

ATHENS COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Draft of Minutes of September 4, 2025 meeting

*The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Tina White. Present were Tina, Co-Chair Krista Gay, Jen Benware, Sandi Capponcelli and Don Capponcelli, committee members.

*Minutes of the August, 2025 meeting were not available for review.

***Review of Town Picnic** – There were 19 people in attendance. The games went well. The Committee agrees to try this event again.

- Tom and Linda Taylor donated the barbecue grill for permanent use.

***Chili Cookoff** – Scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20th. There are 6 entrants so far. Flyers went out to the Grafton School. There are Facebook posts. The Committee agrees on \$100.00, \$50.00 and \$25.00 for first, second and third prizes, respectively.

- Extension cords are needed.

- Cleanup needs to take place immediately after the event, as a private group has reserved the space for Sunday, Sept. 21st.

- There will be a Town Plan hearing on Monday evening Sept. 22nd.

***Vermont Trust Initiative Grant** – We won't be able to make this year's deadline. Tina White has talked to Sherry Maher (Meeting House Committee chair) and Mike McConnell (Windham Regional Commission) about building-up for next year's application.

***Halloween Party** – Scheduled for October 25th, which is the Saturday before Halloween. Time of event is 5PM to 7PM.

- There will be hot dogs and hamburgers.

- Sarah Rattet has agreed to oversee the decorating.

- We need to advertise for candy donations.

***Children's Christmas Shop** – Scheduled for Nov. 29th, which is the Saturday after Thanksgiving Day. Time of event is 1PM to 3PM. We need to advertise for donations, particularly for gifts for men. Adults can shop from 3-3:30PM.

***Chowder Cookoff** – Tentatively set for February 7, 2026. Event to include a basket raffle. Facebook invites should be worked-on once the event is scheduled.

***Other Business:**

- Outdoor Floodlights – A contract and deposit has been made with HB Energy Solutions for installation of floodlights on the southwest and southeast corners of the building, directed toward the driveway. The work is to be completed prior to the October 25th Halloween party.

- Parking Lot paving – Matt Perry had recommended that the Committee look into putting in a special article in the upcoming March, 2026 Town Meeting for asphalt paving from the flag pole up. Don Capponcelli and Matt will contact local contractors for a budget price for the work.

- Third Bathroom – Appears to be functional, despite the sign on the door to the contrary. Don and Sandi are to go through the contents of the room.

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:57PM (Sandi Capponcelli moved to adjourn; seconded by Krista Gay).

Respectfully submitted,

Don Capponcelli