

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

December 2, 2021

**Members Present**

Nathan Pullen  
Jonathan Pringle  
David Steinmetz  
Terrell Welch

**Members Absent**

Reggie Laister  
Bea Shapiro

**Staff Present**

Lindsey Powers

**Guests Present**

Brooke Beatty  
Antonio Hernandez

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**Call to Order and Introductions**

Nathan Pullen called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. Introductions were made and a quorum was present.

**Approval of the October 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Terrell Welch motioned to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2021 meeting. Jonathan Pringle seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**E75 Event Discussion**

Nathan Pullen stated the committee continued to tentatively plan for an E75 event in February and had agreed to hold a virtual event. Nathan Pullen stated that committee members had agreed to reach out to their employer contacts and inquired regarding any updates. Terrell Welch stated he had a contact with Wells Fargo, although he did not have a lot of success reaching

that individual. Nathan Pullen stated Bea Shapiro might have a contact as well and he could follow up with her. Mr. Pullen stated he reached out to his Sodexo contact but had not heard back. He noted the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE) had been canceled as well as some other events, although the committee could continue to plan for an E75 event. Nathan Pullen inquired whether committee members were aware of any companies actively hiring blind and visually impaired employees. Brooke Beatty stated that some companies were better to work with, and she would check to see if any companies were hiring more. David Steinmetz stated he knew of a company that had hired several blind and visually impaired individuals, although the company was not local. Nathan Pullen stated the committee was typically interested in honoring local businesses, although more individuals were able to work remotely in Arizona. David Steinmetz agreed with recognizing local businesses and stated the company could be a potential keynote speaker. Nathan Pullen stated the committee had not identified a keynote speaker and could consider that company. Mr. Pullen inquired whether Mr. Welch was able to locate a previous version of an E75 invite. Terrell Welch stated he contacted the Public Information Officer (PIO) and would follow up with him. Terrell Welch noted the previous E75 video was outdated and suggested updating it with individuals that were currently employed. Nathan Pullen agreed and suggested contacting the PIO about updating the video as well.

### **Committee Member Updates**

This item was tabled.

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

The next meeting of the Employment Committee was scheduled for December 15, 2021. Agenda items are as follows:

- E75 Event Discussion
- Committee Member Updates

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Public Comment**

Antonio Hernandez, Arizona Department of Health Services and Community Integration Officer, stated his department worked with business partners and inquired whether the committee would be interested in any updates. Nathan Pullen stated he would be pleased to receive any updates.

### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Jonathan Pringle motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Steinmetz seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.