



# Minutes

## Accessibility Committee

Monday 4/26/10 @ 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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<b>Recorded by:</b>	Christopher DeGrave
<b>Attendees:</b>	Kate McCarthy-Barnett, Ronald McMinn, Joseph A. Cirillo, Nicholas J. Capobianco Jr., John Desautel, Arthur Plitt, Katie Lowe, Kathleen Samways, Anthony Robinson (RI House Policy Office)
<b>Absent:</b>	Monsignor Sabourin, Paul De Pace
<b>Staff Attendance:</b>	Harvey Salvas, Christopher DeGrave, Nell Carpenter (Intern)

## Minutes

<b>1. Call to Order and acceptance of minutes</b>	<b>Ron McMinn</b>
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2:02 R. McMinn called meeting to order.

A. Plitt- **Motion to approve minutes with revision of decimal point in monetary value of section 4,**  
K. Lowe Seconded- **Vote Unanimous to approve.**

<b>2. Budget Update &amp; Groden Center Update</b>	<b>Harvey Salvas</b>
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- Commission voted to increase allocation for Groden Center bathroom renovation project from the prior committee approved \$29,900.00 to \$35,000.00 to cover low bid proposal amount. \*\*\*see previous motion below

*Original approved motion made during 2/15/10 meeting----- \*\*\*Motion made by Mr. Arthur Plitt: To fund the Groden Center project at the total cost of up to \$29,900 for the renovation of the lower level restroom facility. Project as proposed will be ADA compliant. Allocation of funding up to the amount of \$29,900.00 approved by the Committee.*

- *Motion Seconded: J. Cirillo*
- *Vote Unanimous- Motion Approved*
- Groden Center Architecture estimates total elevator project cost of 250,000.00-300,000.00. Firm has begun preliminary design plans of the renovation. Currently waiting on the purchase order number from the State of Rhode Island.
- Next meeting- 2012 Capitol Budget Proposal numbers should be available for discussion.

<b>3. Open Meetings Act Project Status Update</b>	<b>Christopher DeGrave/ Nell Carpenter</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ms. Carpenter gave a brief update on the Open Meetings Act site review project she is currently working on. Several communities currently nearing completion, many issues being identified. Over 50 meeting sites have been reviewed over the last 2 months. Several communities have been delayed in responding to mandate.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>***Top Identified Issues Remain ***</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Restroom Accessibility</li> <li>○ Assistive Listening Devices &amp; Signage</li> <li>○ Reasonable Accommodation Notices on posted meeting agendas</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ C. DeGrave raised several issues concerning assistive listening devices. Many communities frustrated with regulation mandating use of assistive listening devices with limited technical assistance on actual products required for particular meeting spaces.</li> <li>➤ J. Cirillo suggested writing a letter to US Access Board voicing concern over assistive listening devices and request guidance on mandating specific types of equipment for varying venue sizes. With so many different products available and limited technical assistance provided, municipalities are confused prior to the equipment purchase.</li> <li>➤ John Desautel - recommended contacting several assistive listening device companies and asking for product demos to use for on-site demonstrations.</li> </ul>	
<b>4. Department of Business Regulation- Project Update</b>	<b>C. DeGrave</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ C. DeGrave reported that the RI Department of Business Regulation has completed the camera, monitor and intercom installation as approved by the committee.</li> <li>➤ System is in operation and works flawlessly.</li> <li>➤ New system integrates accessibility, customer service, safety and security into one.</li> <li>➤ Big thanks given to the committee from Mr. A. Michael Marques, Director of Business Regulation. (Via message from C. DeGrave)</li> </ul>	
<b>5. RIDOT Committee Update</b>	<b>C. DeGrave</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Two (2) project reviews completed after March DOT-ADA meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moffitt Mill- Lincoln, RI – New accessible walkway/ footbridge, disability parking and accessible entrance ramp proposal.</li> <li>▪ Kingston Train Station- Kingston, RI – Amtrak/ DOT currently reviewing the station to determine next steps for ADA accessibility. C. DeGrave conducted survey of the site and found that locked doors limit most accessible building features. Problems isolated and will be fixed immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ C. DeGrave will continue to sit on DOT-ADA committee and work closely with design staff during all phases of future projects.</li> </ul>	
<b>6. Current Project/ Case Review</b>	<b>C. DeGrave</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Northern Rhode Island Community Health Center- Disability Parking Signage &amp; Facility Van Complaint (Signage Installed &amp; Vans Relocated- Complaint Resolved)</li> <li>➤ Venda Ravioli- Parking Signage Issue (Signs installed- Complaint Resolved)</li> <li>➤ Town Fair Tire- Complaint concerning refusal of service to an individual with a vehicle with</li> </ul>	

installed hand-controls. (New company policy in-place to stop discriminatory act-  
Complaint Resolved)

- Child & Family Services in Middletown—Prior committee forwarded complaint concerning door accessibility ( Investigated and no violations found)

**7. Announcements & Meeting Schedule**

**Kate McCarthy-Barnett**

~ **C. DeGrave-** Provided a reminder of the Salty Brine State Beach project ribbon cutting event on **May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 @ 10am.** All committee members encouraged to attend.

~ **Ron McMinn-** Provided a reminder concerning the complaint at previous meeting on the Lincoln High School H1N1 medical distribution site. Nell Carpenter to look into the interior hallway causing concern immediately.

~Request made by all committee members to obtain copies of the disability parking warning notice. C. DeGrave will be making copies on card-stock paper to be distributed at the Salty Brine State Beach event.

\*\*\*Congratulations to Katie Lowe having been recently awarded by the Cornerstone Adult Day Center for her volunteerism.

**\*\* Next meeting set for June 28th, 2010, 2pm\*\***

***Motion to Adjourn @ 3:15pm, RM motion, JC second- Vote unanimous.***