



Governor's Commission on Disabilities Employment Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Oct. 25, 2007 9 – 10:00 AM

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

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Attendees:	Pat Ryherd, Sandy Lupovitz, Bill Nieranowski, Linda Milner, Vicki Ferrara, Melanie Sbardella, Ann Roccio, Paul Harden		
Excused:	Arthur Plitt, Jim Pitassi		
Absent:	Dimity Peter, Judi Drew		
----- Agenda Topics -----			
Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes	Pat Ryherd, Chairperson	5 min.	
MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Accepted. Correct the spelling of Arthur Plitt's name as well as PR.			
Discussion Items:	Discussion Leader:	Time:	
1. DOL Poster	Pat Ryherd	5 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DOL has produced a new "Workers with disabilities: talent for a winning team" poster. CR ordered 50 copies of the poster and has them available. 			
2. State of the Commission	Pat Ryherd	20 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PR discussed the plan to create a Department of Advocacy that would include the GCD, the Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Rhode Island Office of the Child Advocate, The Mental Health Advocate, and The Commission for Human Rights. PR reviewed the contract with Adaptive Environments and the request by Adaptive Environments to hold off on signing the contract until the meeting with State Budget Office is held. 			
3. Nov. 8th meeting with Colleges and Universities	Pat Ryherd	35 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PR reviewed the agenda for the meeting. PR reviewed the draft of the information packet. VF asked if in the packet there was a list of the top 5 things a college or university could do to PR responded that this meeting was just the first step of many so at this time a list of the top 5 things is not included. The focus groups planned are aimed at gathering 			

information which could lead to those top 5 things.

- Ann Roccio will contact her colleagues about attending the meeting.
- VF will arrange for the flip charts (2) and a screen. CR will bring the laptop and LCD needed for Oce. Oce will be presenting one of the success stories that has been filmed. VF suggested that at this meeting we should ask for volunteers to participate in focus groups to review the other success stories/
- CR will arrange for food/beverages as soon as a headcount is in. She will begin to do the headcount on Monday 10/29.

4. Contract

Pat Ryherd

20 min

- CR to meet with a student group in Nov. and Dec. per the NEADA contract. LM is meeting with JWU on Oct. 31 and will try to get CR on the panel.
- VF will try to get CR on SHRM's agenda in April – June to discuss the ADA. Contract requires that we talk with 15 or more employers.
- CR will contact Adaptive Environments to get employment committee on the Access N.E. Electronic publication list

7. Meeting Adjourned

Pat Ryherd

5 min

- Next meeting Dec. 13, 2007. 9:00-10:30 at the Commission rather than Dec. 27th.