



Governor's Commission on Disabilities Monday July 14, 2014 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

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

(voice) 401-462-0107 (fax) 462-0106 (tty) via RI Relay 711
(e-mail) GCD.Disabilities@gcd.ri.gov (website) www.disabilities.ri.gov



Attendees: R. Timothy Flynn (Chair.); Rosemary Carmody; (Vice Chair.); Andrew Argenbright; Judith Drew; Casey Gartland; Ronald McMinn; Msgr. Gerard Sabourin; Angelina Stabile; & Linda Ward

Absentees: Frederick Burke; Jonathan Dupre; Sarah Everhart Skeels; William Inlow; James Pitassi; Arthur Plitt; , Dawn Wardyga; & Gary Witman

Staff: Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary



5:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Timothy Flynn, Chair

Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:18 PM



MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented
Motion moved by RMcM, seconded by RC, passed unanimously

Action Items:

5:05 Changes to the Commission's Legislative Charter, Timothy Flynn

Purpose/Goal: To brief the Commissioners on the changes brought about by the enactment of RI Public Law 2014 Chapters 100 and 139

Discussion: The Governor signed into law Senate Bill 2525 and House Bill 8123.

**Chapter 100
2014 -- S 2525
Enacted 06/16/14
A N A C T**

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Introduced By: Senators Jabour, Crowley, Lombardi, and Lombardo

Date Introduced: February 27, 2014

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 42-51-2 and 42-51-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-51 entitled "Governor's Commission on Disabilities" are hereby amended to read as follows:

42-51-2. Composition of commission. – Effective on July 1, 2014, the ~~The~~ commission shall be composed of a ~~minimum of twenty-four (24)~~ eighteen (18) members, ~~and any additional members the governor may appoint.~~ Insofar as practicable, the commission shall consist of people with disabilities and state leaders of industry, labor, business, veterans, women, and federal, state, and local governments, and representatives of religious, charitable, business, labor, industrial, fraternal, civic, educational, medical, legal, veterans, welfare, and other professional groups and organizations.

42-51-4. Term of office. – (a) Of the number of members appointed originally under this chapter, one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of one year; one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter,



vacancies created by the expiration of terms shall be filled with appointments for terms of three (3) years. Members whose terms expire may be reappointed to succeed themselves.

(b) Effective on July 1, 2014, of the number of members appointed between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, two (2) shall be appointed for a term of one year; two (2) shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and six (6) shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, vacancies created by the expiration of terms shall be filled with appointments for terms of three (3) years. Members whose terms expire may be reappointed to succeed themselves.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

Chapter 139
2014 – H 8123
Enacted 06/16/14
A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Introduced By: Representatives Azzinaro, McNamara, Guthrie, Johnston, and Slater

Date Introduced: May 01, 2014

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 42-51-2 and 42-51-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-51 entitled "Governor's Commission on Disabilities" are hereby amended to read as follows:

42-51-2. Composition of commission. – Effective on July 1, 2014, the ~~The~~ commission shall be composed of a ~~minimum of twenty four (24)~~ eighteen (18) members, ~~and any additional members the governor may appoint.~~ Insofar as practicable, the commission shall consist of people with disabilities and state leaders of industry, labor, business, veterans, women, and federal, state, and local governments, and representatives of religious, charitable, business, labor, industrial, fraternal, civic, educational, medical, legal, veterans, welfare, and other professional groups and organizations.

42-51-4. Term of office. – (a) Of the number of members appointed originally under this chapter, one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of one year; one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and one-third (1/3) shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, vacancies created by the expiration of terms shall be filled with appointments for terms of three (3) years. Members whose terms expire may be reappointed to succeed themselves.

(b) Effective on July 1, 2014, of the number of members appointed between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, two (2) shall be appointed for a term of one year; two (2) shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and six (6) shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, vacancies created by the expiration of terms shall be filled with appointments for terms of three (3) years. Members whose terms expire may be reappointed to succeed themselves.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



5:15 FY 2015 Commission Budget, Bob Cooper

Purpose/Goal: To allocate Commission resources for Fiscal Year 2015

**House Fiscal Advisor's Explanation of the FY 2015 Budget
Governor's Commission on Disabilities**

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2014 Final	FY 2015 Recommended	FY 2015 Enacted
Expenditures by Category				
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 344,732	\$ 343,029	\$ 346,020	\$ 346,020
Contracted Services	11,458	17,778	16,718	16,718
Subtotal	\$ 356,190	\$ 360,807	\$ 362,738	\$ 362,738
Other State Operations	25,443	55,088	-	-
Aid to Local Units of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants, and Benefits	114,551	75,758	76,116	76,116
Capital	959,152	993,959	1,000,628	1,000,628
Capital Debt Service	-	-	66,320	66,320
Operating Transfers	-	-	3,000	3,000
Total	\$ 1,455,336	\$ 1,485,612	\$ 1,508,802	\$ 1,508,802
Sources of Funds				
General Revenue	\$ 357,711	\$ 356,352	\$ 358,275	\$ 358,275
Federal Aid	129,989	156,330	141,350	141,350
Restricted Receipts	10,365	15,930	9,177	9,177
Other	957,271	957,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total	\$ 1,455,336	\$ 1,485,612	\$ 1,508,802	\$ 1,508,802
FTE Authorization	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0

Summary. The Governor's Commission on Disabilities requested \$1.5 million which is \$1,193 less than enacted from all sources for FY 2015. The request includes \$1,931 more from general revenues, \$11,361 more from federal funds, \$1,188 less from restricted receipts and \$13,297 less from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds and the authorized level of 4.0 positions. *The Governor recommended \$1,367 less than requested from general revenues to reflect statewide medical benefit savings and the enacted level of positions.* **The Assembly concurred.**

The Governor's budget did not include a cost-of-living increase for state employees, however in April 2014, the Administration reached agreements with its largest unions for a new four-year contract effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017. This includes 2.0 percent salary increases effective April 6, 2014 and October 5, 2014 offset by increased cost sharing measures for medical benefits. The cost for FY 2015 is estimated to be \$47.4 million of which \$24.3 million is from general revenues which reflects approximately 3.5 percent growth over FY 2014. The total amount estimated for the Commission is \$11,708 of which \$10,987 is from general revenues. The Budget assumes that in order to accommodate the increased costs associated with a new state employee contract; agencies will achieve savings through turnover and vacancies.

Target Issues. The Budget Office provided the Commission with a general revenue target of \$334,467. The amount includes current service adjustments of \$1,931 and a 7.0 percent target reduction of \$25,175. *The Governor's recommendation is \$23,808 above the target.* **The Assembly concurred.**

FY 2015 Budget	Commission on		
	Budget Office	Disabilities	Difference
FY 2014 Enacted	\$ 357,711	\$ 357,711	\$ -
Current Service Adjustments	1,931	1,931	-
Change to FY 2014 Enacted	\$ 1,931	\$ 1,931	\$ -
FY 2015 Current Service/ Unconstrained Request	\$ 359,642	\$ 359,642	\$ -
Target Reduction/Initiatives	(25,175)	(25,175)	-
FY 2015 Constrained Target/Request	\$ 334,467	\$ 334,467	\$ -
Change to FY 2014 Enacted	\$ (23,244)	\$ (23,244)	\$ -

The constrained budget submitted by the agency is consistent with the Budget Office target. The proposals to achieve the reductions are noted among the items described below where appropriate.

Salaries and Benefits. The Commission’s unconstrained request includes \$347,303 from all sources for salaries and benefits for its 4.0 full-time equivalent positions, including \$72 more from general revenues and \$2,499 more from federal funds to reflect current staffing and a higher level of Help America Vote Act funding in an election year. This includes an increase of \$1,931 to reflect statewide benefit adjustments consistent with Budget Office planning values. The Commission did not assume turnover savings, consistent with the enacted budget.

The Commission’s constrained request includes \$16,712 less from general revenues to reflect 11.0 unpaid furlough days. *The Governor did not concur with the constrained request and included funding as requested with the exception of \$1,283 to reflect statewide medical benefit savings.* **The Assembly concurred.** **As noted above, the budget assumes that costs associated with employee raises will be paid through savings from holding positions vacant and other cost saving measures.**

Fellowships. The Commission’s unconstrained request includes \$25,757 including \$14,718 from general revenues and \$11,039 from federal funds for 11 fellowships, which is \$4,656 more than enacted. The Commission requests three additional fellows for FY 2015 including one Mary Brennan fellowship, and two Americans with Disabilities Act fellows. Fellows receive different levels of compensation based on the number of activities and hours worked.

The Commission’s constrained request reduces general revenue funding for the Mary Brennan fellowship and other fellowships by \$7,359 from general revenues, or 50.0 percent. The Commission does not reduce federally funded fellowships. *The Governor recommended the unconstrained level of funding.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Election Expenses. The Commission requested \$92,895 from federal Help America Vote Act funds, which is \$6,020 less than enacted. Funding supports improved voter access, education, transportation to polling places, polling place identification flags, mailings, and polling place inspections before the 2014 elections. The Commission indicated that this would exhaust Help America Vote Act funds. Grantee funding can be spent at the Commission’s discretion through April 2016. *The Governor recommended funding as requested.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Other Operations. The Commission requested \$44,214 from all sources, which is \$10,897 more than enacted for all other Commission operations. This includes \$1,859 more from general revenues, \$10,226 more from federal funds and \$1,188 less from restricted receipts for lease payments for a copier, new computer software, constituent management software, a communications consultant and other minor operating adjustments. The Commission’s constrained request reduces general revenue funding by \$1,104 for other operations and excludes the request for new computer software. *The Governor recommended \$84 less than the unconstrained request to reflect postage costs.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Accessibility Capital Projects. The Commission requested \$943,974 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for accessibility renovations to state-owned facilities. This is \$13,297 less than enacted, which reflects a shift of some expenses to the current year. The Commission plans to continue renovations of state facilities identified by an accessibility survey completed in FY 2012. Specific project information is included in the Capital Budget section of this analysis. *The Governor recommended \$56,026 more than requested to reflect updated project schedules. The Governor also recommended merging all projects into a single accessibility project.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Staffing:	During the past year, it became very apparent that with the current 4.0 employees, we could not meet all our statutory and grant obligations. We are burning out the staff as they attempt to provide services in a timely manner.
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2014 Staff Workload	HAVA	ADA I Employ.	ADA II Govt.	ADA III Public	DBE	Comply	Advocate	Admin	Total
Executive Secretary									
Plan %	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	45%	43%	100%
Actual %	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	40%	48%	100%
Plan hours/year	31.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	153.0	690.0	659.0	1,533.0
Actual hours/year	15.0	3.0	1.5	0.0	4.0	151.0	565.0	671.5	1,411.0
Over/(under)	(16.0)	3.0	1.5	0.0	4.0	(2.0)	(125.0)	12.5	(122.0)
Assist ADA Coord. (Accessibility)									
Plan %	25%	0%	75%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Actual %	27%	0%	43%	30%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Plan hours/year	406.0	0.0	1,218.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,624.0
Actual hours/year	442.5	2.0	715.5	509.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,669.0
Over/(under)	36.5	2.0	(502.5)	509.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.0
Assist ADA Coord. (Employment)									
Plan %	0%	79%	6%	0%	15%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Actual %	10%	80%	4%	2%	2%	0%	1%	2%	100%
Plan hours/year	0.0	1,266.0	96.0	0.0	241.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,603.0
Actual hours/year	148.0	1,243.8	58.5	30.0	23.5	0.0	18.0	27.5	1,549.3
Over/(under)	148.0	(22.2)	(37.5)	30.0	(217.5)	0.0	18.0	27.5	(53.7)
Public Education Aide									
Plan %	5%	10%	10%	0%	0%	0%	45%	30%	100%
Actual %	8%	12%	4%	4%	0%	0%	52%	20%	100%
Plan hours/year	83.0	166.0	166.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	747.0	498.0	1,660.0
Actual hours/year	126.5	195.0	63.0	68.0	0.0	0.0	835.5	320.0	1,608.0
Over/(under)	43.5	29.0	(103.0)	68.0	0.0	0.0	88.5	(178.0)	(52.0)
Total Staff									
Plan %	8%	22%	23%		4%	2%	22%	18%	100%
Actual %	12%	23%	23%	0%	0%	2%	23%	16%	100%
Plan hours/year	520.0	1,432.0	1,480.0	0.0	241.0	153.0	1,437.0	1,157.0	6,420.0
Actual hours/year	732.0	1,443.8		1,445.5	27.5	151.0	1,418.5	1,019.0	6,237.3
Over/(under)	212.0	11.8		(34.5)	(213.5)	(2.0)	(18.5)	(138.0)	(182.7)
ADA Grant Maintenance of Effort Obligation		Employ		Access					
		1,155.0		1,643.0					2,798.0
Over/(under) MoE		288.8		(197.5)					91.3

The Executive Committee considered several options:

1. Hiring a contract worker for HAVA polling place inspections (July - Oct) & ADA Access surveys (Nov-June) only utilizing grant funds. A review of the list of positions by the State's temporary service providers does not include any that match our needs.
2. Subcontract with an agency to conduct the polling place surveys and accessibility technical assistance. The only drawback would be that state employees may not directly supervise any employees of the subcontractor.
3. Hiring a part-time contract worker as a fiscal clerk; freeing up some of Bob & Alyssa's time. The Controller's Office may not allow access to the state's fiscal system (RIFANS) by a non-state employee.

The Executive Committee recommends Option # 2: Subcontract with an agency to conduct the polling place surveys and accessibility technical assistance.

2015 Staff Workload	HAVA	ADA I Employ.	ADA II Govt.	ADA III Public	DBE	Comply	Advocate Awareness	Admin	Total
Executive Secretary									
Plan %	2%	0%	0%		0%	15%	58%	25%	100%
Revised %	2%	0%	0.01	0%	0%	15%	43%	40%	101%
Plan hours/year	31	0	0		0	230	889	383	1,533.0
Revised hours/year	31	0	15	0	0	230	644	613	1,533.1
Assist ADA Coordinator (Accessibility)									
Plan %	0%	0%	100%		0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Revised %	4%	0%	48%	48%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Plan hours/year	0	0	1,624.0		0	0	0	0	1,624.0
Revised hours/year	65	0	779.5	779.5	0	0	0	0	1,624.0
Assist ADA Coordinator (Employment)									
Plan %	1%	77%	6%		16%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Revised %	2%	83%	3%	3%	0.10	0%	0%	0%	101%
Plan hours/year	0	1,331.0	96		257	0	0	0	1,684.0
Revised hours/year	16	1,330.5	48.1	48.1	160.3	0	0	0	1,603.0
Public Education Aide									
Plan %	10%	10%	10%		0%	0%	40%	30%	100%
Revised %	5%	10%	5%	5%	-	-	0.40	0.35	100%
Plan hours/year	166	166	166		0	0	664	498	1,660.0
Revised hours/year	83	166	0	0	0	0	664	581	1,494.0
Total Staff									
Plan %	3%	23%			4%	4%	24%	14%	71%
Revised %	3%	24%	13%	13%	3%	4%	21%	19%	100%
Plan hours/year	197.0	1,497.0	1,886		257.0	230.0	1,553.0	881.0	6,501.0
Revised hours/year	194.7	1,496.5	842.9	827.6	160.3	230.0	1,307.9	1,194.2	6,254.1
State Funded ADA Grant Maintenance of Effort Obligation		Employ	Access						
		1,155.0	1,643.0						2,798.0
State Funded ADA Hours		1,170.2	1,670.5						2,840.7
Over/(under) MoE		15.2	27.5						42.7

**Employee
Raises**

The enacted budget assumes that costs associated with employee raises will be paid through savings from holding positions vacant and other cost saving measures. The cost of employee raises (including the employer FICA, Retirement, etc.) from all funding sources is \$17,312. In addition to the employee pay raises, one of the Commission's staff has switched health insurance to the family plan, increasing our insurance cost by \$15,702.87. Based on the Commission's FY 2015 general revenue budget requests those accounts would need to absorb \$24,368.

- The Executive Committee considered several options:
1. Request reappropriation of unexpended FY 2014 general revenue, see memo below from Thomas Mullaney.
 2. Eliminate funding for:
 - a. On-line subscription to the RI General Laws, court and administrative decisions, saving \$1,476
 - b. Maintenance contract for the wheelchair lift, \$1,034
 - c. Cancel the Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance \$2,474
 - d. **Total savings only: \$4,984**

To: Department Chief Financial Officers
From: Thomas A. Mullaney
Executive Director/State Budget Officer
Department of Administration
Date: July 1, 2014
Subject: Request for Reappropriations
RI General Law 35-3-15 provides the authority for the Governor to reappropriate funds from one fiscal year to the next for the same purpose for which the funds

were originally authorized. If you wish to request the reappropriation of funds from FY 2014 to FY 2015, please submit a letter to my attention by August 1 detailing the amount of the reappropriation, the purpose for which the funds were originally appropriated, and why the funds remain unspent as of the end of FY 2014. Reappropriation requests are required for general revenue funds only. Please contact your assigned Budget Analyst if you have any questions. Thank you.

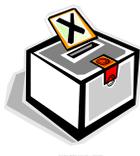
Fiscal Year 2014 (as of 7-7-14)

Description	Budget	Expenditures	Encumbrance	Pre Encumbrance	Pending	Free Balance	% Remaining
GCD: Operations	\$326,736	\$323,168	\$798	\$0	\$356	\$6,557	2%
Mary Brennan Fellowship	\$14,718	\$10,906	\$0	\$0	\$2,331	\$1,481	10%
Disability Business Enterprise	\$14,898	\$2,582	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,291	82%
General Revenue	\$356,352	\$336,681	\$799	\$0	\$2,686	\$20,3291	6%
NE ADA Grant	\$28,865	\$4,824	\$1,033	\$0	\$695	\$22,3191	77%
HAVA Grant	\$127,465	\$39,122	\$22,209	\$0	\$7,195	\$58,6651	46%
Federal Funds	\$156,330	\$43,946	\$23,241	\$0	\$7,889	\$81,253	52%
Restricted Receipts	\$15,930	\$6,897	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$9,032	57%
RICAP Accessibility	\$550,000	\$435,756	\$86,934	\$1,000	\$2,701	\$23,609	4%
All Funds	\$1,078,612	\$823,282	\$110,974	\$1,000	\$13,277	\$134,222	12%

The NE ADA Grant has a balance carried forward for several fiscal years, as of 6/30/14 the balance is \$38,176. The FY 15 payments will be \$24,000 for a combined total available during FY 15 of **\$62,176**. The FY 15 enacted budget is: The HAVA Grant has an award balance of **\$303,190**. Only \$200,000 may be carried forward beyond Sept. 30, 2014.

FY 2015 as Enacted	Total GCD Operations	Mary Brennan Fellowship	Disability Business Enterprise	NE ADA Grant	HAVA Grant
Category Summary					
Wages and Benefits	311,180		\$13,182	\$0	\$21,658
Contracted Professional Services	\$3,620	\$0	\$571	\$3,246	\$6,402
Operating Supplies and Expenses	\$12,628	\$0	\$1,748	\$12,512	\$33,134
Assistance and Grants	\$0.00	\$14,718	\$0	\$11,039	\$50,359
Capital Purchases and Equipment	\$628	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Total	\$328,056	\$14,718	\$15,501	\$26,797	\$114,553

Account	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2015 Add-ons	FY 16 Carry Forward	FY 16 Revenue	FY 16 Available
General Operations	\$327,077	\$30,845	\$0	NA	NA
College Fellowships	\$14,718	\$0	\$0	NA	NA
Disability Business Enterprise	\$14,898	-\$3,527	\$0	NA	NA
NE Americans with Disabilities Act Center Grant	\$26,797	\$23,907	\$11,463	\$24,000	\$35,463
Help America Vote Act Grant	\$114,553	\$144,665	\$14,454	\$0	\$14,454



MOTION: To issue a Request for Proposals, through the Division of Purchasing, for polling place access survey and accessibility technical assistance services, to supplement the Commission's staff up to \$29,917. A technical review committee consisting of the Executive Secretary, Chairs or Vice Chairs of the Accessibility and Election Assistance Committees is authorized to review the proposals and recommend to the Division of Purchasing the awarding of a contract. Motion moved by JD, seconded by RMcM, passed unanimously

The Executive Committee recommends Option # 1 Request reappropriation of unexpended FY 2014 general revenue (\$20,329).

	<p>MOTION: To request reappropriation of the unexpended FY 2014 general revenue to cover most of the increased cost of employee COLA and benefits; Motion moved by LD, seconded by CG, passed unanimously</p>
 <p>Ramp graphic</p>	<p>5:45 FY 2016 - FY 2020 RI Capital Plan Accessibility Renovation Budget Request, Bob Cooper</p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To adopt the FY 2016 - 2020 RI Accessibility Renovations Capital Plan Request.</p>
<p align="center">House Fiscal Advisor’s Explanation of the FY 2015-2019 RICAP Budget Governor’s Commission on Disabilities</p>	

Projects	Status	5 Year Total	Project Total
Facility Renovations	Revised	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 8,521,186
Total		\$ 7,000,000	\$ 8,521,186
Sources of Funds			
Rhode Island Capital Funds		\$ 7,000,000	\$ 8,521,186
Total		\$ 7,000,000	\$ 8,521,186

Summary. The Governor’s Commission on Disabilities requested facility renovation projects totaling \$26.5 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds. The request includes \$12.2 million to be used in the five-year period. The request is \$10.0 million more from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds to reflect the funding requested last year but not approved. *The Governor recommends \$9.0 million in total expenditures which is \$17.0 million less than requested and \$3.7 million less than the approved capital plan. The Governor recommended merging all Commission capital projects into a single project. The Assembly included \$8.5 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds including \$7.0 million for the FY 2015 through FY 2019 period.*

Facility Renovations. The Commission requested \$26.0 million to fund four separate accessibility projects described below. *The Governor recommended \$9.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in total expenditures including \$7.5 million from FY 2015 to FY 2019. This includes \$1.0 million in FY 2015, \$1.5 million each in FY 2016, FY 2017, and FY 2018 and \$2.0 million in FY 2019. The Governor recommended merging all components of the accessibility project listed below into a single project. Total funding is \$3.7 million less than the approved plan. The Assembly included \$8.5 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds including \$7.0 million for the FY 2015 through FY 2019 to reflect a project delays and reduced overall funding for the project.*

Accessibility to Higher Education. The Commission requested \$13.1 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for renovation projects at the institutions of higher education which is \$7.1 million more than the approved capital plan, of which \$6.0 million is to be used in the five-year period covered by the current request. The Commission’s request includes elements of the project that were previously requested but not recommended by the Governor or approved by the Assembly. The project includes improving elevators, access, pathways, signage and parking at state-owned buildings in order to assure access for individuals with disabilities. Projects are prioritized based on the results of a statewide accessibility survey the Commission completed in FY 2012. *The Governor recommended funding for one comprehensive project as described above. The Assembly concurred.*

Accessibility to Open Meetings. The Commission requested \$7.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for facility renovation projects to remove structural barriers at four state owned facilities that are used for public meetings. This is \$3.9 million more than the approved plan primarily for the post FY 2019 period. The

Commission’s request includes elements of the project that were previously requested but not recommended by the Governor or approved by the Assembly. The current request includes \$3.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for FY 2016 through FY 2019 and \$4.0 million for post FY-2019. Projects are prioritized based on the results of a statewide accessibility survey completed in FY 2012. *The Governor recommended funding this as part of one comprehensive project as described above.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Accessibility to Disability Service Providers. The Commission requested \$5.3 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds of which \$2.3 million is to be used from FY 2014 to FY 2019 for facility renovation projects at disability service provider facilities and is \$3.2 million more than enacted for several elevators, including one at the Groden Center. The Commission’s request includes elements of the project that were previously requested but not recommended by the Governor or approved by the Assembly.

Approved funding will be used to renovate state-owned long term care and community based facilities, including the removal of structural barriers in order to promote increased independence. Projects are prioritized based on the results of a statewide accessibility survey the Commission completed in FY 2012. It should be noted that half of these projects are for facilities owned by private providers. *The Governor recommended funding this as part of one comprehensive project as described above.* **The Assembly concurred.**

Accessibility Fire Safety Renovations. The Commission requested \$1.1 million for use during FY 2015 through FY 2019 for facilities renovations in order to remove fire safety hazards from 20 state-owned facilities. This is \$0.8 million more than the approved capital plan from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds to reflect additional projects at state owned facilities. The Commission’s request includes elements of the project that were previously requested but not approved by the Assembly. These improvements include creating areas of retreat where individuals that require an elevator can wait for firefighters to arrive in the event that an elevator is not operational and the installation of two-way radios so these individuals can have a line of communication with the fire department. Projects are prioritized based on the results of a statewide accessibility survey the Commission completed in FY 2012. *The Governor recommended funding this as part of one comprehensive project as described above.* **The Assembly concurred.**

<p>The Accessibility Committee reviewed the list of state owned and occupied facilities that have access barriers, prioritized the list, using the following criteria to determine the priority of renovations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Group I. Facilities and Systems housing programs providing direct services primarily to people with disabilities and facilities utilized for open meetings and judicial facilities; b) Group II. Facilities and Systems housing programs that provide a direct service to the General Public; and c) Group III. Facilities and Systems housing administrative and support services that could, if accessible, expand employment opportunities for workers with disabilities. Within each group, facilities are prioritized using the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Significance of service (would it be frequented more than another); (ii) Incidence of use; (iii) Unique service; (iv) Duplication of services elsewhere; (v) Life-sustaining services; (vi) Effect on quality of life; (vii) Geographic criteria or regionalization; and (viii) Service could be rendered by an adjoining office or elsewhere in the facility. d) The Committee then considers the potential for operating funds being used to complete renovations (for maintenance or repair of existing access improvements, low cost renovations, or equipment with a short life cycle).
<p>The Committee recommends the Commission adopt the FY 2016-2020 RI Capital Plan Accessibility Renovation Budget Request, as follows:</p>



Agency 022 GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Project ID/Name: FR1 Accessibility - Facility Renovations

Project Description:

Facility Renovations, to remove structural barriers at state owned facilities that prevent persons with disabilities from participating in the services, activities or benefits offered at those state facilities or being employed in those state facilities.

Project Justification:

With advances in medical treatments and as the community becomes more physically accessible the state should anticipate a greater participation by persons with severe impairments as customers of state services, residents in state healthcare facilities, students at state operated schools & colleges, or state employees.

Rhode Islanders with disabilities have a constitutional right to benefit from state programs, services, activities, and employment opportunities.

Project Status:

On-going

Strategic Criteria

Safety Concerns Major
Safety Narrative

Customers, students, residents and employees who have mobility impairments do not have safe and accessible path of travel to programs, services and work stations at the state owned facilities or in case of fire non-mechanical means of egress or areas of rescue assistance. There are 27 state owned and occupied facilities with barriers to safe evacuation of people with disabilities in a fire. Three state facilities do not have fire and other warning systems to alert persons with hearing or vision impairments of danger.

Code Violations Major
Code Narrative

Violations of the US Department of Justice's ADA Title II Accessibility Guidelines for: parking; paths of travel; signage; entrances; elevators; areas of rescue assistance; lobbies; corridors; meeting rooms; rest rooms; signage; alarms and warnings. There are 117 state owned and occupied facilities with access barriers to services, programs, activities, and employment opportunities.

Energy Impact None
Energy Narrative

Customer Service Major
Customer Narrative

Customers, students, and residents who have mobility impairments do not have a safe and accessible path of travel to programs, activities, and services at the state owned facilities.

Geographic Significance Statewide
Geographic Narrative

State owned facilities with accessibility barriers are located in: Kent, Newport, Providence, and Washington Counties.

Agency Mission High
Agency Narrative

Commission's Objective is: To ensure that all people with disabilities are afforded the opportunities to exercise all the rights & responsibilities accorded to citizens of this state & each person with a disability is able to reach his/her maximum potential.



Agency 022 GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Project ID/Name: FR1 Accessibility - Facility Renovations

User Financing	0
User Narrative	
Asset Management	
Asset Narrative	
Appropriately constructed accessibility extends the legal use of existing non-accessible facilities, allowing the state to make more productive use of state owned facilities.	
Operating	None
Operating Narrative	
Historic Preservation	Yes
Historic Narrative	
Some of the facilities, such as the State House, are on the National Register of Historic Places. Access renovations will be designed in consultation with the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission.	
Budgeted	Yes
Budget Narrative	

Critical Criteria

Critical Life Safety	Yes
Critical Life Safety Narrative	
Customers, students, residents & employees at many state owned facilities do not have a safe & accessible means of egress or area of rescue assistance to use in case of a fire. Areas of rescue assistance must be constructed to protect the occupants for 2 hours, have communication links to first responders, and be located in a manner to allow safe evacuation of the occupants by the fire department. There are 24 state owned and occupied facilities that do not have areas of rescue assistance and 3 without audible & visual alarms (to warn people who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired). Critical life safety renovations are projected to cost \$1,302,366.	
Critical Legal Liability	Yes
Critical Legal Liability Narrative	
The Americans with Disabilities Act as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; RI General Laws 42- 87 Civil Rights of People with Disabilities, 37-8-15 Public Buildings - Access for People with Disabilities and 42-46-13 Open Meetings - Accessibility for persons with disabilities; and Article I Section 2 of the RI Constitution - Laws for good of whole -- Burdens to be equally distributed -- Due process -- Equal protection -- Discrimination -- No right to abortion granted.	
There are 90 state owned and occupied facilities with accessibility barriers (not counting facilities with critical life safety barriers): Facilities primarily serving people with disabilities - 6 = \$3,160,343;	
Facilities used for open meetings (State House, etc.) - 8 = \$1,480,330;	
Facilities serving the general public - 65 = \$12,880,023, including RI College and the University of RI; Administrative facilities - 11 = \$2,045,576; and	
Six facilities with major barriers that should be abandon and services relocated to accessibility facilities = \$6,073,190.	
Prior Binding Commitment	Yes
Prior Binding Commitment Narrative	
Services housed in state owned facilities that receive state or federal funds must annually certify that all their services, benefits, activities & employment opportunities are available in facilities that comply in whole with the federal ADA Title II Accessibility Guidelines.	

FY 2016 - FY 2020
Capital Improvement Plan Request System
Project Request - Narrative and Justification (Report 2)

Fiscal Year	Subproject	Architectural and Engineering	Construction	State Building Code Fees	Contingency	Project Management	Paul Sherlock Artworks	RICAP Cost	Allocation	Balance
FY 15	Fire Safety	\$144,740	\$150,412	\$10,079	\$9,025	\$2,256	\$1,504	\$318,016		
FY 15	Disability Services	\$61,202	\$105,000	\$6,120	\$6,300	\$1,575	\$1,050	\$181,247		
FY 15	Open Meetings	\$132,949	\$119,520	\$12,305	\$7,171	\$1,793	\$1,195	\$274,933	\$23,609	FY 14 Balance Forward
FY 15	Government Services	\$52,194	\$271,156	\$1,219	\$8,995	\$2,249	\$1,499	\$337,312	\$87,934	FY 14 Encumbered
FY 15	Total	\$391,084	\$646,088	\$29,724	\$31,491	\$7,873	\$5,248	\$1,111,508	\$1,111,543	\$35
FY 15	%	35.19%	58.13%	2.67%	2.83%	0.71%	0.47%	100%		
FY 16	Fire Safety	\$0	\$1,005,000	\$0	\$60,300	\$15,075	\$10,050	\$1,090,425		
FY 16	Disability Services	\$1,500	\$65,000	\$150	\$3,900	\$975	\$650	\$72,175		
FY 16	Open Meetings	\$0	\$200,440	\$0	\$12,026	\$3,007	\$2,004	\$217,477		
FY 16	Government Services	\$59,053	\$51,000	\$5,905	\$3,060	\$765	\$510	\$120,293		
FY 16	Total	\$60,553	\$1,321,440	\$6,055	\$79,286	\$19,822	\$13,214	\$1,500,370	\$1,500,000	(\$370)
FY 16	%	4.04%	88.07%	0.40%	5.28%	1.32%	0.88%	100%		
FY 17	Disability Services	\$187,095	\$517,020	\$18,710	\$31,021	\$7,755	\$5,170	\$766,771		
FY 17	Open Meetings	\$0	\$157,810	\$0	\$9,469	\$2,367	\$1,578	\$171,224		
FY 17	Government Services	\$129,986	\$386,625	\$13,504	\$23,198	\$5,799	\$3,866	\$562,978		
FY 17	Total	\$317,081	\$1,061,455	\$32,213	\$63,687	\$15,922	\$10,615	\$1,500,973	\$1,500,000	(\$973)
FY 17	%	21.13%	70.72%	2.15%	4.24%	1.06%	0.71%	100%		
FY 18	Disability Services	\$1,500	\$619,238	\$150	\$37,154	\$9,289	\$6,192	\$673,523		
FY 18	Open Meetings	\$0	\$752,715	\$0	\$45,163	\$11,291	\$7,527	\$816,696		
FY 18	Government Services	\$9,637	\$0	\$0	\$510	\$128	\$85	\$10,360		
FY 18	Total	\$11,137	\$1,371,953	\$150	\$82,827	\$20,707	\$13,805	\$1,500,578	\$1,500,000	(\$578)
FY 18	%	0.74%	91.43%	0.01%	5.52%	1.38%	0.92%	100%		
FY 19	Disability Services	\$1,500	\$1,266,713	\$150	\$76,003	\$19,001	\$12,667	\$1,376,033		
FY 19	Government Services	\$47,859	\$527,650	\$3,561	\$31,659	\$7,915	\$5,277	\$623,921		
FY 19	Total	\$49,359	\$1,794,363	\$3,711	\$107,662	\$26,915	\$17,944	\$1,999,954	\$2,000,000	\$46
FY 19	%	2.47%	89.72%	0.19%	5.38%	1.35%	0.90%	100%		
FY 20	Disability Services	\$1,500	\$15,000	\$150	\$900	\$225	\$150	\$17,925		
FY 20	Government Services	\$696,546	\$1,119,381	\$71,186	\$67,163	\$16,791	\$11,194	\$1,982,261		
FY 20	Total	\$698,046	\$1,134,381	\$71,336	\$68,063	\$17,016	\$11,344	\$2,000,186	\$2,000,000	(\$186)
FY 20	%	34.90%	56.71%	3.57%	3.40%	0.85%	0.57%	100%		
FY 20+	Disability Services	\$9,000	\$90,000	\$900	\$5,400	\$1,350	\$900	\$107,550		

FY 2016 - FY 2020
Capital Improvement Plan Request System
Project Request - Narrative and Justification (Report 2)



Fiscal Year	Subproject	Architectural and Engineering	Construction	State Building Code Fees	Contingency	Project Management	Paul Sherlock Artworks	RICAP Cost	Allocation	Balance
FY 20+	Government Services	\$0	\$8,420,185	\$0	\$505,211	\$126,303	\$84,202	\$9,135,901		
FY 20+	Administrative	\$165,379	\$1,653,785	\$16,538	\$99,227	\$24,807	\$16,538	\$1,976,273		
FY 20+	Total	\$174,379	\$10,163,970	\$17,438	\$609,838	\$152,460	\$101,640	\$11,219,724	\$11,219,724	\$0
FY 20+	%	1.55%	90.59%	0.16%	5.44%	1.36%	0.91%	100%		
	Grand Total	\$1,701,639	\$17,493,649	\$160,627	\$1,042,854	\$260,714	\$173,809	\$20,833,292	\$20,831,267	(\$2,025)
	Cumulative								# of Facilities	
	Fire Safety	\$144,740	\$1,155,412	\$10,079	\$69,325	\$17,331	\$11,554	\$1,408,441	27	
	Disability Services	\$263,297	\$2,677,970	\$26,330	\$160,678	\$40,170	\$26,780	\$3,195,224	6	
	Open Meetings	\$132,949	\$1,230,485	\$12,305	\$73,829	\$18,457	\$12,305	\$1,480,330	8	
	Government Services	\$985,638	\$10,775,997	\$95,375	\$639,285	\$159,821	\$106,548	\$12,762,665	65	
	Administrative	\$165,379	\$1,653,785	\$16,538	\$99,227	\$24,807	\$16,538	\$1,976,273	11	
	Total	\$1,692,002	\$17,493,649	\$160,627	\$1,042,344	\$260,586	\$173,724	\$20,822,932	117	
	%	8.13%	84.01%	0.77%	5.01%	1.25%	0.83%	100%		
94	Subproject Designs						11	Upgrade Restrooms		
9	Install Areas of Rescue Assistance						4	Open Meeting Access		
7	Install Rescue Assistance Communications						6	Upgrade Corridors, rooms, signage		
2	Install Fire Alarms						21	Interior Renovations Subtotal		
18	Total Fire Safety Subtotal						6	Upgrade Elevator controls & jamb		
23	Repair Walkways						2	Install Limited Use Limited Access Lift		
7	Upgrade Disability Parking						6	Install New Elevators		
12	Install Exterior Ramps						14	Elevators & Lifts Subtotal		
42	Exterior Renovations Subtotal						7	Individualize accommodations		
	<p>MOTION: To: (1) Request reappropriation of unexpended FY 2014 RICAP funds as well as encumbered funds; and (2) Adopt the FY 2016-2020 RI Capital Plan Accessibility Renovation Budget Request, as presented above. Motion moved by JD, seconded by LW, passed unanimously MOTION: To Request an Accessibility Bond Issue be placed before the voters in 2016 for all accessibility projects for FY 2018-2020+ Motion moved by JD, seconded by LW passed unanimously</p>									

Status Reports:



6:00 Committee & Staff Reports

Purpose/Goal: To brief the commission on activities and accomplishments since the last meeting



Disability Business Enterprises Committee, Andy Argenbright, Acting Chair/Christine Rancourt Bruzzi, Assistant ADA Coordinator

The Department of Administration has still not adopted revised purchasing regulations incorporating the 2011 changes to the Disability Business Enterprise law. DBE Committee was inactive for most of the fiscal year.



Election Assistance Committee, Rory Carmody, Chair/ Christopher DeGrave, Assistant ADA Coordinator

The staff has conducted polling place accessibility surveys in the 500+ polling places and several alternative sites. The municipal boards of canvassers received the survey results and a request for proposals for renovating municipally owned polling places to remove barriers to voting.

Status	Amount	Awarded to:
Completed	\$2,070.00	Burrillville Board of Canvassers
Completed	\$1,000.00	Chariho Regional School District
Completed	\$201.34	Middletown Board of Canvassers
Completed	\$1,700.67	Portsmouth Board of Canvassers
Completed	\$499.90	Richmond Board of Canvassers
Completed	\$1,628.56	Smithfield Board of Canvassers
Completed	\$1,379.00	Woonsocket Board of Canvassers
	\$8,479.47	Total Completed
Awarded	\$10,000.00	Bristol Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$12,406.01	Central Falls Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$12,000.00	Chariho Regional School District # 2
Awarded	\$9,500.00	Charlestown Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$1,843.83	Coventry Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$12,803.00	Cranston Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$17,350.00	East Providence Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$8,929.44	Foster Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$340.65	Glocester Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$499.90	Hopkinton Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$4,249.00	Pawtucket Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$4,000.00	Pawtucket Board of Canvassers # 2
Awarded	\$4,349.85	Scituate Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$2,729.00	South Kingstown Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$2,369.00	Tiverton Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$624.00	Warren Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$7,469.02	Warwick Board of Canvassers
Awarded	\$6,553.10	Westerly Board of Canvassers
	\$118,015.80	Total Awarded
Pending	\$16,000.00	Cumberland Board of Canvassers
Pending	\$50,000.00	Providence Board of Canvassers
	\$66,000.00	Total Pending
	\$192,495.27	Grand Total
	\$303,190.00	Available HAVA Funding

Employment Committee, Sarah Everhart Skeels, Chair/Christine Rancourt-Bruzzi, Assistant ADA Coordinator

In addition to providing technical assistance from employees, employers, and others below are many of the FY13 employment achievements and barriers to success.

1. FY 13 Achievements:

- Attended the Every Company Counts' "We Mean Business" expo on Sept. 10, 2013
- Presented the ADA and You at Work training to 100 students at Brown on Sept. 25, 2013 and 20 students from URI on Dec. 5 2013
- Presented "Equal to the Task" to CVS's Colleague Resource Group on Oct. 11, 2013
- Exhibited at CVS's diversity event in Woonsocket on Oct. 11, 2013
- Coordinated 1 College and University - Increasing Employment Opportunities meetings on June 4, 2014. Topic was transferrable accommodations to the work place.
- NEADA meeting Oct. 16, 2013 in Boston
- Led the A Better Bottom Line conference working group and oversaw the conference on Oct. 21, 2014
- Presented training for the Realtor's Association on Oct. 29, 2013 and April 3, 2014
- Presented ADA Title I to 20 participants in the Supporting Meaningful Employment Program on Nov. 15, 2013
- Participated in the "Conversion: From Workshop to Integrated Employment" workshop on February 14, 2014 at Rhode Island College
- Designed and delivered a sensitivity training class to instructors in a live a life-long learning program offered at URI response to a complaint on March 21, 2014.
- Worked extensively with a complainant, the union and the court to resolve a Title I issue. Several face to face meetings. Complaint was resolved in June 2104.
- Presented ADA information to staff at DLT working on the new Disability Employment Initiative grant on July 19, 2013, March 28, 2013 and June 5, 2014.
- NE Employment Summit at RIC June 27, 2014
- Worked extensively with a complainant, and the DOH to resolve a Title I issue. Several face to face meetings. Complaint still active.

2. FY 13 Barriers:

- Chasing down a check and authorization from purchasing to have the "A Better Bottom Line" booklets printed
- On-going computer problems
- Other job duties e.g. numerous polling place inspections, election committee meetings, Title II and III complaints, DBE issues.



Hearing Board, Judith Drew, Chair

The board conducted 1 Open Meeting - Telecommunication Waiver Hearing; the application was rejected (applicant did not meet the definition of a person with a disability).



Legislation Committee, Linda Ward, Chair/Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary			
2014 Legislative Package:			
Total	Outcome	Outcome Description	Position
2	2	1 signed by Governor 1 not enacted	Commission Neutral now that it has been amended
6	2	Signed	Commission Supports
1	1	Withdrawn	Commission Supports if amended
9	5	56%	Commission Total
57	16	9 signed by Governor 5 transmitted to Governor, 1 resolution (study)	Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial
2	2	2 signed	Legislative Committee finds beneficial as Amended
21	15	Not enacted	Legislation Committee finds these bills Beneficial if amended
21	20	Not enacted	Legislation Committee finds these bills Harmful
4	2	Not enacted 2 signed by Governor	Legislation Committee finds these bills Harmful unless amended
2	2	Signed	Resolutions Beneficial as Amended
107	57	53.27%	Legislation Committee Total
116	62	53.45%	Grand Total
30			Reviewed but took no position on



Outcome	2014 Legislative Priorities
Yes	1) Transportation to Employment, job training, education, health care, etc. a) Maintain the existing RIPTA/RIde service areas;
Yes	b) Adequate funding/new & stable funding source;
No	c) Expand the RIPTA/RIde service areas/hours beyond the existing service/hours; and
No	d) Require RIPTA to establish a sliding scale RIde fare.
No	2) Global Medicaid Consumer Choice Waiver; making sure the 2008 level of services stay in place for persons with severe disabilities: a) Restore the 2008 Katie Beckett and children with autism spectrum disorders eligibility rules;
No	b) Restore the right to medically necessary brand name drugs without requiring two generic failures before allowing brand name;
No	c) Improve services for adults with autism spectrum disorders;
Yes	d) Retain multiple behavioral healthcare service delivery models;
Just	e) Maintain disability service funding;
No	f) Post-Global Medicaid Consumer Choice Waiver Transition Plan; and
No	g) Clarify eligibility for Medicaid/Sherlock services.
Yes	3) Housing Supports and other services for people with behavioral health concerns: a) Restore the Neighborhood Opportunities Program funding;
No	b) Create a supportive housing program; and
No	c) Expansion of Affordable Housing - require at least 2 additional affordable housing units for cities and towns that have not met the affordable housing goals.
No	4) Accessibility to Services: a) Provide interpreter services for ancillary healthcare programs or supports (including peer supports); and
No	b) Provide closed captions of all Capitol Television programming.
No	5) Employment a) Improve school to adult transitional to adult services / employment / post-secondary education; and
Yes	b) Maintain non-competitive employment options.
No	6) Direct the Legislation Committee to monitor progress on requiring Health Insurance Plans to cover specialty drug (Tier 4 Drug Category) in Tier 3, to determine impact of Affordable Care Act.
On hold	7) Shift to the Employment Committee the Commission's efforts on Refocusing State and



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Public Forums to Identify the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families

During the week of the 24th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (signed on July 26th), the Governor's Commission on Disabilities and many other state and non-profit agencies, conduct a weeklong series of open forums to hear the concerns of people with disabilities and their families.

The forums are open for anyone to come in and speak; representatives of the sponsoring agencies will be there to listen. State policy makers and planners want to hear your concerns about current services, unmet needs, and suggestions for improving services and expanding opportunities.

Monday, July 21st, 2014, 1 - 3 PM

Zambarano Unit, Eleanor Slater Hospital
2090 Wallum Lake Rd, Pascoag

Hosted by Alliance for Better Long Term Care / RI Long Term Care Ombudsman

Monday, July 21st, 2014, 4 - 6 PM

Woonsocket Harris Public Library, 303 Clinton St, Woonsocket
Hosted by Seven Hills Rhode Island

Tuesday, July 22nd, 2014, 2 - 4 PM

Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick
Hosted by the Ocean State Center for Independent Living

Wednesday, July 23rd, 2014, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Middletown Public Library, 700 West Main Rd, Middletown
Hosted by Opportunities Unlimited For People With Differing Abilities

Thursday, July 24th, 2014, from 4 - 6 PM

Rogers Free Library, 525 Hope St, Bristol

Hosted by RI Statewide Independent Living Council and National Federation of the Blind of RI

Thursday, July 24th, 2014, from 4 - 6 PM

Charlestown Chambers, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown
Hosted by Perspectives Corporation and National Multiple Sclerosis Society RI Chapter

Friday, July 25th, 2014, from 1:30 - 3:30 PM

South Providence Library, 441 Prairie Avenue, Providence
Hosted by RI Department of Health

Remarks can be made in person during the forums, faxed to 462-0106, e-mailed to GCD.Disabilities@gcd.ri.gov, or mailed by August 8th to Governor's Commission on Disabilities, John O' Pastore Center - 41 Cherry Dale Court, Cranston, RI 02920. CART Recorders (real-time captioning) and assistive listening devices will be at all sites, courtesy of the Office of Rehabilitation Services / Assistive Technology Access Partnership. The RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will provide sign language interpreters for each

forum.

To request information or accommodation, please call 462-0100 or 462-0101(tty) in advance; arrangements will be provided at no cost. Language interpreting is available with the Department of Human Services and requests can be made to 462-2130 in advance.

When making the ADA reservation with RIdE to get to and from the public forum, tell the RIdE reservationist (1-800-479-6902) that this trip is for the Governor's Commission's Public Forums in order to guarantee your return trip, after normal RIdE hours of operation. ADA fare is still applicable.

When attending the forum, please use unscented personal care products. Mild fragrances can constitute a toxic exposure for a person with an environmental illness.

Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor



Public Awareness, Alyssa Gleason, Public Information Aide

Over the past year, the Commission's website has been completely re-designed. In addition to information about our services and mission, it contains in-depth information about the Americans with Disabilities Act, education, fair housing, and resources available to the disabled community. The website also has a regularly updated community calendar, which contains all events and meetings held by the GCD, as well as events held by other advocacy groups, webinars, and other learning events held throughout the area. Our Twitter account has also been re-started and is fully functioning. It averages between 100-200 views per week, and we are now regularly mentioned by larger advocacy groups such as Easter Seals and Autism Speaks, which gives us the potential to reach thousands of new followers.

In addition to attending and participating in the Commission's annual Public Forums in July of 2013, I also helped to put together the "A Better Bottom Line" Conference in October of 2013. In the spring, I was able to do a presentation for the Office of Library Services, where I spoke about the Commission's resources, different ideas to help the Talking Books Plus Program reach more people, and how to make PDF's accessible to screen readers. As a member of the RI Civil Rights Roundtable, I was able to present on using social media to better reach under-represented populations. I have also been a member of the Cross-Disability Coalition, where I am able to speak to individuals from several different organizations. As a member of the CDC, I was also able to help put together presentations on employment and preventing the bullying of students with disabilities. Throughout the last year, I was also able to attend several conferences throughout the state, including the RITAP Conference held by RIPIN, the annual Public Leadership Conference, and the Living Rite Summit. At these events, I was able to connect with professionals and speak about the GCD. I was also able to speak to parents and other advocates, and help them to find new resources.



6:25 Agenda for the Next Meeting, Tim Flynn, Chair

Purpose/Goal: To set the agenda for the next meeting.

Discussion:

The next scheduled meeting is the Annual Meeting on 09/15/14.

The "annual meeting of the commission shall be held yearly in September to:

- a) Adopt the operational plan of the commission including the establishment or retention of committees, in addition to those established by law or these General Operating Rules, and volunteer units;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Allocate resources, adopt a supplemental budget request for the current fiscal year and set fee and complementary gift schedules; c) Adopt a budget request following fiscal year; d) Elect the vice chairperson; and e) Give advice and consent to the Chairperson’s appointments of committee chairpersons and members and liaisons to other boards.”¹
	<p><i>6:30 Adjournment, Tim Flynn, Chair</i> MOTION: To adjourn at 6:20 PM Motion moved by RMcM, seconded by LW, passed unanimously</p>

¹ GCD Regulations Chapter N General Operating Rules - Section V Method of Operation - B Meetings - 1 Annual Meeting
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