add at least three new committee members including a student.
- Develop a comprehensive promotion plan for Walk, Talk, and Roll.
- Columns, letters to the editor, radio programs, and other visibility as opportunities avail themselves.
- Continue enhancement of the Commission's social media presence.
- Speak to civic and other organizations as opportunities arise.
- Participate in outreach events with a table as opportunities arise.
- Athena Award nomination publicity (June-August); nominations review and awardee selection (September); determine program and inform nominees (September-October); publicity (September-October); event Wednesday, November 1, 5-6 p.m. at the Community Center.