

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
August 16, 2023
Athens Community Center Room A (or via Zoom with ADA request)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Vice chairperson Dianne Bouvier called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

Quorum was established.

Present: Lisa Simpson, Anna Korpi, jw Smith, Deb Burleigh, vice chair Dianne Bouvier, Secretary Ally Hughes, Michelle Hahn, Joe Brumfield, Treasurer Carolyn Lewis
Annah read the purpose.

Motion to Approve Minutes. jw motioned to approve the June and July 2023 Minutes.
Annah seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Dianne provided the Treasurer's Report. Spent \$581.38 on Walk, Talk and Roll. The current balance is \$1918.62. Deb motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Annah seconded. Approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Athena Award Nomination Process
 - Deb and Michelle gave an update. The event is Nov 1st 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Community Center. The deadline to nominate is September 1, 2023 and none have been received.
 - Press release still not in A News - go through Nicole (Carolyn will write to Nicole)
 - Suggestion that previous nominators consider nominating again (Carolyn sending nominator list for past two years)
 - Carolyn connecting WOUB's Emily Votaw to Michelle and Deb
 - Davey to recontact Scott to add Joe, Michelle, Ally as Facebook admin
 - Michelle is reaching out to Special Olympics bowling team
 - Deb contacting Passion Works and Echoing Connections to seek nominations from program participants
- City Grant for Accessibility for buildings and businesses
 - Annah announced that grants totaling \$30,000 have been awarded to six businesses
 - Brenen's (expand doorway and push button), Bagel Street Deli (accessible door), Athens Photo Project (accessible space), Passion Works (accessible chairs), Little Fish (table extensions), Kinnear Flats (accessible apartments and storefronts)

- Annah is doing PR about the winners; press release (Ally reviewing)

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

-- Executive Team

- Two-tiered sidewalks - Davey and Dianne met with Jessica to talk about the importance of two-tiered sidewalks for accessibility for businesses during Uptown sidewalk renovations

Accessibility and Advocacy

- Dianne said committee is drafting email about feedback on Curb Ramp prioritization to EPW; issue is that remediating curb ramps alone does not provide accessible routes through the City. There also needs to be a plan to remediate the affiliated sidewalks.
- Committee also writing a letter to City Council to support funding for EPW to oversee a 10-year sidewalk remediation plan, to be signed by all Commission and committee members
- Upcoming street and sidewalk work and priorities
- Next meeting: September 8th at noon – City Building
- Ally will send Patty note about needing access to longer Zoom
- Michelle is providing edits

Outreach and Communications

- Athena Award discussed under New Business
- Next Meeting: September 12th City Building 5:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blind Boys of Alabama, Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 7:30 P.M at Templeton-Blackburn. Michelle offered to organize buying tickets so we can sit together. She will send out email to ask who wants to join in.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ally Hughes, Secretary
August 22, 2023