

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)

Independent Living Committee Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2021

Attendance

Members Present

Ted Chittenden
Steve Tepper
Brian Dulude
John McCann
Eve Sanchez
Frank Vance

Members Absent

Katie Gomez

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers

Guests Present

Minutes

Call to Order and Introductions

Ted Chittenden called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. Introductions were made, and a quorum was present.

Approval of October 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

John McCann motioned to approve the October 12, 2021 meeting minutes. Eve Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Legislative Update

Ted Chittenden stated that Amy Porterfield and Bob Kresmer had been in discussions with the Governor's Policy Advisor regarding a potential increase in funding for the Independent Living Blind (ILB) program and how individuals under 54 years of age could receive IL services that were not seeking employment. Ted Chittenden stated that he had not received an update regarding those conversations yet.

Annual Report Discussion

Ted Chittenden stated that he had made some edits to the IL Committee report for the GCBVI Annual Report, and he was continuing to assist the Public Information Committee with the development of the Annual Report. Mr. Chittenden stated he had not received the GCBVI Chair report, the Education Committee report or any client success stories from Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Bob Kresmer had indicated that he submitted his reports to David Steinmetz. Therefore, Mr. Chittenden had contacted David Steinmetz regarding those reports. Ted Chittenden stated that if anyone had any VR client success stories, they should forward them to Lindsey Powers. Eve Sanchez stated she had some success stories from the ILB program that she would share. Brian Dulude stated he would request client success stories as well.

Workgroup Updates

This item was tabled.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the IL Committee TBD.

Announcements

Ted Chittenden stated he would be assisting the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) on February 2nd and 3rd with proofreading the new UEB tests administered to grade school and high school students.

Public Comment

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

Adjournment of Meeting

John McCann motioned to adjourn the meeting. Steve Tepper seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am.