



Attendees: Steve Patterson, Scott Dennis, Mike Pletcher, Noah Trembly, Carolyn Bailey Lewis, Robin Brigante, Paige Stretton, Darrell Purdy, Larry Jageman, Rose Dikis, Jill Harris, Carey Busch, Diane Bouvier, Joan Butcher, and Dara Walburn.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Patterson at 5:30 p.m.

A brochure obtained from Fred Davis called the Emergency Preparedness for People with Functional Needs was passed out.

2. **Introductions**

The MOU partnership between the Disabilities Commission and PACDAP will be discussed tonight. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves to each other.

3. **Minutes**

Scott Dennis moved to approve the minutes of June 17, 2015, with the correction. Rose Dikis seconded. All voted aye.

4. **Old Business**

Athena Award

An actual Athena Award was shown to the commission members. They will cost approximately \$250 each and six have been made. Each one is uniquely different and can be individually engraved. The initial design fee for Kevin Morgan will be covered by Steve Patterson.

Chair Nomination

Steve Patterson asked the commission members to start thinking about a nomination for the chair of the Disabilities Commission for 2016.

5. **New Business**

MOU with PACDAP

Diane Bouvier said the MOU was signed by Mayor Wiehl and President McDavis in an effort to help move the work forward to eliminate barriers for individuals with disabilities.

Collaboration Scopes identified below:

Resource for City and University
Emergency Preparedness Plan
Identify Mechanism to Remove Barriers
Disability Awareness Opportunities
Communication and Reports of Joint Efforts

The current links for communication between the commission and PACDAP are Carolyn Lewis, Darrell Purdy, and Steve Patterson.

The event for the ADA Anniversary and the MOU with the Disabilities Commission have been the main focus of the PACDAP group. The Mayor and President McDavis will read a proclamation at noon on October 6, 2015.

The commission discussed hosting a Disabilities Safety Day with several of the same representatives from the Senior Safety Day in Athens.

Dara Walburn said the Richland Avenue construction area is somewhat frustrating when you are trying to get somewhere in the city.

The role of the MOU is to foster more awareness, develop paths to get to the right person to voice concerns, and get things accomplished for individuals with disabilities. The City of Athens is exploring an app to report issues such as sidewalk problems, etc.

Darrell Purdy asked what the vision of the partnership was when it was first introduced. Steve Patterson said he felt both groups (PACDAP and the Disabilities Commission) are working on the same issues and collaboration would be beneficial and worthwhile.

Diane Bouvier said it has been discussed to have quarterly meetings between the two groups. She suggested combining the scopes with the appropriate Disabilities Commission committees to streamline the process. The committees could meet more frequently than the quarterly group meetings.

Rose Dikis asked if there is an access barrier form available on the Ohio University website; no. Rose Dikis passed out a copy of a form from another university.

The commission was asked to help with some of the planning events in October, including joint university and city events.

Darrell Purdy said he discussed accessible housing with an individual at the state level. They talked about fair housing legislation and what policies are currently in place and upcoming changes.

The commission discussed bringing the Emergency Preparedness portion of the scope to the forefront. Darrell Purdy is reviewing the current plans in place for Ohio University and the City of Athens.

Individuals with expertise in transportation are needed to help with the process; such as, Lantz Repp. Dara said it is amazing how many people are served in Athens County that have transportation needs. Darrell Purdy offered to get with Jill Harris and Fred Davis to look at and evaluate the current emergency plans using the checklist. He will email a summary of the results to the commission members.

Integrating the City of Athens and Ohio University websites would be a good project for the resource committee.

A list of individuals who would come out and look at problems such as sidewalks and public spaces is needed. The City of Athens has identified sidewalks on North Congress, Central Avenue, and South May for assessments and repair.

The commission discussed collaboration of accessible buildings. PACDAP is working with Ohio University for better project design on OU buildings.

It was suggested that a small summary of what each subcommittee would be working on and their responsibilities would help the commission members make an informed decision. The outline of sponsorship of the meetings was accepted by everyone present. The PACDAP team was advised of how the CAT team works and its mission.

October 6, 2015 - ADA Celebration Series

The event kickoff will include a welcome, reading of the proclamation, and a community member speaker.

Athens on Demand

Carolyn Lewis said Athens on Demand provides a great service to the community but they are in the process of dropping the Saturday services due to funding and lack of use. The evening service was dropped about a year ago. Rose and Carolyn worked on the letter as presented to the commission and they are requesting the commission's support of the letter to be sent to Athens on Demand.

Carolyn Bailey Lewis moved to request support from the commission members to send a letter to Athens on Demand. Paige Stretton seconded. All voted aye.

6. **Committee Reports**

None

7. **Announcements**

The next meeting of the commission will be on August 19, 2015.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Sharlene Bails, City of Athens