

Minutes



LEGISLATION COMMITTEE & PUBLIC FORUM SPONSORS

Monday October 4, 2004 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

John O. Pastore Center (Formerly the Howard Center)

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(e-mail) disabilities@gcd.state.ri.us

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Secretary: Bob Cooper

Attendees:

Leg. Cmte. Members Victoria Wilcox (Chair); Fred Burke; Rosemary Carmody; Linda Deschenes; Kate McCarthy-Barnett; Arthur Plitt; & Gwen Revees

Sponsors: Casey Crothers (Brain Injury Association); Dianne Kayala (DHS Center for Adult Health); Ken Pariseau (Neighborhood Health Plan of RI); Natanya Szendro (Rhodes to Independence Steering Committee); & Jan Verrechia (DHS Office of Rehabilitation Services)

Excused: Scott Greco (Vice Chair); Raymond Bandusky; Paul Choquette; Regina

Leg. Cmte. Members Connor; Joseph Corrente; Michael Cronan; Tim Flynn; Mitch Henderson;

Lynda Kahn; Rev. Gerard Sabourin & Ernie Savastano

Minutes

3:00 PM Call to Order

Victoria Wilcox, Chair.

Discussion: Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Attendees introduce themselves

3:05 PM Discussion on the 2004 Public Forums

Victoria Wilcox

Discussion: Members discussed the issues that need to be addressed in future forums:

1. Pawtucket, Independence Square's large meeting space has very poor acoustics, which creates a communications barrier;
2. Newport, the change of building locations on short notice made additional work for co-sponsors who had already alerted their members/consumers to the original location; and
3. Westerly, the moderator needs to set firm ground rules so speakers are not interrupted by other attendees.

3:30 PM Creation of Working Groups to Review the Testimony from the Public Forums

Victoria Wilcox

Discussion: Based on notifications of interest that came in from sponsors who were unable to attend and the preferences of the attendees, the working group membership is:

A) Accessibility

- 1) Leader: Casey Crothers casey@biaofri.org 461-6599
- 2) Joseph Guay JGsailing@fctvplus.net 401-246-1858
- 3) Gwen Reeve Gwendolyn.reeve@rir.nmss.org 738-8383
- 4) Linda L. Deschenes ldeschenes@ors.ri.gov 421-7005 ext. 360

B) Communication Access

- 1) Leader: Victoria Wilcox VictoriaWilcox@att.net 949-8028
- 2) Jessica Tunison JessicaT.SBVIPost.sbvi@ors.ri.gov
- 3) Jeanne Panarace jeannepanarace@cox.net
- 4) Steven Florio sflorio@cdhh.ri.gov

C) Employment

- 1) Leader: Chris Rancourt crancourt@gcd.ri.gov 462-0107
- 2) Fred Burke bfred13@aol.com 647-7447
- 3) Regina Connor reginac@ors.state.ri.us, 421-7005 ext. 390
- 4) Monica Dzialo monicad.SBVIPost.sbvi@ors.ri.gov 421-7005
- 5) Steve Brunero sbrunero@ors.ri.gov 421-7005
- 6) Pat Ryherd pryherd@ors.ri.gov 421-7005 ext. 316

D) Family Support

- 1) Leader: Dianne Kayala dkayala@dhs.ri.gov 462-6303
- 2) Ken Pariseau kpariseau@nhpri.org 459-6099
- 3) Rory Carmody oolercc@aol.com 942-3445

E) Health Care

- 1) Leader: Kate McCarthy-Barnett KmcCarthybarnett@aol.com, 828-0917
- 2) Maureen Maigret, MMaigret@ltgov.state.ri.us, 222-2371
- 3) Michael Spoerri MichaelSpoerri@doh.state.ri.us, 222-4616
- 4) Dianne Kayala dkayala@dhs.ri.gov 462-6303
- 5) Ken Pariseau kpariseau@nhpri.org 459-6099

F) Housing

- 1) Leader: Arthur Plitt kingarthurarthur@yahoo.com, 724-8915
- 2) Brenda Clements bclement@housingnetwork.org 401-521-1461
- 3) Natanya Szendro nszendro@dhs.ri.gov 462-0462

G) Transportation

- 1) Leader: Tony Bagaglia tonyb@ors.ri.gov 421-7005 ext. 374
- 2) Jan Verrechia Janv@ors.ri.gov 421-7005 ext. 342

The "Education" Working Group's issues, due to lack of interest in being a member of that working group, will be split Education issues will be addressed by the Employment Working Group (school to career) or the Family Support Working Group (IEP, Inclusion & Resource Directory).

An email will be sent out to all the sponsors to see if anyone else is interested in joining any of the working groups.

4:00 PM Next Meeting Date & Adjournment **Victoria Wilcox**

Discussion: The next meeting, to review to findings and recommendations from the working groups will be Thursday October 21st 3 – 4:30 PM.

Adjourned at: 4:05 PM