

Athens City Commission on Disabilities

Accessibility and Advocacy Committee Meeting

October 10, 2025, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Meeting Location: Berry Conference Room

Committee members may request accommodation due to a disability, including zoom access, by contacting Davey in advance.

Agenda

Call to Order

Establish Quorum

Approval of Minutes – 09/12/25

Update on Guest Contacts for future meetings

Update on Sunday Creek ADA Plan Meeting

Old Business

New Business

Announcements

Next Meeting: Friday, November 14th, 2025 at the City Building, Berry Conference Room, first floor.

Accessibility and Advocacy Committee Meeting MINUTES

Friday, September 12, 2025, 12:00pm – 1:00pm -Athens City Building, First Floor Conference Room

Attending: Lisa Simpson, Rob Delach, Davey McNelly, Ben Ziff, Dianne Bouvier, Lacey Rogers **Quorum was met.**

General Discussion

August meeting minutes approved. Rob made motion. Dianne seconded.

Noone requested zoom accessibility for meeting.

Meagan Jennings isn't available to meet right now. We would like to invite the Mayor and City Safety Service Director to attend for an update.

Ben planning to invite Chuck Nungster (Sunday Creek Horizons) to the October meeting.

Diane gave a West Union Audit update. It was a collaborative effort and they met and reviewed notes. Stephanie added how it connects to SPACE. They will send it to Saleh, Jillian, Jerrod Balderson and Andy Stone.

A recommendation is that HAPCAP work with the city to mark bus stops. Stephanie audited the bus stops and sent to Ben. Rob said he can work on putting it into a GIS file.

It was questioned if there is a central place for reports within the City files? Michelle is working on this for the public.

Rob will check in with his connection on what platform is used and if we can get access. He will also ask Scott Orian if it could be shareable within the commission.

Davey created a recurring zoom. He will put link for the meeting on the bottom of agenda.

Old Business

The committee talked of repairs still needed. They are starting work on Madison and East State Street where they will be changing to 2 car lanes and taking out the island. They are not putting in a crossing. Dianne said she found one on another street in town and she will let Rob know so he can look at it.

The committee suggested that a crosswalk be put further up the street for safety.

The Sunday Creek meeting was moved to Tuesday, 9/16 at 8:30 am regarding the ADA plan. Dianne and Davey are representing the Committee. Rob has the data. They will ask how much infrastructure of city streets are included. They will invite them to a committee meeting.

We are still looking for the matrix that was created by Ally and figure out who can have access. Meaghan also has the old data.

The engineers curb ramp data is incomplete also.

Accessibility and Advocacy Meeting Minutes

9/12/25 - Page 2

Rob gave an update on the city-wide curb project. Instead of ending the ramp, they smoothed it down to the concrete. They will be fixing it to a 1" height clearance near the Engineering Research building. Rob is creating a map/metric of sidewalks and accessible curb ramps and tag the year of the start date. They chose 20 to focus on. The work proposed hasn't been completed yet – mostly painting crosswalks.

They are starting work on the roundabout at 56. The plans are better, but not great.

It's the fourth attempt at asking for bids for the uptown project and still didn't get an acceptable bid. We will suggest the city engineers talk to Logan about their recent very successful accessible streetscape project.

New Business

Davey explained that SOCIL had a very successful Beach Day. Good turnout. They enjoyed the completed accessible kayak launch and accessible beach path.

Rob moved that David Hartinger be approved as a committee member. Lisa seconded and the motion carried.

Davey shared that the Gathering Place requested city approval to install up to 3 Conestoga huts that would provide temporary housing for people within their gated lot. They would support up to 10 people/year with this project. The City Safety Board of Appeals would have to approve every 2 years. The committee questioned if the Commission should write a letter of support. It takes 3 readings and then 6 weeks after the reading to get an answer.

There is also discussion about hoping to put in a bike repair shop.

David mentioned that the Gathering Place is adding a lift chair to access the 2nd floor of the Gathering Place house.

The Sunset Hotel Family Housing project with 29 rooms is planning to be completed for the fall of next year.

Announcements

Lacey explained that there is a community welcome event planned on 10/21 from 6-8pm at the newly renovated Armory building.

Ben mentioned that Eva Bloom, Director of HAPCAP has resigned.

Meeting Ended w/motion by Davey and second by Rob. Carried. **Next Meeting is Friday, 10/10.**

