

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
Aug 19, 2026
Athens Community Center, Conference Room
(ADA - requested virtual access)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER (Annah K) (1 min)

ESTABLISH QUORUM (Annah K) (1 mins)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Anna H) (1 min)

- [July 2026](#)

TREASURER'S REPORT (Ally) (1 min)

NEW BUSINESS (20 min)

- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities presentation (Josh Hilliard)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Executive Team (Dianne) (5 min)
 - o Casa Nueva email about planter and ramp
 - o Meghan Jennings' email about Planned Unit Development (PUD)
 - o Meghan Jennings' email about Comprehensive Plan
- Athena Award Committee (Michelle) (5 min)
 - o Poster
 - o Nominations update
- Outreach and Communication (Annah K) (5 min)
 - o [Calendar](#) of other Commission meetings - will work on talking points at Sept. mtg
 - o Social media best practices discussion
 - o Featuring our disability community in FB posts – ideas of people?
- Accessibility and Advocacy (Katie) (5 min)
 - o Update on meeting with Gillian and next steps
- Bylaws Committee (Michelle) (5 minutes)

OLD BUSINESS (5 min)

- Website updates/archives (Joe)

Accessibility and Advocacy	Outreach & Communication	Ad hoc: Bylaws	Ad hoc: Athena Award	Ad hoc: Nominating Group	Accessibility Consultation Team
Katie, co-chair Davey, co-chair Dianne Ally Hughes	Annah, chair Dale Gabe Deb	Michelle Dianne	Michelle Debbie John McCarthy Anna	John McCarthy	Dianne Davey

Ben Ziff Stephanie Hunter Rob Delach Tisha Springer John Staser	Andrea Seth Adriana?				
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ANNOUNCEMENTS (2 mins)

- SOCIL Town Hall, Oct. 23rd 12:00-1:30

ADJOURN (1 min)

Future Meetings

Outreach and Communication Committee

- Meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Athens City Building, Berry Conference Room, first floor. **Next meeting: Tuesday, September 8, 4:30-5:30 pm**

Accessibility and Advocacy Committee

- Meets the second Friday of the month at the Athens City Building, Berry Conference Room, first floor. **Next Meeting: Friday, September 11th, 12:00-1:00 pm**

Full Commission

- Meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Athens Community Center, Room A. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 16th, 5:30 – 6:30 pm**

Exec Team

- Meeting time to be determined.

Athens City Commission on Disabilities
July 15, 2026
Athens Community Center, Conference Room
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Dianne called the meeting to order at 5:32

Present: Dianne Bouvier (Vice Chair), Ally Hughes (Treasurer), Anna Heinrich (Secretary), Joe Brumfield, Debbie Burleigh, John McCarthy, Dale Ellis

Guest: Lilli Williams

Established Quorum

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Ally motioned to approve the June 2026 minutes with corrected typo, John seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- There are no changes from the previous report.
- Joe motioned to approve the treasurer's report, Anna seconded. Motion passed unanimously

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Executive Team**
 - The Executive team has been working behind the scenes with committee chairs to make sure things are moving along.
 - The Executive Team recently met with Mayor Patterson for an update. They meet with him a few times a year.
- **Outreach and Communication Committee**
 - [Calendar](#) of other Commission meetings – We would like everyone to sign up to attend one committee.
 - **Purpose:** Find out where the intersections are. How can what they're doing become more accessible? Where could we help them or support them? Find out what they're doing.
 - It would be helpful if Annah and Communications Committee could put together some talking points. Are there handouts we could bring?
 - Possible talking points:

We work with the city to make things more accessible.
We hold 2 events in the community and they're always welcome to come.

- Meetings that members would like to attend:
 - Dianne – Planning
 - Debbie – Affordable Housing and Health Board
 - Joe – Planning and Community Relations
 - John – Health Board
 - Anna – Pedestrian and Bicycle Task Force
 - Dale – Planning
 - Ally - Housing

- **Accessibility and Advocacy**

- Plan to meet with Gillian on July 17 at 9am during the Pedestrian and Bicycle committee meeting.
- Overview of [Matrix](#): The matrix highlights issues that people on the committee have noticed and the status of each issue.
 - The committee went through the document to update it.
 - Dianne has asked Andy Stone to set up grinding on a regular cycle.
 - How decisions were made about priorities:
 - Is it in a high traffic area?
 - Is it easy or inexpensive to fix?
 - Where do groups of people with disabilities live? Are we making sure those areas are accessible.

- **Athena Award Committee**

- Michelle put out nomination form. Michelle and John met once. Whole group will meet soon.
- Discussion regarding an ordinance about the Athena Award and timelines.
- Annah asked Gabe to write a press release
- There was an article in The Messenger on July 6th talking about the award stating that we are accepting nominations
- We would love to see article highlighting previous Athena Award winners
- Joe would like to do a poster advertising the Athena Award

- **Bylaws Committee**

- The original ordinances are broad.
- Michelle and Dianne recently met. They reviewed changes Michelle proposed. This is still in process.

- The ordinances have some information about the Disability Commission that should be incorporated in our bylaws.
- We need to think of Standards of Practice – what doesn't need to be in bylaws, but we need to remember to do. How do we create something like that?

OLD BUSINESS

- **Website updates/archives**
 - This is in process. They got a good start on it the other day.
 - Joe has reached out to Ryan via social media. Dianne will send Ryan and Scott's emails to Joe, along with a link to the google sheet

NEW BUSINESS

- The guests at next meeting will be from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (possibly Josh and Tonya).
- Dianne went to City County Health Department event on brain health and dementia risks. Shared handouts re: GuardCare 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Friday meeting with the Pedestrian Accessibility and Bicycle Task Force is at 9:00 a.m.
- SOCIL is hosting a Beach Day on Friday at Strouds Run from 11:00 – 2:00.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:25pm

- Joe made a motion to adjourn, Dale seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Accessibility and Advocacy	Outreach & Communication	Ad hoc: Bylaws	Ad hoc: Athena Award	Ad hoc: Nominating Group	Accessibility Consultation Team
Katie, co-chair Davey, co-chair Dianne Ally Hughes Ben Ziff Stephanie Hunter Rob Delach Tisha Springer	Annah, chair Dale Gabe Deb Andrea Seth Adriana?	Michelle Dianne	Michelle Debbie John McCarthy Anna	John McCarthy	Dianne Davey

John Staser					
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