



Description of graphic: RI State Seal an anchor in gold behind a blue wheelchair logo. Just below is a blue banner with the state motto "Hope". All are in the center of a ring of 8 blue stars, in groups of 2 separated by the logos for Braille, hearing aids, low vision and amplified phone.

Governor's Commission on Disabilities Election Assistance Committee Meeting Minutes

January 19th, 2012 2:00-3:30pm

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,
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	Attendees: Kate Bowden, Robert Rapoza (BOE), Regina Connor, Grace Pires, Chris Butler, Lorna Ricci
Absent:	Rory Carmody, Casey Gartland, Miguel Nunez, Leo Canuel, Michelle Hayes, Steven Florio, Arthur Plitt,
Guests:	
Staff:	Harvey Salvas, Christine Rancourt Bruzzi, Christopher DeGrave

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
 Clock graphic	Call to Order, Acceptance of the Minutes, Vice-Chair Nominations & Vote	Christopher P. DeGrave , Committee Staff- Representative	2:00
<p style="text-align: center;">Chair calls the meeting to order at: 2:10PM Introductions of All Committee Members, Staff & Guests</p> <p><i>MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented/ revised.</i> <i>Motion by: Regina Connor</i> <i>Seconded by: Grace Pires</i> <i>Motion Passes: Unanimous</i></p>			

Action Items:			
 money graphic	Election Committee Strategic Planning- Goals, Project Next Steps	Christopher DeGrave	
<p>Purpose/Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discuss and review HAVA grant activities & budget update ➤ Grant Award \$ Update ➤ Review/ Discuss Committee Role, Future Goals, Next Steps ➤ Strategic Planning 			

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
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Committee Discussion:

- Overall plan to:
 - Increase polling place accessibility with pre-election site inspections of target issue areas.
 - Increase polling place accessibility with same-day polling place inspections (This data has been identified as critical for future use to repair/ fix issues)
 - Educate voters on the Voter ID and ability to get a card if no license or other acceptable form of ID is available to them.
 - Educate polling place workers on importance of disability etiquette and voter ID regulations.
 - Possible training opportunity for local Board of Canvassers and Department of Public Works (who assists in setting up the polls)- gain knowledge on importance of "accessible polling place" setup. **They are ultimately responsible as they are AT the sites: prior to and during the elections**



MOTION: No motions at this time.

voting check off graphic

 <p>poll worker graphic</p>	<p>Voter I.D. Bill Update/ Training & Awareness</p>	<p>Rory Carmody/ Chris Rancourt Bruzzi</p>	
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Purpose/Goal:

- To discuss current update on Voter I.D. legislation of 2011- Legislation Passed.
- Rollout Phase Discussion & ID Implementation
- Training & Awareness Activities

Committee Discussion:

- Several calls and emails to Secretary of States Office concerning submitted list of statewide disability agencies have gone unanswered.
- State has purchased van to move statewide (location to location) bringing supplies to make/ print/ distribute free voter ID's.
- C. Rancourt- Looking for training/ implementation opportunities for voter ID (Polling Place Worker video- out of date & no longer used by BOE for training)
- Idea to place AutoMark Video on Secretary of State Website for training and awareness.
- Providence Journal Article- surrounding issues of voter ID was extremely confusing- made it seem as though voter ID was ALWAYS required and that other forms of ID would not be accepted. --- Not the case...
 - Voter ID's will only be issued to those without a driver's license or state

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
	<p>ID card.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 2012, voters will be required to present current Voter ID including certain non-photo documents (<i>The enacted law states: Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, Government Medical Card</i>) ➤ Beginning in 2014, voters will be required to show photo ID including a Rhode Island driver's license, military ID, college/ university ID or U.S. passport. 		
 <p>voting check off graphic</p>	<p>Potential MOTION: No motion.</p>		
 <p>poll worker graphic</p>	<p>Polling Place Re-Districting & Consolidation Update</p>	<p>Christopher DeGrave & Rory Carmody</p>	
	<p>Purpose/Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To discuss the latest information on polling place redistricting & consolidation ➤ To discuss fire department use as polling places and make other recommendations to BOE as a committee. 		
	<p>Committee Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ R.I. Senate bill # 0924- Bill creates a study commission to draft and report on the reapportionment of voting districts throughout the State of Rhode Island. (Currently underway of review w/ local forums) ➤ No major movement on re-districting decisions. June is deadline/ May is expectation. ➤ New bill re-introduced to consolidate polling places in the state- increasing numbers of voters allowable per polling place. (Will keep committee updated on bill progress) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passage of bill will eliminate/ limit the use of the "less" accessible/ problematic polling places with limited parking or access. 		
 <p>voting check off graphic</p>	<p>MOTION: No motions.</p>		
 <p>polling place graphic</p>	<p>Polling Place Accessibility</p>	<p>Rory Carmody & Christopher DeGrave</p>	
	<p>Purpose/Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Town of South Kingstown BOC- Lift Request Update ➤ Disability Parking Sign Purchase Proposal ➤ 2011 Polling Place Inspection Results & Action Plan ➤ 2012 Polling Place Inspections (Pre-Inspections, Election Day Inspections) 		

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
	<p>Committee Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Town of South Kingstown BOC Awarded contact for list installation. Letter was sent indicating moneys would be need to be refunded to the RI Governors Commission on Disabilities if Curtis Corner Middle School was not used as a polling place in 2012. ➤ 35 accessibility issues identified during the Election Day surveys of 2010. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mostly disability parking signage and accessible entrance signage issues. ➤ Discussion w/ Board of Elections: Possible consideration of using main entrances to all buildings and only using alternative entrances if front is not deemed accessible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Front lobby areas could be used if interior distance to polling place (cafeteria, gym) was a concern. ○ Currently- side & rear entrances are being used in many buildings due to close proximity of polling site to door. ○ Creates problems of parking and accessible entrance identification. Temporary signage placement is left to cities and towns. Issues of actual placement and locations. ➤ Discussion w/ Board of Elections: Possible consideration of using Election Day technical support staff hired by the Board of Elections to additionally survey/ monitor polling places for accessibility issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HAVA \$ funding to support costs incurred by BOE ○ Survey Forms to be completed for record & review of data/ corrective action. ○ Details to be researched- BOE/ RIGCD to collaborate on issue. ➤ B. Rapoza (BOE) to contact local boards of canvassers – inquiry into disability parking signage needed for polling places. BOE has approximately 1000 temporary signs for distribution. RIGCD has approx. 40-50 permanent disability parking signs to be distributed and installed. ***Order for more permanent signage to follow (next meeting) if need identified. 		



voting check off graphic

MOTION: To support collaboration of the Rhode Island Governor’s Commission on Disability and the Rhode Island Board of Elections to use BOE Technical Aide Contractors as Election-Day polling place surveyors.

Motion by: Kate Bowden

Seconded by: Regina Connor

Motion Passes: Unanimous



RI Disability Vote Project Update & Next Steps

Purpose/Goal: Update on events & discuss next steps for the RIDVP.

Committee Discussion:

No RIDVP Updates Made- No Staff/ Representative for comment.

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
 <small>voting check off graphic</small>	MOTION: No motions.		
 <small>Announcer graphic</small>	Announcements	Christopher P. DeGrave , Committee Staff-Representative	3:15
 <small>calendar graphic</small>	Agenda and Meeting Scheduling	Christopher P. DeGrave , Committee Staff-Representative	3:25
<p>Items to be placed on the next meeting's agenda:</p>			
<p>Next meeting will be on: February 16th @ 2pm</p>			
 <small>alarm clock graphic</small>	Adjournment	Christopher P. DeGrave , Committee Staff-Representative	3:30
 <small>voting check off graphic</small>	<p>MOTION: To adjourn.</p> <p>Motion by: Kate Bowden</p> <p>Seconded by: Regina Connor</p> <p>Motion Passes- Unanimous</p>		