**The President’s Commission on People with Disabilities**

**November 14, 2017 at 2:00 PM**

**Memorial Union Senate Chambers, Room 300**

**Minutes**

1. Attendance: Christine Sullivan, Anita Jacobson, Joanna Portman-Daley, Joanne Lynch, Tamara Bolotow, Jason Dwyer, Bridget Ruemmele, Rachel Ferreria, Pamela Rohland, Steve Baker, Emily Clapham, Kevin Smith, Megan Conti (guest- dining services)
2. Acceptance of Minutes: moved to approve Pamela, second Steve, all voted in favor to approve
3. Ram Van New Purchase update (Paul, Steve & Pam)
   1. Awaiting word on RFP
4. Possible Honor’s Colloquium Related to Disability update (Annette)
   1. Currently collecting ideas from members and planning a meeting
   2. Questions and concerns discussed: will we have enough accessible seating and ADA parking for people attending as draw would potentially be higher percent of people with disabilities? Can this colloquium be used to address accessibility of the location?
5. Accessibility Issues in the Dining Halls (Rachel and Megan)
   1. Issues raised include snow removal, counter heights and depths including guards, purchasing carts for carrying food, premade special meals for those with allergies or needs for cutting up food etc. student volunteers to help navigate and carry food etc.
   2. Ideal to have universal design versus a system that students have to identify their needs, however is possible on the dining app to make special requests and needs known to staff
   3. Carts could be purchased to hold a tray or plates/drinks as a start
6. Task Force I: Celebration and Awareness Building
   1. Critical Community Conversation update (Anita): event held 10/25, very well attended and highly positive feedback
7. Task Force II:
   1. Curriculum & Online Accessibility (Joanna)
      * Regarding Sakai, accessibility feedback tool is on previously created sites now
      * Working on an accessibility instructional recording for Sakai, webinar completed, but would like a recording that is more professional
      * Web accessibility is diminished by photos and other designs
      * Consider an accessibility report card, also consider requesting time in the Academic Summit to include accessibility topics and reporting from PCPD. Jason, Joannah and Pam will contact Ann Morrissey to discuss a breakout group related to curriculum and Sakai accessibility
   2. Parking & Transportation Advisory Sub-Committee (Steve)
      * Awaiting final report
   3. Safety & Evacuation (Steve)
      * Deferred to next meeting
8. Accessible Map of URI Campuses (Paul)
   1. Deferred to next meeting
9. Fine Arts Recital Hall and Will Theater Listening Enhancement Systems (Paul)
   1. Deferred to next meeting
10. Service Animals on Campus
    1. Confusion over emotional support animals versus service animals
    2. Pets are not allowed on campus in any buildings, only service animals are allowed in all campus buildings, emotional support animals are only allowed in residence halls with an approved accommodation through Disability Services
11. Anita Jacobson’s term is ending at the end of the semester- looking for a faculty Co-Chair volunteer.
12. Meeting adjourned at 3:18pm
13. Future Meeting
    * Friday, December 1, 2017 at 11:00 AM