



Minutes for Governor's Commission on Disabilities Disability Business Enterprise

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

9:00AM-10:30AM

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,
Cranston, RI 02920-3049

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Attendees:	Bill Nieranowski (Chair), Monica Dzialo, John Treat, Linda Roche, Paul Harden, Andy Argenbright, Gayle Reid, and Chris Botts (Staff)
Excused:	Paul Grenon
Absent:	

----- Agenda Topics -----

Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes 9:00AM	Bill Nieranowski, Chairperson	5 min.
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MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as: presented PH/AA passed unanimously

Action Items:	Discussion Leader:	
1. Pending Certification/Recertification	Chris Botts	

Discussion: The committee reviewed the renewal application for businesses owned by a person with a disability: Ennis Enterprises, Andy Argenbright, CPA, EVAS, and Zane Sherman

MOTION: To approve the application for DBE certification for Ennis Enterprises, Andy Argenbright, CPA, EVAS, and Zane Sherman Andy Argenbright abstained from voting, PH/JT passed unanimously

Discussion: The committee reviewed the renewal applications for businesses where 60% of employee hours producing products or services are provided by persons with disabilities; In-Sight, Cookie Place, OSCIL and ProMail

MOTION: To approve the applications for DBE certification for In-Sight, Cookie Place, OSCIL and ProMail MD/AA passed unanimously

Discussion: The committee reviewed the renewal applications for businesses developed by non-profit rehabilitation facilities: Arc of Blackstone Valley, A New Leaf, The Cove Center, Corliss Institute, Inc., Cranston Arc, John E. Fogarty Center, The Homestead Group, James L. Maher Center, Coffee Plus, Trudeau Center and Training Thru Placement.

MOTION: To approve the applications for DBE certification for Arc of Blackstone Valley, A New Leaf, The Cove Center, Corliss Institute, Inc., Cranston Arc, John E. Fogarty Center, The Homestead Group, James L. Maher Center, Coffee Plus, Trudeau Center and Training Thru Placement. PH/AA passed unanimously Gayle Reid abstained from voting

2. DBE Regulations	Bill Nieranowski	
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Discussion: Bill updated the committee on the status of the DBE Regulations. In November 2008, a meeting was held with the state attorney's, the Department of Purchasing, and the Commission on Disabilities to discuss implementing regulations for the DBE law. Draft regulations were submitted for review. The Commission is currently waiting for a response from the State's legal department.

3. DBE Staff Report	Chris Botts
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Discussion: Chris Botts updated the committee on the past year with the DBE's. Many of the Rehabilitation agencies had a difficult year due to budget cuts and were not able to focus as much on their business as in previous years. The James L. Maher Center was awarded a catering contract for catering the Governor's Bay Day. Also, the Cranston Arc was awarded contracts for emergency janitorial services. Through the Master Price Agreement, BetterShred has new contracts with the AG's office, Division of Taxation, Town of Smithfield, and the City of Cranston. Chris Botts also discussed the DBE Networking Session that is scheduled for January 30, 2009 at the Cranston Public Library. The goal of the meeting is to have the disability businesses and the DBE committee members meet and discuss the future of the DBE program.

4. 2008 DBE Annual Report and 2009 Task List Q1
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Discussion: The committee reviewed the FY 2009 DBE task list and the DBE Annual Report. The committee approved and distributed the task list. Bill Nieranowski will finalize the annual report and distribute to the usual recipients.

Announcements and Scheduling of Meetings	Chairperson	5 min.
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Next meeting will be on:	February 11, 2009	Starting at: 9AM
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Adjournment:	Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10:30
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Other Information

Observers:	
Resource persons:	