

Minutes



Executive Committee

Tuesday April 19, 2005 4 to 7 PM

Continued on Thursday April 21, 2005 4 to 6 PM

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

John O. Pastore Center (Formerly the Howard Center)

41 Cherry Dale Court

Cranston, RI 02920

(voice) 401-462-0100 (tty) 462-0101 (fax) 462-0106

(e-mail) disabilities@gcd.ri.gov

(website) www.disabilities.ri.gov

Secretary:	Bob Cooper
Attendees:	Paul Choquette (Chair); John McDonald (Vice Chair); Rosemary Carmody; Vicki Ferrara; Bill Nieranowski; & Victoria Wilcox
Excused:	Regina Connor; Judi Drew; Tim Flynn; Scott Greco; Paul Grenon; Joseph Guay; Ronald McMinn;
Resource Persons:	Christine Rancourt & Harvey Salvas

Minutes

4:00 PM Call to Order Paul Choquette, Chair

Discussion: Vice Chair Called to order at 4:05 PM.

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting, as mailed RMcM/PC passed unanimously

4:15 PM Interviews & Selection of Disability Business Enterprise / Public Information Coordinator John MacDonald, Vice Chair

Discussion: The Committee interview:

4:15 Clarie Silva

4:45 Christine Botts

5:15 Dana Wright

5:45 Annette Bourbonniere

1. Do you have any training experience?
2. How are you working with:
 - a. Details?
 - b. In regulated environments?
 - c. In procedure laden processes?
3. Are you comfortable speaking to:

- a. Groups of people?
 - b. On television?
4. Are you comfortable:
- a. Learning new things and accepting new challenges?
 - b. Working in a fast-paced environment?
5. Do you have any sales/marketing/promotion experience?
6. Have you written business letters/reports?
7. Can you give some examples where you have taken the initiative to solve a problem or create something to fill a need?
8. Have you worked with upper level management/ business owners/ decision makers?
9. What talent or ability do you have that makes you the right person for this position?

MOTION: To conduct a 2nd interview with Christine Botts & Dana Wright. PC/BN passed unanimously

MOTION: To recess the meeting until 4 PM on Thursday April 21st. RMcM/PC passed unanimously

Thursday April 21, 2005

Secretary:	Bob Cooper
Attendees:	Paul Choquette (Chair); John McDonald (Vice Chair); Rosemary Carmody; Bill Nieranowski; & Victoria Wilcox
Excused:	Regina Connor; Judi Drew; Vicki Ferrara; Tim Flynn; Scott Greco; Paul Grenon; Joseph Guay; Ronald McMinn;
Resource Persons:	Christine Rancourt & Harvey Salvas

Vice Chair Calls the meeting back to order at 4: PM April 21, 2005

4:15 PM Interviews & Selection of Disability Business Enterprise / Public Information Coordinator John MacDonald, Vice Chair

Discussion: The Committee conducts 2nd interview with:

4:15 Dana Wright

5:00 Christine Botts

1. Describe your experience building trust/creating confidence in your abilities working with businesses or organizations. How did you know you were successful?
2. What business resources would you use to assist the Disability Business Enterprise program?
3. How you increase the visibility of a business or organization, what tools/techniques/resources would you use?
4. What would be your plan of action to get state entities to do purchase goods and/or services from disability business enterprises and rehabilitation facilities?
5. As the public information coordinator, you will be responsible for communicating to the public

about the work of the Governor's Commission on Disabilities, given this, can you describe your experience communicating information to the public. What was your approach and how you know you were successful?

6. The job requires attendance at meetings, conferences throughout the state including evenings and weekends, often as the sole representative of the Commission, and attending the taping of Able Too cable television show on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 6:00-8:00 pm. Would this create any problems?

7. Based on the list of Disability Business Enterprise duties provided when we last met, what do you see as the biggest challenge of the job for you?

8. The Commission is interested in convincing people with disabilities that they need to be involved in the political process. What would be your plan of action to get adults with disabilities to register and vote in elections?

9. About 2/3^{rds} of the Commission's weekly cable TV program, ABLE TOO... have defined criteria (12 shows promoting work, 4 shows concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act, 1 show about a disability business enterprise), the remaining shows can be about anything related to people with disabilities and their families. Could you name some topics or themes that a show could be built around?

10. The Commission funds projects to remove physical barriers to state government services and employment. Would you describe the process of setting up a press conference to announce the completion of a renovation project?

11. Disability organizations have a poor track record reaching out to and including immigrants, language and ethnic minorities in their programs. What would be your plan of action to create a more inclusive public relations effort for the Commission's programs and activities?

MOTION: To appoint Christine Botts Disability Business Enterprise / Public Information Coordinator, PC/RMcM, passed, PC & VW nay.

6:55 PM Other Business

Paul Choquette

Discussion: Reappointment of Kevin McHale to the Disability Business Enterprise Committee (term expires May 1st). Additional vacancy on Commission (vice Joe Guay).

MOTION: To give advice and consent to the reappointment of Kevin McHale to the Disability Business Enterprise Committee. BN/RMcM passed, RC abstain.

HS briefed the Committee on the potential cuts being considered by the House Finance Committee related to the RI Capital Program – Accessibility Funding for FY 06

Adjournment at: 6:00 PM