

# Minutes



## Employment Committee Thursday July 27, 2006 9 AM to 10:30 AM Governor's Commission on Disabilities John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court Cranston, RI 02920

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**Recorder:** Chris Rancourt  
**Attendees:** Pat Ryherd (Chair), Jim Pittasi, Dimity Peter, Linda Milner, Bill Nieranowski, Arthur Plitt Vicki Ferrara  
**Excused:** Judi Drew

### Minutes

**9:00 Call to Order Pat Ryherd, Chair.**

Discussion: Chair calls the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**9:05 Meeting Minutes from March Meeting Pat Ryherd**

**MOTION:** To approve the meeting minutes from the May 25, 2006 Meeting. Motion passed unanimously (AP/BN).

**9:10 Employment Staff Report**

○ **ADA Grant Chris Rancourt**

#### Web cast

-CR asked Paul Choquette to send thank you notes to Bryant University staff.

-CR reported that the anticipated roll out of the web cast is still September 2006. Bryant is in the process of captioning the web cast. CR is in the process of getting Senators Chafee and Reed and Congressmen Langevin and Kennedy to do an up front piece on the importance of ADA for the web cast. The plan is to have those running for office to tape a minute or two on this topic after they conclude the taping of their "Election Series" segment (see below).

#### Able TOO...

-CR reported that she and Jeff Hartley taped an Able Too show on the 'Shake-A-Leg' program run by Tim Flynn. This taping was done at Salve Regina University and the Boys and Girls Club of Newport County on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

-The 2nd of the 4 Able Too... programs required by the ADA grant will be on the "Election Series" in particular, the part show that deals with the AutoMark

machine will be repeated in a separate show. In addition, CR will talk with Harvey Salvas about taping at a precinct and the accommodations made.

- CR spoke about the “Election Series” work. Specifically, that she is in the process of scheduling the candidates running for statewide offices and national offices. The tapings will conclude on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The shows geared towards the primary elections will air between August 18<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup>. The primary date is September 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Department of Corrections**

-CR and LM reported on the Department of Corrections training. Over 100 people were provided ADA training by Liz Stanosheck from Nebraska’s Department of Corrections on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The trainings were very successful. The transcript is in the midst of being “edited.” Feedback from the training was collected and put into an excel spreadsheet. In addition to this, PR suggested that the outcomes of the training be documented.

○

#### **HRIC Grant**

**Chris Rancourt**

HRIC grant ended officially in June of 2006.

### **Mini-grants**

The \$400 mini-grant to Salve Regina was not returned to the Commission. CR will follow up with JD to find out where this money was sent. The plan for the returned \$400 was to have professionally produced public relations produced. LM offered to contact prison industries for us to assist in the publication process.

**10:00**

**Other Business**

**Pat Ryherd**

## **Other ADA Grant Information:**

-Current ADA contract expires on September 30, 2006.

-CR, Harvey Salvas, and Chris Botts attended the NEADA meeting in Massachusetts on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Oce Harrison shared the contents of the RFP and what she needed from each of the states. The major points in the RFP concerned "outcome measures" and research. Oce continued on to say that she would like higher ed involvement from each of the states included in the RFP response. She also mentioned that the University of Southern Maine contacted her directly about being a partner. She said she politely turned down this offer. Each state contributed ideas to OCE. One point that CR discussed was that Bryant University would like to be a research partner to NEADA. She then shared with Oce materials from Bryant. Oce was interested in Bryant because of their role in the web cast project. Oce concluded the meeting by saying she would be in contact with us via e-mail to address specific questions in the RFP. The response to the RFP is due August 8, 2006.

-CR reported that she responded via e-mail to a request from OCE on RI goals/outcomes. Bob, Harvey and Chris provided input to what CR sent to Oce.

-CR reviewed the Technical assistance calls from June and July of 2006. No trends emerged.

## **Strategic planning**

Workplan through September: Able Too., web cast, corrections meeting/training outcomes, new public relations materials, job fair with Rhodes to Independence.

Other ideas for strategic planning purposes discussed included: hiring, interviewing, job accommodations, paratransit, technology, BLN survey (VF) will provide. AP suggested we do a survey, PR suggested that we should use existing surveys and data rather than create our own. More data on issues are to be collected by all committee members.

September meeting to focus on Nov. and Dec. work.

Brochure for marketing. LM mentioned that corrections could be a possible printing source. She will follow up on that and get back to CR.

PR mentioned that the GCD website needs attention. Motion: Bring to the executive committee the importance of having a user-friendly, updated regularly web site. Motion approved by AP and DP.

September 28, 2006- next meeting.

**Adjourned at:**

10:30AM JD/DP passed unanimously