

# Meeting Minutes



## Employment Committee

(formerly the Employment / Economic Opportunities Committee)

**Thursday, January 26, 2006 9:15-10:45**

**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](mailto:disabilities@gcd.ri.gov)

(website) [www.disabilities.ri.gov](http://www.disabilities.ri.gov)

### Attendees:

Vicki Ferrara, Paul Harden, Bill Nieranowski, Pat Ryherd, Jim Pitassi

### Excused:

Arthur Plitt

### Agenda topics

**9:15 AM**

**Call to Order**

**Vicki Ferrara –Chair**

Discussion: Call to order at 9: 15 AM.

Potential MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting, as mailed/corrected

Accepted by Paul Harden and Bill Nieranowski

**9:20 AM**

**Update on the HRIC Mini-Grants**

**Christine Rancourt**

CR reported that 11 colleges and universities were contacted regarding the mini-grants for students with disabilities. Of these 11 schools, 5 schools provided proposals. The schools were: Brown University, Johnson & Wales University, Community College of Rhode Island, the University of Rhode Island, and Salve Regina. The committee put together an evaluation form to evaluate each of the proposals. Based on the evaluations, all 5 were awarded the \$400 grants. However, only Brown University award was unconditional. Johnson & Wales University grant was based on the addition that the events planned be open to all students not just those with disabilities and that the proposal be revised to remove the wording “how to disclose a disability during an interview.” CCRI’s grant was also conditional. The proposal did not address what was asked for since it dealt with training faculty and not students. The condition to receiving this grant is to make the training available for both students and faculty. The conditions to URI receiving the grant were that the proposal would address how the 8 students would be selected for participation in the program, how the events would be publicized and how materials would be prepared after the grant was used. Salve Regina’s grant was also conditional. Specifically, Salve needs to identify how much of a grant they are looking for, how their event will be publicized, and who will attend. CR will contact all the schools and let them know the status of their proposal. She will then contact DOA and get the check cut once the proposal is modified per the conditions or in Brown’s case authorize the check be cut immediately.

The decisions on all the grants were unanimously approved by PH, PH and VF.

The taping of Able Too ... is complete. Of the 12 shows (36 segments were completed) between September and early January. Shows are now airing Friday nights at 8:00 on channel 15 and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 on channel 15.

<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>Update on ADA</b>	<b>Chris Rancourt</b>
<p>JD will redo PR for ADA teleconference calls as soon as the new schedule is out. VF created an evaluation form for the teleconferences. PR inquired about transcripts of the calls if they were missed. CR reported they are available by <a href="http://www.adagreatlakes.org/Pnservices/AudioConferencing/Archives">www.adagreatlakes.org/Pnservices/AudioConferencing/Archives</a>. CR contacted Bryant University regarding webcasting per Paul Harden's suggestion – Ray Fogarty is the contact person at Bryant. The Commission won a \$4000 incentive grant. Grant money will be used to train municipalities and businesses on ADA. CR will organize training by the EEOC in January. Postponed due to the EEOC seminar cancelled in January due to snow. KP will provide information at the next meeting on the job fair. VF reported that over 500 people attended. CR commented that the space was too small to accommodate the people especially those with mobility issues. CR reported the ADA training for state ADA coordinators took place for late Nov. and early Dec. . Eighteen state ADA coordinators attended each session. Four Able Too...shows are to be taped to meet the 2006 grant requirements. One show will be on</p>		
<b>10:20 AM</b>	<b>Tactical Planning for 2006</b>	<b>Vicki Ferrara-Chair</b>
<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reach out to large employees re: ADA. CR reported that this will be done via the web cast. In addition, VF will contact various groups like the BLN and SHRM and invite them to the audio conferences.</li> <li>• ID trends and provide interventions. CR will create a summary of the trends and report on them at the next meeting</li> <li>• Market ADA resources to employees and employers</li> </ul>		
<b>10:35</b>	<b>Other Business</b>	<b>Vicki Ferrara-Chair</b>
<p>Discussion: Next meeting March 30, 2006 at 9:15 in the Governor's Commission on Disabilities conference room.</p>		
<b>Resource Persons:</b>	Chris Rancourt	
<b>Adjourned:</b>	10:45 AM	