



**Governor's Commission on Disabilities
Employment Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday Sept. 3, 2013 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

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Attendees: Meryl Berstein (Vice Chair.); Arthur Plitt; Vincent Rossi; & Melanie Sbardella

Excused: Sarah Everhart Skeels (Chair); Paul Harden; Patricia Ryherd, Vicki Fererra

Guests: Monica Dzialo, Casey Gartland, Tim Flynn (Commission Chair)

Staff: Christine Rancourt Bruzzi, Ellen Richardson (Employment Fellow), Bob Cooper, Alyssa Gleason



1:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Meryl Berstein, Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair calls the meeting to order at 1:00 Introductions of Commissioners and guests.



MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as *presented*
Motion moved by MS , seconded by VR, passed unanimously

Action Items:

1:10 Statehouse Conference on Employing People with Disabilities , Meryl Berstein, Vice-chair

Purpose/Goal: To begin planning for the Statehouse conference scheduled for Oct. 23, 2013

Discussion: BC provided the background for the Statehouse Conference on Employing People with Disabilities, which included communications with Governor/Governor's staff, the Blueprint for Governors document shared at the 2012-2013 National Governors' Association meeting, and the agenda from a similar meeting hosted by the GCD many years ago. In addition, BC communicated what is already known specifically, the Conference will held at the Statehouse on Oct. 23, 2013 and the remarks by Governor Chafee will be held in the Stateroom at the Statehouse which can accommodate 100 people.

"Think like an employer" emerged as the theme for the committee. Given this, the target audience for the conference is employers. This audience is consistent with the Blueprint and the Conference's goal to inform and educate employers about employing with people with disabilities

	<p>Motion: To focus on employer based initiatives to improve the employment based outcomes for people with disabilities Motion moved by TF, seconded by VR, passed unanimously</p>		
 <small>Compass and Protractor graphic</small>	<p>1:30 Conference Agenda, Meryl Bernstein, Vice-chair</p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To set the conference agenda</p> <p>Discussion: Although four concurrent topics were initially proposed for the Conference, having three 45 minute consecutively delivered topic areas was deemed as more practical. Due to time constraints, the agenda from the previous Conference was reviewed and modified.</p>		
	<p>Motion: Approve the proposed agenda: 9:00 AM Registration and continental breakfast 9:30 AM Welcoming remarks from the Governor 9:40 - 10:25 What's in it for Me (and My Company) 3 to 4 local company success stories told by the company CEO or Spokesperson, their employee or the resource provider involved 10: 30 - 10:45 Who Are You Going to Call? Several "elevator" presentations about the local resource booths surrounding the rotunda 10:45 - 11:15 Break to visit the booths, network and enjoy snacks 11:15 - Noon Employer Rights, Responsibilities and Results Finished by 12:15. Motion moved by MS, seconded by VR, passed/unanimously</p>		
Status Reports:			
	<p>2: 15 Potential Presenters, Meryl Bernstein, Vice-chair</p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To Identify the potential presenters for each of the 3 consecutive topics</p>		
	<p>Discussion: With regard to Topic 1, small, medium, and large companies need to be represented to talk about their experience hiring a person with a disability, what the company needs in an employee, assistance sought and received, and outcome of hiring a person with a disability. Topic 2 needs to address information on resources available to employers (in addition to speakers, tables in the hall contain material regarding other resources (ATAP, SSA, DEI). Topic 3 needs to focus on employer rights, responsibilities and results when hiring and working with a person with a disability.</p>		
	<p>Topic 1: What's in it for Me (and My Company)*</p>		
	<p>Presenter: Small Company - The Barber</p>	<p>Presenter: Medium Size Company - Dave's Market</p>	<p>Presenter: Large Company - Cox</p>
	<p>Topic 2: Who Are You Going to Call (available resources)*</p>		
	<p>Presenters: JAN (Accommodations), ORS (OJT, OJE), DLT (WOTC), OHHS</p>		

	(Medicaid Buy-In), BLN (Businesses supporting businesses)
	Topic 3: Employer Rights, Responsibilities and Results*
	Presenter: Legal professional in private practice
	Motion: Approve suggested presenters to participate in conference workshops. Motion moved by MB, seconded by MS, passed unanimously
	<i>2:55 Agenda for the Next Meeting, Meryl Berstein, Vice-chair</i> Purpose/Goal: To set time the agenda for the next meeting. Discussion: Review completed work and identify work to be done and by whom. Date for next meeting should be soon.
	Motion: Tuesday, September 10, 2013. 9:00-11:00 Motion moved by MB, seconded by MD, passed unanimously
	<i>3:00 Adjournment, Meryl Berstein, Vice-chair</i>
	Motion: To adjourn at 3:00 Motion moved by MB, seconded by MD, passed unanimously