

Accessibility and Advocacy Committee Meeting  
March 10, 2023, City Bdg, 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room

## Minutes

Present: Dan Schoonover, Lisa Simpson, Rob Delach, Annah Korpi, Ally Hughes, Dianne Bouvier, Debbie White

### Welcome

Dianne Bouvier called the meeting to order at 12:06pm.

**Quorum established.**

### Approve February Minutes

- Ally made a motion to accept the minutes, Lisa seconded, motion passed.

### Old Business

- Historic letter re: using stamped concrete Uptown on intersections
  - Davey will continue efforts to get letter signed.

### Goals Finalized for 2023

- i. Continue collaborations with City of Athens on improving accessibility
  - a. Code Office – work with local businesses to create a process for making businesses more accessible
  - b. City Engineers – review and consult on Future City Projects
  - c. City staff and Planning Office – get updates on and support ADA Transition Plan
  - d. Implement Accessibility Matrix Process
- ii. Develop collaborations with Athens businesses for “Accessible Business Campaign”
  - a. Develop a matching grant program
  - b. Conduct accessibility consultations, planned and by request
  - c. Meet with Chamber of Commerce
  - d. Develop brochure to highlight businesses and accessibility guidelines for other businesses
  - e. Develop Accessible Technology brochure
- iii. Conduct hybrid Talk, Walk and Roll event to highlight examples of accessible and inaccessible locations and provide ideas for promoting accessibility

**Lisa made a motion to approve the 2023 goals. Annah seconded. Unanimous approval.**

### Accessible Business Campaign

- i. Annah updating image on google form and connecting it to chromebook account - [athensdisabilitycommission@gmail.com](mailto:athensdisabilitycommission@gmail.com)  
-solutions out there for accessible doors

- Next steps: interview business owners who did engage in improving accessibility, photograph ten different places and plan for remainder of the year, send White's Mill a letter and tell them what a temporary fix would look like and about ABC
- Get Passionworks involved

### **Collaborations with the City**

**EPW City engineers** - Saleh Eldabaja and Jessica Adine are coming to April meeting. We asked for project update on:

- i. Washington and State Streets, Court and Union. How are they incorporating our previous recommendations in the design? Could they send a link beforehand to look in advance. Who is the outside consultant doing streetscape design?
- ii. Union Street projects – any changes or update?
- iii. 682 and Union project proposal-- where will pedestrian connections be? Any information on Shared use path federal grant to connect to Morrison Elementary School?

**Code Office** - David Riggs invited for March, but unable to attend. No response on future time.

### **Pedestrian Accessibility Plan**

- i. Currently getting formatted with Voinovich
- ii. Next step will then be to bring to City Council business meeting- in April for a vote whether to accept

### **Walk, Talk, and Roll**

- i. Route suggestions to be discussed in March commission meeting
- ii. Uptown – we need a route and then a location for the event
- iii. Kern street apartment sidewalks suggested as location to show inaccessibility
- iv. Student groups, community engagement - Ally emailing Mary Nally and Christy Perez

Meeting adjourned at 1:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ally Hughes, co-chair  
Accessibility and Advocacy Committee  
March 14, 2023