

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Employment Committee Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2018

Members Present

Nikki Jeffords*
Terell Welch*
Kevin Foster*
Tanner Gers*
Jordan Moon*
Jim Strohacker*

Members Absent

Bea Shapiro

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers, Admin. Assist.
*Teleconferenced

Guests Absent

Call to Order and Introductions

Nikki Jeffords called the meeting to order at 11:40 am in the Council Staff Office, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made a quorum was present.

Approval of the January 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Terell Welch motioned to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2018 meeting. Jordan Moon seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Strategies for Inviting Employers

Nikki Jeffords inquired regarding the individuals that had RSVP'd to the E75 event. Lindsey Powers reviewed the list of individuals that had RSVP'd to the event. Nikki Jeffords stated that Amy Porterfield, GCBVI Chair and Mike Gordon, SAAVI Services for the Blind would attend the event. Ms. Jeffords inquired whether anyone from Arizona Industries for the Blind (AIB) had been invited to the event. Lindsey Powers stated she invited Dan Martinez from AIB, but could also invite Dana Clayton, HR, to the event. Nikki Jeffords stated she would follow up with American Airlines regarding attendance at the E75 event. Nikki Jeffords stated that overall, she was pleased about the number of employers that would be attending the event. Terell Welch stated he would send invites to another 250 individuals as well. Nikki Jeffords stated she would follow up with Fed Ex and Wells Fargo

regarding attendance at the event also. Jim Strohacker stated he would follow up with several employers as well.

E75 Logistics Discussion

Terell Welch stated he received several donations offers from employers that wanted to pay through credit cards. Mr. Welch noted that the Department of Economic Security (DES) was currently unable to accept credit card donations and he hoped the committee could identify a method for accepting all donations. Nikki Jeffords stated she would explore options that would allow the Employment Committee to accept credit card donations. Terell Welch stated he would discuss the issue during his weekly office huddles as well.

Nikki Jeffords stated the committee should also discuss the seating arrangements at the event as everyone will be assigned seating. Nikki Jeffords stated that Amy Porterfield or Mike Gordon could sit with individuals from Tucson Electric Power (TEP). Tanner Gers stated he would sit with Audry Greer and Marc Ashton. Jordon Moon stated he would sit with individuals from Wells Fargo. Terell Welch requested to sit with individuals from the Hyatt to cultivate a relationship with the organization. Jim Strohacker requested to sit next to the individual from Creative Solutions, if the organization attended the event. Terell Welch inquired regarding who would pose for the pictures at the event. Nikki Jeffords stated the pictures could be taken after the event. Terell Welch stated he received notice that DES would not be able to video the event. Nikki Jeffords stated she would contact Jillian Seamans, DES Public Information Officer regarding whether she or another staff members could take pictures at the event. Jordan Moon stated he knew a photographer if the committee needed a photographer at the event. Jordan Moon suggested the committee reiterate that the E75 event would not be an annual event, but would be quarterly events.

E75 Program Development Discussion

Nikki Jeffords inquired regarding the E75 event program timeline. Lindsey Powers reviewed the event program timeline. Kevin Foster stated during his presentation he would focus on attitude and encouraging employers to look past attitudes regarding hiring blind and visually impaired individuals. Terell Welch inquired whether Frank Vance from the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI) should give the invocation at the event. Nikki Jeffords stated Terell Welch gave great invocations at the previous events. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether Rich Sorey, Services for the Blind Visually Impaired and Deaf (SBVID) Program Manager should be part of the award presentation at the event. Jordan Moon stated that Nikki Jeffords should be part of the award presentation as the Chair of the committee.

Nikki Jeffords requested that Terell Welch act as the stage manager and introduce herself and Amy Porterfield at the event. Jordan Moon inquired regarding what would be occurring during the lunch portion of the event. Nikki Jeffords stated that the E75 video would be played during lunch and individuals would have time to talk.

Terell Welch inquired whether the Employment Committee should mention the next E75 event in spring at the E75 event. The committee members agreed that the next event could be a breakfast on April 20, 2018 at the Flynn Foundation. The committee discussed tentatively scheduling events in August and November as well and would inform employers as more information became available.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Employment Committee would be on January 23, 2018 from 11:30-12:30 pm in the Council Staff Office, Phoenix, AZ. Agenda items are as follows:

- E75 Event Logistics Discussion
- E75 Program Discussion

Announcements

Terell Welch stated he received resumes from the Arizona State University (ASU) students interested in the E75/Employment Committee internship and would interview four students on January 30, 2018 at ASU West.

Public Comment

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

Adjournment of Meeting

Tanner Gers motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Foster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.