

Minutes



50th Anniversary

50th Anniversary Planning Committee

Wednesday, March 29, 2006 3:30pm-5:00pm

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

John O. Pastore Center

41 Cherry Dale Court

Cranston, RI 02920

(voice) 401-462-0104 (tty) 462-0101 (fax) 462-0106

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

(website) www.disabilities.ri.gov

Minutes

Note Taker:

Paul Choquette, Chair

Attendees:

Mark Brodeur (RITD), Deborah Garneau (DOH), Rich Hite (SOS), Kate McCarthy-Barnett (GCD), Lisa McKay (GCD), Camille Vollaro (DLT)

Excused:

Jeanne Behie (GCD); Patrick A. Lynch (Lt. Gov); Sarah Zurier (HPHC); Robert McCutcheon (DOC); Patricia Platt (PDO); Fran Raymond (Senator Chafee); Marie Strauss (DEA); Patricia Ryherd (DHS); Randall Rosenbaum (RISCA); Ronald McMinn (GCD); & Arthur Plitt (GCD)

1 Call to Order, Introductions and Acceptance of Minutes Paul Choquette

Discussion: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM. Those present introduced themselves.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the last meeting as presented.

MB/RH. Passed unanimously

2 Update on finances and budget (hiring event planner) Paul Choquette

Discussion: Start-up funding was included in the FY 07' budget that was submitted by the Governor. There are adequate funds to hire an event planner/fundraiser. It was the consensus of the group that it be a part-time position and the job description be tailored to locate an individual skilled in Fund Raising, Public Relations and Event

Planning/Management. MB stated he had some sample job descriptions that he would forward to the committee. The goal is to have someone in place as close to the start of the State fiscal year (7/1/06) as possible.

3 Review of workshops/forums/events including potential sponsors and speakers Paul Choquette

Discussion: Representatives of John Hockenberry, from NBC News, have been contacted and he is available to be the keynote speaker at the End of Year Gala celebration. His appearance fee is \$15,000 plus expenses. Our event has been penciled into his schedule for the two possible dates (October 18 and 25, 2007).

The committee also reviewed information on three venues where the Gala could be held (RI Convention Center, Crown Plaza Hotel and Rhodes on the Pawtuxet). After discussing the pros and cons of each the Committee decided to pursue the Convention Center, which has an available date of October 25, 2007.

The committee then discussed the preliminary schedule of workshops and events and agreed that all of the listed events/workshops were appropriate. The suggestion was made to separate the events (i.e. "Murderball" screening, PawSox game, Waterfire) from the workshops as they were different in how they are organized, planned and publicized. DG from DOH stated that funding would be available through DOH to sponsor a workshop in the area of Health, Disability Awareness and/or Accessibility.

4 Additional workshops or events

Paul Choquette

Discussion: Potential addition workshops could include: The Arts (with a partnership with RISD, VSARTS and RI Council on the Arts), Disability Awareness (partnership with DOH) and a Recreation event (in possible partnership with DEM with a tie-in to Governor's Bay Day). The committee also recommends splitting up the proposed Home Modification/ Assistive Technology Workshop into two separate workshops. Another possible event could be to expand the screening of "Murderball" to include other disability films that are currently in distribution to make the event a "Disability Film Festival".

5 Logo contest

Paul Choquette

Discussion: The committee enthusiastically endorsed the idea of holding a logo contest. It reviewed the Flyer that was developed by C. Botts and agreed that it was appropriate. The suggestion was made to add one entry requirement to the flyer. "Please include a brief statement describing the inspiration for your submission". The committee felt that there should not be any statement on the flyer indicating any preference given to submissions from people with disabilities as this may drastically limit the number of submissions. It is felt that by having the artist submit a statement regarding the inspiration for the submission would suffice.

6 New Business

Paul Choquette

Discussion: It was proposed, and agreed to, that the GCD conduct an additional outreach to Disability related groups and agencies in regards to the planning committee and the event.

7 Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM