

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Employment Committee Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2017

Members Present

Tom Hicks*
Kryslen Holt*
Terell Welch*
Dan Martinez*

Members Absent

Jordan Moon
Nikki Jeffords

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers, Admin. Assist.
*Teleconferenced

Guests Present

Call to Order and Introductions

Tom Hicks called the meeting to order at 11:00 am in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made a quorum was present.

Approval of January 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Kryslen Holt moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2017 Employment Committee meeting. Terell Welch seconded the motion. The committee approved the minutes by unanimous voice vote.

E75 Timeline Review

Terell Welch inquired whether the employers awarded at the event would be given time to speak after accepting their awards. Tom Hicks stated his understanding that each employer would be given time to speak about the success of the blind or visually impaired employee hired. Terell Welch noted Ron Brooks would be developing a video for his award acceptance on behalf of Valley Metro. Tom Hicks noted the emcee would need to indicate the audience would be watching a video of Ron Brooks. Terell Welch inquired regarding the order of the awards given to employers. Dan Martinez stated that Ron Brooks' video should be played at the end of the award presentations.

Tom Hicks inquired whether the employers had been notified that they would be receiving awards at the event. Terell Welch stated he received

confirmation from Peckham, Tucson Electric Power and Valley Metro, which would be attending the event. Terell Welch inquired whether the employers would be discussing their companies when accepting the awards, rather than discuss the employee hired. Dan Martinez stated the employers should be acknowledged for hiring a blind or visually impaired individual. Kryslen Holt stated she invited Cyacom to attend the event and to receive an award. Lindsey Powers stated she contacted Scott Weber to attend on behalf of APOC, and he indicated he would be unable to attend the event. Tom Hicks inquired whether Dan Martinez would contact the Secretary of State office regarding the award offered for hiring Tanner Robinson. Dan Martinez stated he would contact Tanner Robinson regarding the award presented to the Secretary of State Office.

Tom Hicks noted that one of the job ready candidates, Brian Bossert, had agreed to attend the event and take professional photos of the job ready candidates. Terell Welch suggested Mr. Bossert be included in the list of sponsors and be recognized for offering his services. Lindsey Powers stated she would add Brian Bossert to the list of sponsors of the event.

E75 Event Program Discussion

- Emcee Discussion

Tom Hicks suggested the committee review the E75 Diversity Award Event program, which included the times of each part of the event. Lindsey Powers reviewed the event program. Tom Hicks inquired whether the GCBVI Chair should introduce the emcees of the event. Dan Martinez stated the emcees could speak briefly about themselves. Mr. Martinez noted the emcees would require a script of what they would be expected to say. Lindsey Powers inquired whether both Tanner Robinson and Rich Sorey would be at the podium together, or whether they would split the emcee duties. Tom Hicks suggested the GCBVI Chair introduce Tanner Robinson, who could then introduce Rich Sorey. Mr. Hicks noted Amy Porterfield could speak briefly about the GCBVI, and Rich Sorey could present the E75 awards. He stated Marc Ashton, Foundation for Blind Children (FBC), could offer his own closing remarks at the end of the event. Tom Hicks stated the committee needed to develop brief biographies for Tanner Robinson, Rich Sorey, and Amy Porterfield. Terell Welch inquired whether Amy Porterfield would be available to attend the E75 Diversity Builder Award Event. Dan Martinez noted that he would attend the event and could provide a description of the GCBVI if needed. Tom Hicks reminded all committee members to RSVP with their lunch choices to Lindsey Powers by January 13, 2017. Tom Hicks inquired whether Terell Welch would be willing to read the

biographies of Tanner Robinson and Rich Sorey at the award event. Dan Martinez stated that Amy Porterfield or he could read the biographies of Mr. Robinson and Mr. Sorey, although the committee needed to develop a script. Lindsey Powers stated she would request a biography from Rich Sorey. Tom Hicks stated he would request a biography from Tanner Robinson.

Tom Hicks suggested the program begin with Amy Porterfield or Dan Martinez welcoming the attendees and the guest emcees. Mr. Hicks inquired whether the job ready candidate videos would be running as attendees arrive and during the lunch. Terell Welch stated after the Invocation, Rich Sorey could indicate the job ready candidates had prepared elevator speech videos. Tom Hicks inquired how long the Keynote Speaker, Jennison Asuncion, needed for his presentation. Terell Welch stated he would inquire with Mr. Asuncion regarding the time of his presentation. Tom Hicks noted the committee would need a brief biography for Jennison Asuncion in order for one of the emcees to introduce him. Terell Welch stated he would develop a brief biography for Mr. Asuncion based on the Talking Points Jennison Asuncion forwarded Mr. Welch previously.

Dan Martinez stated he would assist with the development of the script of the event, and noted the script needed to be developed. Tom Hicks stated the committee could identify some talking points for Amy Porterfield as well. Tom Hicks and Lindsey Powers agreed to assist Dan Martinez on developing a script for the event.

E75 Event Invite Discussion

Tom Hicks noted that about 30 individuals had RSVP'd for the event thus far. Mr. Hicks suggested the committee members continue calling the employers and extending invitations to the award event. Kryslen Holt stated she would contact her list of employers and students to invite to the event. Tom Hicks inquired whether all of Terell Welch's job ready candidates had RSVP'd with their meal choices. Terell Welch stated he invited all of the job ready candidates and some had RSVP'd with their meal choices. Terell Welch stated he and Tim Stump, Employment Coordinator, would invite more employers to attend the event. Kryslen Holt stated she would invite some students that were not job ready candidates, although they would benefit from attending the event and having the ability to network with employers. Dan Martinez inquired how many GCBVI members had RSVP'd to attend the event. Lindsey Powers stated she received RSVPs from about eight council members. Ms. Powers agreed to follow up with the GCBVI members. Tom Hicks stated he would invite HR staff from the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to attend the event. Mr. Hicks noted the committee should also invite individuals from the National Federation of the Blind of Arizona (NFAz),

the Arizona Council of the Blind (AzCB), and the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA).

Tom Hicks inquired regarding the deadline for the committee to send in the final meal choices to the Phoenix Rescue Mission. Terell Welch stated he would contact the Phoenix Rescue Mission and indicate the committee would forward the final meal choices by January 20 and to inquire whether the agency could accept last minute meal choices up to January 25.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Employment Committee would be on January 18, 2017 from 11:00-12:30 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Agenda items are as follows:

- E75 Timeline Review
- E75 Event Program
- E75 Event Invite Discussion

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

A call was made to the public with no responses forthcoming.

Adjournment of Meeting

Kryslen Holt moved to adjourn the meeting; Terell Welch seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting stood adjourned at 11:50 a.m.