

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Employment Committee Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2017

Members Present

Tom Hicks*
Kryslen Holt*
Jordan Moon*
Dan Martinez*
Nikki Jeffords*

Members Absent

Terell Welch

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers, Admin. Assist.
*Teleconferenced

Guests Present

Call to Order and Introductions

Tom Hicks called the meeting to order at 11:04 am in the Council Staff Office, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made a quorum was present.

Approval of January 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The agenda item was tabled.

E75 Timeline Review

Tom Hicks stated his hope that more employers would attend the event. Dan Martinez stated the committee would need to plan the event earlier in advance for the next year. Nikki Jeffords stated her understanding that the committee had invited all employers that hired blind and visually impaired individuals the previous year. Tom Hicks stated the committee had invited all those employers. Mr. Hicks stated the committee had divided up the list of employers and were responsible for contacting those employers. Tom Hicks inquired whether the seating arrangements had been finalized. Lindsey Powers stated she would finalize the seating arrangements.

Tom Hicks thanked the committee members for their hard work and inquired whether Lindsey Powers would arrive early at the event. Lindsey Powers stated she would arrive about 9:00 at the Foundation for Blind Children. Tom Hicks inquired whether the FBC received instructions for setting up the

tables for the event. Lindsey Powers stated she forwarded the FBC room setup to FBC facilities.

E75 Event Program Outline

Tom Hicks inquired whether the committee had received a copy of the program script of the event. Lindsey Powers stated she would send the program script to all committee members. Mr. Hicks stated he would arrive early to the event and would be available to talk to Rich Sorey and Tanner Robinson prior to the event. Tom Hicks stated the committee needed to ensure they adhered to the program event timeline. Nikki Jeffords stated she spoke to Rich Sorey during the GCBVI Full Council meeting and he expressed interest in attending and participating in the event. Tom Hicks stated his hope that some of the job ready candidates would be able to connect with the employers and possibly obtain employment.

Nikki Jeffords inquired whether the program script indicated when each emcee would be speaking. Tom Hicks stated the program script did specify when each individual would be speaking and provided brief biographies introducing the speakers. Tom Hicks inquired whether each award recipient would have time to speak briefly about their organization. Nikki Jeffords stated she told the employers she spoke to that the award recipients would have time to speak briefly when accepting their awards. Tom Hicks noted that Ron Brooks had recorded a brief video, which would be played before a representative from Valley Metro accepted the award.

Tom Hicks inquired whether the committee should present Jennison Asuncion, the keynote speaker, with an award. Dan Martinez stated it was not typical to present a keynote speaker with an award. Lindsey Powers stated she forwarded the list of award recipients to the event planner to be printed.

Nikki Jeffords inquired whether the program would allow time for the job ready candidates to network with the employers. Tom Hicks stated the job ready candidates would have time to connect with the employers after the event. Dan Martinez suggested the program be modified to indicate that Tanner Robinson present all individuals before the lunch and Rich Sorey emcee after lunch. Lindsey Powers stated she would make those corrections.

E75 Event Invite Discussion

Tom Hicks inquired regarding the number of individuals that had RSVP'd with their meal selections. Lindsey Powers stated she received RSVPs from about

70 individuals. Ms. Jeffords stated she received confirmation that three individuals from Valley Metro would be attending the event.

Tom Hicks inquired whether the committee had received any employer RSVPs from employers not recognized at the event. Lindsey Powers stated she received about five RSVPs from other employers that would not be recognized at the event.

Tom Hicks inquired whether Jim LaMay from the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI) had confirmed his attendance at the event. Lindsey Powers stated she had not heard from Mr. LaMay. Kryslen Holt inquired whether Tim Stump, Employment Coordinator, had been invited to attend the event. Lindsey Powers stated she did invite Mr. Stump and he would be attending the event.

Nikki Jeffords stated she attempted to contact Human Resources individuals from the top ten Arizona employers, and noted the difficulty in reaching those individuals. Dan Martinez stated when contacting employers, the committee members had to offer an incentive to the employers.

Kryslen Holt suggested committee members contact Tim Stump regarding upcoming Job Fairs and connect with employers at those events. Nikki Jeffords suggested committee members various Chamber of Commerce meetings and network with those individuals.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Employment Committee would be on February 8, 2017 from 11:00-12:00 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Agenda items are as follows:

- E75 Event Review
- VRATE 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; Nikki Jeffords seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting stood adjourned at 11:40 a.m.