

**Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)**  
**Employment Committee Meeting Minutes**  
January 30, 2019

**Members Present**

Nathan Pullen  
Nikki Jeffords  
Terell Welch  
Ben Fox  
Bea Shapiro  
Jordan Moon

**Members Absent**

Kevin Foster

**Staff Present**

Lindsey Powers

**Guests Present**

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**Call to Order and Introductions**

Nathan Pullen called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm in the Council Liaison Office, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made a quorum was present.

**Approval of the January 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Bea Shapiro motioned to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2019 meeting. Nikki Jeffords seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**E75 Event Discussion**

Jordan Moon stated that a Human Resources representative from Pendergast Elementary School District to attend the event and accept the award. Nikki Jeffords stated that Kelly Lopez would attend as a representative from APS and would give a brief statement when accepting the award. Nathan Pullen stated he would tell the employers that they were welcome to give a brief statement when accepting awards. Ben Fox stated that Miss Arizona had confirmed that she would attend the event and was willing to take pictures with attendees. Nathan Pullen summarized the employers that would be attending were: Pendergast Elementary School District, APS, Peckham, Rio

Salado College, which had also agreed to be a sponsor for the event. He added that he would also recognize a Business Enterprise Program (BEP) operator. Jordan Moon stated that individuals from SAAVI Services for the Blind would attend the event and had agreed to provide \$500 in sponsorship. Nathan Pullen stated that SAAVI could send their logo to Ben Fox to include in the event program. Nathan Pullen stated that Ben Fox had developed an event program, that included a description of E75, a profile of Sean Callagy, the timeline of the day, and logos of the sponsors.

Nathan Pullen stated the event would begin at 8:30 and Miss Arizona would welcome attendees, followed by the E75 video, Nikki Jeffords would introduce Sean Callagy, the presentation of awards, and the closing remarks. Nathan Pullen inquired whether Amy Porterfield or Bob Kresmer should provide the closing remarks as leadership of the GCBVI. He noted that he would also like to mention the Assistive Technology (AT) products that were available to assist employees, and mention View Finder at the back of the room. Nathan Pullen stated that Molly Bright or Kristen Mackey could potentially speak as well. Nikki Jeffords stated that Nathan Pullen should provide the closing remarks, because Nathan Pullen could ensure the conversation did not deviate from the goal of the event. Nikki Jeffords inquired who would introduce the E75 video. Nathan Pullen stated he downloaded the E75 video and had a Power Point with the E75 and GCBVI logos and a slide of Miss Arizona that could be played in the background. Ms. Jeffords inquired who would play the E75 video during the event. Nathan Pullen stated that several staff members would attend the event and could play the video. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether the committee would have nametags at the event. Lindsey Powers stated the event planner had printed nametags of the attendees that RSVP'd already and blank nametags for anyone that had not RSVP'd. Jordan Moon inquired whether someone would introduce the Employment Committee members. Nathan Pullen stated that Employment Committee members could be asked to stand and be recognized although he did not anticipate full introductions. Nathan Pullen inquired whether a representative from Peckham would like to speak after Sean Callagy's presentation. Terrell Welch stated that Peckham did not want to provide a presentation at the event. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether Miss Arizona would hand out the awards at the event. Terrell Welch stated that Nathan Pullen, as the Employment Committee Chair, should hand out the awards to employers.

Nathan Pullen stated he picked up the banner with the E75 logo that would be set up in the back of the room and attendees could take pictures with Miss Arizona. Mr. Pullen noted that he would like to mention the next E75 event, scheduled for March 8, 2018, which would be an employee round table. He stated the committee could invite approximately 30 employers or

HR professionals and invite Bea Shapiro or Bob Gates to discuss AT as well. Terell Welch stated that employers would benefit from knowing about the resources available and that agencies such as Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) provided on boarding or job coaching services. He noted that he could mention the next event during his closing remarks. Terell Welch stated the committee could mention Peckham as an example of a business that included AT on their computers and hired 11 blind or visually impaired employees. Bea Shapiro stated it would be a violation against the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to indicate the number of blind or visually impaired individuals that had been hired. Ms. Shapiro stated the committee could indicate that blind or visually impaired individuals had been hired but should not indicate the number of individuals hired.

Terell Welch inquired whether Ben Fox had updated the event program. Ben Fox stated he had not updated the program yet, although he would after the meeting. Mr. Welch stated that he had some minor suggested changes to the program. Bea Shapiro inquired whether all committee members would have the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the event program. Nikki Jeffords motioned that Nathan Pullen, Terell Welch and Ben Fox have committee approval to finalize the event program. Terell Welch seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Nikki Jeffords inquired whether the committee had identified the date and time for the next E75 event. Nathan Pullen stated the committee could send a Save the Date for the next event. Terell Welch inquired whether the committee could hold the event at the Flinn Foundation. Nathan Pullen stated he could reserve the Ability 360 Conference Room, or the BEP Conference Room as a backup because he was unsure whether he could reserve the Flinn Foundation in two days. Bea Shapiro stated the event could be held in the RSA Training Rooms. Nathan Pullen stated his reluctance to hold events in the RSA Training Rooms due to the challenges of getting everyone through security at the building.

Nikki Jeffords stated that Ben Fox had agreed to speak briefly during the afternoon presentation. Nathan Pullen stated there would be information and brochures on a table in the back of the room. Terell Welch stated that he could bring Arizona@Work pens also. Mr. Welch suggested the committee focus on fundraising throughout the year and to encourage employers to return to several events.

### **Agenda and Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Employment Committee TBD.

## **Announcements**

Nikki Jeffords stated she would send information regarding an event on April 5 and 6, with Kirk Adams, American Council of the Blind (ACB).

## **Public Comment**

A call was made to the public with no response's forthcoming.

## **Adjournment of Meeting**

Bea Shapiro motioned to adjourn the meeting. Nikki Jeffords seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.