



Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
HEARING BOARD

John O. Pastore Center
41 Cherry Dale Court
Cranston, RI 02920-3049
hsalvas@gcd.ri.gov (e-mail)
(401) 462-0103 (voice) 462-0101 (tty) 462-0106 (fax)



In the matter of: The Westerly Town Council

August 2, 2011

Decision and Order

Upon request of the Westerly Town Council for a "Open Meeting Telecommunications Waiver" in accordance with Chapter B of the Regulations of the Governor's Commission on Disabilities; and as provided in § 42-46-5 (10). **Open Meetings** of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island; and as authorized under § 42-46-5 (4); the Hearing Board of the Governor's Commission on Disabilities met on 20 July 2011 to conduct a hearing to determine if the request could be granted.

Findings of Fact

In the course of the hearing the board took official notice of its previous findings of fact as follows:

1. The Westerly Town Council applied for an Open Meeting Telecommunications Waiver for Councilor Richard C. Anthony.
2. The Westerly Town Council testified to importance of Councilor Richard C. Anthony expertise in financial matters and unique perspective that is vital to the citizens of Westerly.
3. The Westerly Town Council supplied Doctor Robert Legare's letter certifying that Councilor Richard C. Anthony could not be present at the Westerly Town Council do to his disability for a period of six months or more.
4. The Westerly Town Council would provide all necessary telecommunication so that Councilor Richard C. Anthony will be able to participate in all matters before the Westerly Town Council.

Conclusions of Law

Based upon the above findings of fact, the Board concludes, as a matter of law, that the request of the Westerly Town Council meets the criteria established in §§ 42-46-5 (10). **Open Meetings** of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island.

Order

Wherefore it is hereby ordered that the request of the Westerly Town Council for Open Meeting Telecommunications Waiver is granted for an indefinite period.

For the Hearing Board

R. Timothy Flynn

Sharon Brinkworth

Ronald McMinn

Arthur Plitt

**By Chairman of the Governor's Commission
on Disabilities**

R. Timothy Flynn.

2 August 2011

Date