



Attendees: Lori Kinney, Larry Jageman, Steve Patterson, Scott Dennis, Robin Brigante, Darrell Purdy, Carolyn Bailey Lewis, Noah Trembly, Maryalice Turner, Paige Stretton, and Rebecca Darling.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Patterson at 5:36 p.m.

2. **Introductions**

Introductions were made.

3. **Minutes**

Noah Trembly moved to approve the minutes of September 17, 2014. Darrell Purdy seconded. All voted aye.

4. **Old Business**

Walk the Walk

The Walk-the-Walk will be at 10:00 a.m. on October 18, 2014 in front of the courthouse on Court Street. The committee members have agreed to provide a donation of \$150 for the Walk-the-Walk.

Paige Stretton wanted the commission to work towards making all walks accessible for Athens residents. Rebecca Darling commented that it was difficult for her father to walk uptown during Parents Weekend especially in areas with no sidewalks.

Commission Team Members

Steve Patterson reviewed the current list of the members of each commission team. Paige Stretton asked about the process to get more community involvement with press releases, etc. The commission discussed adding the commission meetings to the Athens Messenger and The Post events calendars.

Sidewalk Assessment

Steve Patterson explained the coding system for the city sidewalk assessment map:

Green - good condition
Orange - some issues, not major
Red – major issues
Black lines - no sidewalks

An updated map of the city is coming in the near future. The city engineer's strategy will be to work towards targeting North Congress, Central Avenue and South May in 2015.

Athena Award

Kevin Morgan is willing to work on this project.

Misc. Items

1. The Challenged by Choice event will be held April, 2015
2. OU Disability Event – No new updates on this event
3. OU International Day in December
Darrell Purdy said Jenny Nelson is working on this event and will be asking for support from the commission.

5. **New Business**

Review of Building Plans

Currently there is no review of submitted building plans by the Disabilities Commission. There is a small window of time to review plans for city staff before they are presented to the Planning Commission.

The Disabilities Commission cannot interrupt the flow and can only act as an advisory board to the Planning Commission. The span of time to allow for review is typically two week. Steve Patterson suggested the Disabilities Commission Accessibility Team review the building plans at city hall during the review timeframe.

Darrell Purdy asked about the plans being put into terms understandable to someone without engineering experience. The City of Athens does not have a building department and all ADA plans are approved at the state level. Darrell Purdy suggested a future ADA training workshop.

Snow Removal

The City of Athens is a Statutory City, dictating some limits on what can be done for snow removal. Sidewalks are to be cleared within 24 hours after the snow has stopped.

Scott Dennis voiced a concern about University Commons pushing their snow onto the sidewalk during a snow event.

The commission members were asked to research what other statutory cities are doing for snow removal to come up with solutions to offer to the City Administration and City Council.

Darrell Purdy would like to meet with each Disability Team to provide training sessions and possibly City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Code Enforcement Office.

Bruce Ergood said he was not extremely excited about more training. Maryalice Turner felt training is a way to communicate in a structured way and Paige Stretton agreed. Darrell Purdy will provide educational training to the commission to bring them up to speed on new standards. Larry Jageman felt it would be a good learning environment for everyone.

6. Committee Reports

CIL in Southeastern Ohio

A meeting will be held on November 5, 2014 with Pam Petula in Lancaster to discuss the Center for Independent Living.

7. Announcements

The next meeting of the commission will be November 19, 2014.

Japan Exchange Program

Any who did not get their reservation in to attend the Japan Exchange Dinner, please let Larry Jageman know. The dinner will be held on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. at the Beacon School.

Noah Trembly will be in Florida receiving an award and will not be able to attend the next meeting.

The next taping for Studio B will be on Tuesday at noon with Carolyn Lewis.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Sharlene Bails, Recording Secretary
City of Athens