



Minutes

Accessibility Committee

Monday 08/3/09 @ 2:00PM to 3:30 PM

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court

Cranston, RI 02920-3049

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Recorded by:	Christopher DeGrave
Attendees:	Kate McCarthy-Barnett, John Desautel, Joseph A. Cirillo, Ronald McMinn, Monsignor Sabourin, Arthur Plitt
Absent:	Paul De Pace, Katie Lowe, Kathleen Samways
Staff:	Harvey Salvas, Christopher DeGrave

Minutes

1. Call to Order and acceptance of minutes	Kate McCarthy-Barnett, Chair.
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2:03 KMB called meeting to order.
Minutes to be revised, Arthur Plitt's name doubled, shall be removed from the previous attendance record.
RM- Motion to approve revised minutes, MS Seconded- Vote Unanimous.

2. Review & Prepare FY2010 Priorities	Kate McCarthy-Barnett, Chair.
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- **Accessibility Committee requirements fulfilled by law:** (Harvey Salvas)
 - Approve Capital Budget for existing State of RI structures
 - Review Open Meeting Spaces (Staff Assistance)
 - Provide technical assistance to State Govt. Agencies, Partners, Businesses and those with disabilities.
 - Transition Plan Approval
- (KMB) Key priority identified to recruit volunteers as disability advocates, "watchdogs" and committee members to expand capabilities without increasing workload hardship.
 - (AP)- Serve-Rhode Island to be contacted regarding possible volunteer positions available at the RIGCD--- Using Serve RI/ Volunteer Center of RI as a volunteer recruitment base.
 - (H. Salvas) Intern programs have been VERY successful, committee to continue

- to search for grant opportunities, Americorps Program availability (C.DeGrave)
 - Current Intern Project: Open Meetings Inspections (Statewide)
- (C.DeGrave) Concern was introduced that only 5% of current pay is actually paid for by the State of RI. Other 95% is HAVA & ADA Funding.
 - Committee to research and explore methods to limit full-dependency on grant programs for salary.
- (KMB) Accessibility Committee plans to continue to evolve to become a more positive & proactive player in accessibility within the State of Rhode Island.
- (C. DeGrave) Outcome/Output Measurements- Many technical assistance calls, lots of low-cost, easily attainable solutions proposed and accepted.
- (KMB) Accessibility Committee would like to streamline procedures regarding phone system and incoming calls. Staff hours being utilized doing secretarial work, returning calls back for referrals to other State of RI Departments. (C. DeGrave) Updated phone system or part-time desk assistant may increase overall productivity.

3. Status of Projects

Harvey Salvas

- (HS)- Groden Center had pre-bid conference (end of July) attended by two architectural companies.
 - 2nd means of egress added to plan on the administrative side of the building.
 - FY2011--- Groden Center Project is complete RICAP budget. (\$450,000)

4. General Announcements & Meeting Schedule

**Kate McCarthy-Barnett,
Chair.**

(JC)- Inquired about the Public Forum Testimony and when it will be prepared for commission review. KMB & Legislative Committee will review and approve testimony and release information to Commissioners. CD will send out testimony to Accessibility Committee members via email, once approved.

- Final report compilation will be submitted by Kate McCarthy-Barnett to Bob Cooper as well as the rest of the Accessibility Committee Members as an addendum to the meeting minutes.

** Next meeting to remain unchanged : **October 5th, 2009 @ 2pm****

Motion to Adjourn @ 3:10pm, RM motion, MS second- Vote unanimous.