

Athens City Commission on Disabilities Outreach and Communication Committee Minutes

May 14, 2024

Berry Conference Room, City Building, Athens, Ohio ([ADA-requested virtual access](#))

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Call to order

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

Present: Michelle Hahn, co-chair; Debbie White Burleigh, co-chair; Carolyn Lewis

Establish quorum

A quorum was established.

Approval of minutes from February 13 and March 12, 2024 meetings

Burleigh moved to approve the minutes of the February 13 and March 12, 2024 meetings, and Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried and the February 13 and March 12, 2024 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Business

- Review of recent events
 - Developmental Disability Awareness Festival - the excitement is contagious, important to keep showing up for networking
 - Walk, Talk, and Roll - well attended, good sidewalk access/inaccess presentation
 - Senior Safety Day - another great networking opportunity, folks stopped by to engage with the fall prevention information that we provided; Deb would like the commission to consider hosting a fall prevention clinic
- Potential new members

- The following persons are potential new members: Precious Powell (student, maybe junior or senior - Lewis will contact); Lexi Simmerson (student, involved in Inclusion Project at OU, Burleigh will contact); maybe reach out to Athena Award nominees
- Future meetings
 - Now that student members have graduated and the school year has ended, there may not be a need to choose a different day or time to accommodate class schedules. For now we will keep this day and time, remembering to try to move to a different day during months that start on a Wednesday in the future due to the recurrence of this meeting and the timing of the full Commission meetings in those months. When the next Ohio University school year begins, we will revisit the need to choose a different day or time to accommodate student members' class schedules.
- First steps for Athena Award
 - The nominations for the award are officially open on June 1; the first press communications will be sent in mid-June; The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2024.
 - Lewis will chair a Commemoration Committee to plan the event as it will be the 10th anniversary of the award and will coincide with the 20th anniversary of the Athens Commission on Disabilities; We will use Mauvette's for catering, consider beginning with dinner earlier in the event, providing a shorter program with Davey McNelly as the Master of Ceremonies that features a prominent speaker and a proclamation from the

mayor. To accommodate a different type of event, we will consider auditorium-style seating, with tables at the back of the space for eating; We will invite previous winners, having one speak about what it's like to be a winner; There may be chamber music playing in the background.

Announcements

There will be an adaptive sports event with cornhole on June 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Athens Community Center.

Next meeting

- The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 11, 2024, in the Berry Conference Room, City Building, Athens, Ohio.

Adjourn

Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting and Burleigh seconded. The motion carried unanimously.