



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 Executive Committee

Monday June 20, 2011 4-5:30 PM

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,
Cranston, RI 02920-3049

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meeting graphic

Attendees: Timothy Flynn (Chair); Andrew Argenbright (DBEvc); Rosemary Carmody (EACc); Bill Inlow (LCvc); Ronald McMinn (ACvc); Patricia Ryherd (ECc); & Linda Ward (LCc)

Absent:ees: Kate McCarthy-Barnett (Vice Chair/ACc); Judi Drew (HBc); Casey Gartland (EACvc); Paul Harden (ECvc); & Theresa Thoeke (DBEc);

Guests:

Staff:

Bob Cooper

	Agenda Topics	Moderator/Leader	Time
	Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes	Timothy Flynn, Chairperson	4:00
	Chair calls the meeting to order at 4:05 PM Introductions of Commissioners and guests		
MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented PC/RMcM passed unanimously			

	Action Items:		
	Commission Operations and Budget	Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary	5:25
	Purpose/Goal: To provide a status report on the Commission's budget requests		
	Discussion: The FY 2012 Budget as reported out of the House Finance Committee, the made no changes to the Governor's Recommendations for the Commission's Budget. RICAP Funding for FY 2011 has \$216,995 for Groden Center Arch & Engineering and Construction that we should request be carried forward into FY 2012. We have until 5 PM today to ask the Budget Office to include that on a list of changes the Governor will request the General Assembly to make Friday.		
	MOTION: To request reduce FY 2011 RICAP Funding by \$216,995 and add to FY 2012 RICAP Funding 216,995 RMcM/PR passed unanimously.		
Status of the NE ADA Center Grant funding. There will be a lot less carried forward into FY 2012 than planned.			

Account	FY 11 GCD	FY 11 Gov	FY 11 HF	FY 12 GCD	FY 12 Gov	FY 12 HF
Operations	339,212	337,097	337,097	362,094	361,661	361,661
Fellowship	10,350	10,350	10,350	10,212	10,350	10,350

DBE	18,271	15,861	15,861	17,189	16,775	16,775
Total State \$	367,832	363,308	363,308	389,495	388,786	388,786
NE ADA	22,978	21,975	24,257	44,063	42,111	42,111
HAVA	176,044	174,238	174,238	140,385	139,731	139,731
Total Fed \$	199,023	196,213	198,495	184,448	181,842	181,842
Public Forums	9,108	9,108	9,108	9,264	9,264	9,264
RICAP	298,474	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Bond Funds	34,968					
Total Constr.	333,442	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Grand Total	909,405	818,629	820,911	833,207	829,892	829,892

FY 11 Expenditures to date (6/14/11)	\$21,974.99
Projected FY 11 End of the Fiscal Year Cash Balance	(\$3,974.99)
FY 11 NE ADA Quarterly Payments Not Paid to date	\$18,000.00
Last FFY 11 Quarter payment in Oct 11	\$6,000.00
Cash Available if no Federal Fiscal Year 12 ADA Funding	\$20,025.01
Estimate If FFY 12 ADA is Funded	\$18,000.00
Cash Available if full Federal Fiscal Year 12 ADA Funding	\$38,025.01
<u>Commission's FY 12 NE ADA Grant Budget</u>	<u>\$42,111.00</u>
Short fall if No FFY 12 ADA Funding	(\$22,085.99)
Short fall if Full FFY 12 ADA Funding	(\$4,085.99)

FY 2012 Governor's Budget Recommendation

Wages and Benefits	\$37,488.00
Interpreters/Captioners	\$1,698.00
Mileage	\$1,970.00
Staff training	\$347.00
Telephones	\$211.00
Printing	\$180.00
Other Travel (parking, tolls, out of state)	\$109.00
"statewide savings offset"	\$90.00
Audit fees	\$18.00
G. Frank Hanaway Fellowship	\$000
	\$42,111.00



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MOTION: To recommend the Commission adopt the following changes for the NE ADA Grant FY 2012 Budget: reduce staff training to web based and NE ADA Center regional meetings, no overnight stays at regional meetings; shift all telephone to general revenue account; no external printing of material; and not fill the G. Frank Hanaway Fellowship. RMCM/PR passed unanimously

The FY 2012 State Budget as recommended by the House Finance Committee has a number of program eliminations that will impact people with disabilities, including:

In the Department of Human Services **Page 14:**

108. Eliminate Personal Choice Waiver Program - Jan 1. The House Finance Committee recommends eliminating the personal choices option under the global waiver for savings of \$0.9 million from all sources, including \$0.4 million from the final half of FY 2012. The Department provides home and community care services through the option and gives a monthly stipend to eligible individuals so they can hire who they chose to help with daily activities allowing them to remain in their own home. (savings GR \$423,006 + Fed \$464,394 = \$887,400)

110. End Payment of Rlte Share Client Co-Pays, Oct 1. The House Finance Committee recommends savings of \$300,000, including \$143,004, from general revenues by eliminating co-payments for prescriptions, doctor visits and deductibles made by the state on behalf of families receiving Rlte Share benefits. (savings GR \$143,004 + Fed \$156,996 = \$300,000)

111. Hardship Program. The House Finance Committee does not recommend funding the general public assistance hardship program payments for savings of \$420,000 in FY 2012. Paid \$200/month. (savings GR \$420,000)

114. Department of Veteran's Affairs. Maintain Veterans' Affairs as a Division. The House Finance Committee recommends maintaining Veterans' Affairs as a Division of the Department of Human Services and eliminates the five new positions included in the Governor's recommendation for the new Department. (savings GR \$104,738¹)

117. Department of Elderly Affairs. Merge Elderly Affairs with Human Services. The House Finance Committee recommends the Department of Elderly Affairs be merged with the Department of Human Services. (savings GR \$0 + Fed \$0 = \$0)

In the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals **Page 17:**

138. Project Sustainability Further Adjustments. The House Finance Committee recommends further savings of \$10.5 million, including \$5.0 million from general revenues from the Department implementing Project Sustainability, a redesign of the current system of services for adults with developmental disabilities to align resources with individual needs and to pay per service for specific periods of time. The Governor includes savings of \$4.6 million from all sources from this initiative. (savings GR \$5,000,000 + Fed \$5,488,777 = \$10,488,777)

139. RICLAS Group Homes Transition to Private Providers. The House Finance Committee recommends savings of \$235,997, \$112,500 from general revenues from transferring operations of five state run group homes to a privately operated system. The Committee also assumes the continuing transfer of five homes a year.

In the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education **Page 18:**

147. Early Childhood. The Governor recommends the enacted level of \$0.7 million for early childhood programs. The new education funding formula allows for additional funding from the state for early childhood education programs. Funding will be used to increase access to voluntary, free, high quality pre-kindergarten programs. This pilot program began in FY 2010 with \$700,000. The House Finance Committee does not recommend funding this program in FY 2012.

In the Department of Transportation - RIPTA/RIde **Page 24:**

199. Capital - Paratransit Vehicles. The Governor's capital budget includes a total of \$190,400 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in FY 2012 to match federal funds and funds from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for the replacement of paratransit vehicles, software upgrades and surveillance equipment. The House Finance Committee does not recommend use of Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for this project.



voting check off graphic

MOTION: To direct the Executive Secretary and Commissioners to support restoration of funding for # 108. Eliminate Personal Choice Waiver Program - Jan 1, 2012; and send letters of support for the restoration of funding to:

138. Project Sustainability Further Adjustments;

147. Early Childhood; and

199. Article 22- Transportation (funding for RIPTA/RIde). LW/RMcM passed unanimously



Interview graphic

Interview and Selection of Fellows

Tim Flynn

4:20

Purpose/Goal: To select fellows for the summer and fall semesters

ELIGIBILITY

¹ See Item # 85. Veterans' Affairs Administration. The House Finance Committee adds \$104,738 for a new Undersecretary for Veterans' Affairs position in the executive office and while keeping the Division of Veterans' Affairs in the Department of Human Services.

This program is designed for individuals with demonstrated leadership and expertise in policy and research affecting people with disabilities. Candidates must:

- ◆ Have completed at least 3 semesters of college-level study;
- ◆ Be enrolled as a full or part-time student in an accredited college or university in Rhode Island;
- ◆ Have leadership ability;
- ◆ Have the endorsement of a current/former supervisor;
- ◆ Have approval on the part of the college/university to receive credit for the fellowship if selected;
- ◆ Have the ability to participate in the semester-long program in Rhode Island for at least two hundred and forty (240) hours during the semester; and
- ◆ Demonstrate the ability to perform the duties of the fellowship (see list of duties on the attached pages).

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Commission urges college students with disabilities, from minority groups, and those enrolled in a course of study in education or human services for persons with disabilities to apply. The commission gives preference in its selection of fellows to Rhode Island residents who are: (1) College students with disabilities, then to (2) College students enrolled in a course of study in education and/or human services for persons with disabilities, and finally to (3) non- residents.

APPLICATION FORMAT

- ❖ **Biographical data:** A listing of the following information on a single sheet or two:
 - Name, home & school addresses, email address, and day time telephone numbers;
 - Education data (including universities or colleges attended, major fields, degree(s) granted and dates);
 - Employment history for two most recent positions (including title and dates, name of employer, and description of duties), and
 - Life experience(s) related to people with disabilities
- ❖ **Indicate whether you are:**
 - A resident of Rhode Island with disabilities, enrolled in a Rhode Island college or university;
 - A resident of Rhode Island enrolled in a Rhode Island college or university's course of study in education and/or human services for persons with disabilities;
 - A non- resident of Rhode Island with disabilities, enrolled in a Rhode Island college or university; or
 - A non-resident of Rhode Island enrolled in a Rhode Island college or university's course of study in education and/or human services for persons with disabilities.
- ❖ **Narrative Statement:** A one-page typewritten description (ASCII disk or audiotape) identifying:
 - Which Fellowship(s) you are interested in;
 - Why you are applying for that (those) Fellowship(s);
 - What skills and experience you offer the Commission;
 - What you expect to gain and how will you use the knowledge and skills gained after you complete your fellowship; and
 - A description of your ability to perform the duties of the fellowship(s) [see list of duties on the attached pages]
- ❖ **Letter of Recommendation:** A letter of recommendation from a current or most recent supervisor (i.e. employer, teacher, counselor) describing your:
 - Skills and abilities as they relate to the duties of the fellowship(s);
 - Ability to work with groups; and
 - Relationship to the supervisor (i.e. employer/ employee, teacher/ student, counselor/ client).
- ❖ **College Credit:** A letter from your college/university stating that if you are selected, the college will award credit for the fellowship.

MARY BRENNAN PUBLIC POLICY FELLOW (Available Summer & Fall Semesters)

1. The focus of the fellowship is a series of Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families are held annually during the week the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities (July 26th). The purpose of the forums is to ensure the State Government and the

sponsoring organizations hear from people with disabilities and their families, their concerns and ideas from improving the lives of all Rhode Islanders with disabilities.

2. The **summer** fellow:
 - a. Secures rooms for each forum
 - b. Secures host organization for each forum
 - c. Lines up panelists to listen to the testimony at each forum
 - d. Sends invitations to local & state elected officials
 - e. Sends press releases to the local media
 - f. Prepares and places newspaper advertisements,
 - g. Puts together a forum brochure describing the sponsoring organizations mission and contact information, leading up to the forums
 - h. After the forums:
 - i. Reviews the transcripts from each of the forums,
 - ii. Identifies common themes,
 - iii. Tags the transcript for easy retrieval of testimony by those themes and
3. The **fall** fellow:
 - a. Sets up working groups to review the testimony to identify common concerns
 - b. Assists the working groups develop recommendations to address the concerns raised at the forums
 - c. Edits the Public Forum Report.
4. The fellow must observe the rules of confidentiality regarding the privacy of the parties and cases before the Commission.

G. FRANK HANAWAY ARCHITECTURAL ACCESSIBILITY FELLOW
(Available Any Semester)

The Fellow's duties include:

1. Assisting the Commission's Civil Rights enforcement and technical assistance activities including:
 - a) Processing of discrimination complaints relating to architectural barriers;
 - b) On Site Investigations of those complaints;
 - c) Researching case law regarding those complaints;
 - d) Complaint resolution; and
 - e) Architectural Plan Reviews
2. Disability Rights and Services Information:
 - a) Assist in answering telephone inquires regarding federal and state disability rights and services, utilizing CD-ROM searches of disability law, case law, regulations, and technical manuals;
 - b) Assist in preparing and mailing information in response to specific telephone inquires from businesses, organizations, or individuals; and
 - c) Assist in preparing general information packets on the federal/state laws and regulations regarding accessibility to and the use of facilities, programs, services, opportunities by individuals with disabilities, as well as tax credits and other benefits of accessibility, and mailing them as requested.
3. Preparing a monthly status report on:
 - a) Updating the Commission's Website's relating to architectural accessibility; and
 - b) ADA technical assistance and disability rights and service inquires to the ADA Accessibility Subcommittee.
4. Observing the rules of confidentiality regarding the privacy of the parties and cases before the Commission.

Discussion: Indicated and interest in the fellowship: Ajay K. Singh (5/31/11 emails undeliverable); Matthew Chickering (email not answered); & Issac Amponsah (6/6/11 email not answered);

4:10 ~~Moise Bourdeau~~

4:30 Lubicristin Lora

4:50 Break

5:10 Emily W. Crowell

4:10 Moise Bourdeau - withdrew on 6-20-11

4:30 Lubicristin Lora

The material received includes:

1. Biographical data and
- 1b. Information concerning your life experience(s) related to people with disabilities;
2. Indicates she is a resident of Rhode Island with disabilities, enrolled at Rhode Island College;
3. Narrative Statement
4. Two Letters of Recommendation (Triibe Zarra, Providence Career and Technical Academy & Keri L. Rossi, Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities)
5. College Credit: A letter from RI College Department of Sociology stating that if she is selected, RIC will award credit for the fellowship.

RI College Senior majoring in Criminal Justice and Sociology

(Interested in the Mary Brennan or G. Frank Hanaway **Summer** Semester Fellowship)

5:10 Emily W. Crowell

The material received includes:

1. Biographical data and
- 1b. Information concerning your life experience(s) related to people with disabilities;
2. Indicates she is a resident of Rhode Island, enrolled at the University of Rhode Island;
3. Narrative Statement
4. Two Letters of Recommendation (Senator Reed, Shanna Pearson, URI Department of Political Science)
5. College Credit: A letter from University of RI stating that if you are selected, URI will award 9 academic credit for the fellowship.

URI Junior majoring in Political Science

(Interested in the Mary Brennan **Fall** Semester Fellowship)

Standard Questions Used during the Spring Semester Interviews:

1. Concisely tell us about yourself (TF)
2. Example of Time management and meeting deadlines (RMcM)
3. What attributes do you have that apply to the Commission's work (PR)
4. Computer skills & time constraint (AA)
5. Tell us about your experiences with people with disabilities (LW)
6. How do you expect to utilize what you acquire during this fellowship, in the future? (RC)
7. Do you have any questions or of us or is there anything else you feel we should know about you (BI)



voting check off graphic

MOTION: To appoint Lubicristin Lora to be the Mary Brennan Public Policy Fellow (summer) RMcM/RC passed unanimously

MOTION: To appoint Emily W. Crowell to be the Mary Brennan Public Policy Fellow (fall) RMcM/LW passed unanimously



Announcer graphic

Announcements

Tim Flynn

5:28



calendar graphic

Agenda and Scheduling the Next Meeting

Tim Flynn

5:29

Items to be placed on the next meeting's agenda:
Planning for the Annual Meeting: Recommending

1. An operational plan of the commission including the establishment or retention of committees, in addition to those established by law or these General Operating Rules, and volunteer units;
2. Allocation of resources, adoption of the 2012 supplemental budget and set fee and complementary gift schedules;
3. Adoption of the 2013 Budget request following fiscal year;
4. Election of the vice chairperson; and
5. Giving advice and consent to the Chairperson's appointments of committee chairpersons and members and liaisons to other boards.
6. Letter of ADA Support Letter (either Commission July meeting or Executive Cmte agenda).

Next meeting will be on: Monday August 29, 2011 4 - 5:30

 <small>alarm clock graphic</small>	Adjournment	Tim Flynn	5:30
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 <small>voting check off graphic</small>	MOTION: To adjourn at 5:20 PM.
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