

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
June 21, 2023
Athens Community Center Room A (or via Zoom with ADA request)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson Davey McNelly called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Secretary Ally Hughes established quorum.

Present: Chairperson Davey McNelly, Vice chair Dianne Bouvier, Secretary Ally Hughes, Lacey Rodgers, Michelle Hahn, Lisa Simpson, Micah McCarey, Joe Brumfeld, Deb Burleigh, Annah Korpi

Davey read the Commission's Purpose and Mission Statement.

The motion to approve the May 2023, minutes was made by Dianne. Seconded by Lisa. The motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report remains unchanged due to Carolyn being away. The Executive team will meet to consolidate the Report.

NEW BUSINESS

- Walk, Talk and Roll Review (Davey)
 - o June 9th 11:30 am to 1 pm.
 - o What worked: Content and programming, good location, many people on walk
 - o What didn't work: Less pizza needed, OU issue with chairs and electricity, closer distances between speakers and attendees, instruct speakers on how to speak with sign language etiquette, turn up speakers and mics, announce accessible bathroom location
- Future WTR: Different location, block off Court street, draw map next year (Michelle), focus on plain language, chants, rallies, make signs
 - o Point person for invites, coordinating person – maybe Outreach committee could take this on
 - o Panel discussion/local businesses could table/name tags
 - o Root beer floats
 - o Next steps: video and monthly A news corner
- Upcoming Street and Sidewalk Work (Ally)
 - o Proposing two tiered sidewalks, talking crosswalks
 - o Andy got in touch and shared the plans with the Commission, Davey sharing with everyone, (Ally, Rob, Davey) – Upcoming accessibility and advocacy,
 - o Dianne reached out to jw to discuss type of pushbutton for crossing the street and will forward the push button specs to Commission for others to send out
- Welcome New Commission Member Michelle Hahn!
- Future accessibility efforts: How can we make museums more accessible?

OLD BUSINESS:

- City Grant for Accessibility for buildings and businesses (Annah)
 - o Grant application voting and applications update
 - o 4 businesses have applied
 - o Bagel street, Little Fish, Kinnear Flats, Passion Works
 - o Athens Photo Project, Discovery Museum and Brennan's are still potentially applying
 - o Meet midway through July to review applications
 - o Lacey is the backup person for jw's spot on the committee

COMMITTEE REPORTS

-- Executive Team (Ally, Carolyn, Davey, Dianne)

- Work on WTR

-- Accessibility and Advocacy (Dianne/Ally)

- EPW visiting next meeting
- Walk Talk and Roll planning
- Next meeting: July 14th at noon – City Building

-- Outreach and Communications (Deb)

- WTR promotion, Athena Promotion Schedule
- Next meeting TBD

-July 11th at 5:30 is next meeting (Davey, Ally) – Zoom in Annah (she will be at Children's)

- Co-leads are Michelle and Deb – temporarily until Carolyn is back

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Blind Boys of Alabama, Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 7:30 P.M at Templeton-Blackburn.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made by Annah. Seconded by Dianne. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ally Hughes, Secretary

June 29, 2023