

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
Minutes
MARCH 15, 2023
Athens Community Center Room A (or via Zoom with ADA request)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Chairperson Davey McNelly called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m.

Quorum

Secretary Ally Hughes established the quorum. Present: jw Smith, Davey McNelly (chair), Ally Hughes (secretary), Dianne Bouvier (vice chair), Deb Burleigh, Mayor's Designee to the Commission Lacey Rogers
Via zoom: Carolyn Lewis (treasurer)

Mission Statement

The Mission was read by Dianne.

Approval of the Minutes

Dianne made the motion to approve the February 2023 minutes. Deb seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

No changes from previous month – amount remains \$2,500.

jw made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Dianne seconded. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- Walk, Talk, and Roll – discussion about areas to highlight. Potential areas include: Passionworks (central venue), Kern, tent setup at Ohio University
- Washington and State street projects are upcoming
- Determine parking opportunities
- Need a rain date
 - o Location and event details – June 9th
- AAC members will take Commission ideas back to Committee.

- Boards and Commissions Appreciation event (Davey)
 - o Tuesday - April 4th at 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm Room B/C – Community Center
 - o Reminder to RSVP with Patty (pwitmer@ci.athens.oh.us).

- Welcome new Commission member (Davey)
 - o Welcoming Deb Burleigh

OLD BUSINESS:

- City Grant for Accessibility for buildings and businesses (jw & Davey)
 - o Flyers made for dissemination of opportunity
 - o Full chamber feedback on how to publicize it
 - o Davey and Annah will let commission know when to share the flyers
 - o Lacey will post flyers at the City building

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Executive Team (Ally, Carolyn, Davey, Dianne)
 - New Member Orientation held on 3/15/2023. Present members: Carolyn, Davey, Dianne, Deb, Ally, jw, Michelle
 - Goals for 2023 (organizing events, and making sure to have ongoing conversations)

- Accessibility and Advocacy (Dianne/Ally)
 - Accessibility Pilot and grant work
 - Goals and Objectives for 2023
 - Next meeting: April 14th at noon – City Building – City Engineers will attend

- Outreach and Communications (Carolyn)
 - Deb will be vice chair, Carolyn serving as Chair
 - Goals and Objectives for 2023
 - Discussion on document sharing
 - Carolyn is checking the commission email weekly
 - Committee Officers and New Members – social media presence, outreach events, publicity starting in June for Athena award and going through August; will participate in DD festival on March 21st (Dianne, Deb, Ally)
 - 2023 Location Change for Athena Award – Community Center instead – decorating with Joe’s help
 - Next meeting April 11th, 5:30 pm City Building

- Meeting with Mayor on Friday
 - accessibility of table
 - technology – Is City still purchasing Owl?
 - white board and monitors
 - plugs are in the floor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ad Hoc Pedestrian Safety Report voting to “accept” the Plan at City Council - 7PM on April 17th
- New Talking Crosswalk in the Plains – check it out!
- OSILC Congress and SOCIL update – Ohio State Independent Living Council – Southeastern Ohio Center of Independent Living – center is hiring
- DD Awareness Day March 21 at Community Center
- Bike Path Extension (from Nelsonville to Logan) – contractors are beginning to have conversations
- Strouds Run Beach Accessibility Project – Meredith B. (with the health department); Joe, others on committee, \$80K; accessible blue mat all down to the beach
- ONCE the Musical – ASL-focused performances THIS WEEKEND

The motion to adjourn was made by jw. Dianne seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Secretary Ally Hughes
3/17/2023*