

ATEL Committee Meeting

Public Utilities Commission

August 27, 2009

9:00 AM

Attendees:

James Litvack, Pamela Kling, Kat Grygiel, Denise Corson, Sean Gill, Jim Lanni, Charles Brown, Steve Florio Doris Simas and Interpreter Christopher Haas.

1. Minutes reviewed and accepted.

2. Kat discussed the issues with State Funding. Kat stated we still do not have an exact amount for our budget this year; however, Denise has been able to begin ordering equipment up to 8 K and once that has diminished she can request additional funds in small increments.

Denise stated that ATEL's old phone number has finally been disconnected at Goodwill just last week; prior to that the phone would ring about 5 times and disconnect. Due to the power outage at Goodwill at the end of June, the ATEL number was unable to take messages; Jeff Macheo the CEO, stated that since the contract was about to expire that he did want to pay for a technician to come in and fix the line. The Committee wants Denise to look into having the phone company to reference a forwarding number. Denise said she'd check into. Denise stated that post cards with ATEL's new contact information should be going out in the next week. She will be sending the postcard to ATEL Clients of the last 10 years, RI

Audiologists and Senior Centers. The committee discussed sending info thru the CDHH email list, maybe doing a possible public service announcement, or having an ad advertisement in the paper but could be too expensive. Steve mentioned he would like to have a signed video on the ATEL website; Kat stated that it would be good to have on both ATEL and ORS's websites. Kat asked Denise to work with Sharon Dipinto from ORS on both the public service/advertisement and website.

3. The Committee discussed the Legislative vacancies, as well as the other vacancies on the Advisory Committee. The Committee agreed that we would set up an Adhoc membership committee to fill the vacancies and meet after the quarterly committee meeting. James stated that he would try to work with Laurie Duffy to draft a letter to Senator Gallo to possibly fill the Senate vacancy. Jim Lanni stated that he had a contact with Verizon and might be able to get the Telephone company vacancy filled. Denise stated that we also had 2 consumer vacancies, and one member of the general public vacancy.

4. Denise discussed having a few drop off locations. Goodwill does not want to indefinitely have them as a drop off due to limited receptionist availability. Denise discussed having TechACCESS (Warwick), PARI (Pawtucket) and Hamilton Relay (Tiverton) be drop off locations, but still needs to confirm that the PARI location is ok.

5. Jim Lanni discussed the relay contact that has a 5 year option which is up in 2011; that Hamilton relay was the low bidder 2 times and now has relay contracts in 17 states. Jim mentioned that the new

contract could require the relay provided to cover new technology.

**6. The date of next meetings: December 3, 2009 and March 4, 2010
from 9AM-11AM.**