

MINUTES September 8, 2025

Present: Heidi Showstead, Myles Brawn-Husband, Mindy Highland, Jamie Harris Pfantz, Christina Battista, Sue Babin, Jeff Christie, Rebecca Beaton

1. Welcome



Tanja welcomed everyone to today's meeting.

2. Mission Statement/Minutes



Deanne read the Mission Statement of the Coalition.

“The Coalition is for individuals with all disabilities to connect and talk about what is important in our lives and what we can do together to improve quality for all people! It is also an opportunity to become familiar with different services available from agencies in Rhode Island and learn what these agencies can do to support and meet the needs of individuals.”



Rachel read NO MINUTES – the MAY 2025 Minutes were not available to read...



3. Presentation: *What You Did over the Summer and the Topics YOU would like the Cross Disability Coalition meetings have!!*

Presented by: Tanja, Deanne, Rachel, and Christina of the RI Cross Disability Coalition

We asked what people did over the summer!!

Our members replied with a variety of answers...

- Visited with friends
- Went Sailing with the Sail to Prevail Nonprofit group
- Went on the Impossible Dream Catamaran
- Went out to dinner with friends/family



- Went to Disneyworld and 2 other amusement parks in Florida
- Had birthdays...

The second question we asked the Cross Disability Coalition Members was what TOPICS they wanted the RI Cross Disability Coalition future meetings to have?

- ✓ Day trips and accessible travel in RI



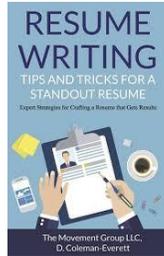
- ✓ Social opportunities – art, picnics, etc
- ✓ Go to Shri studio, have meeting there and do a yoga session
- ✓ Go to different Organizations to visit
- ✓ Have calendar to list what other groups or agencies are offering
- ✓ Have Library staff talk about what they have planned
- ✓ Volunteerism opportunities





✓ Transportation

✓ General Independent Skills – cooking, cleaning, laundry, etc.



✓ Resume writing

✓ Assistive Book Club

✓ Job Skills – mock interviews, how to dress

✓ Content Creators – people w/disabilities telling their stories



✓ People w/disabilities talking about their jobs



✓ Pet Therapy/Assist Animals

B	I	N	G	O
4	26	43	59	70
9	30	41	55	68
7	23	FREE 32 SPACE	50	63
8	20	31	60	75
13	18	34	52	69

- ✓ Accessible restaurants, trivia nights, bingo
- ✓ Arts and Crafts and Vision Boarding
- ✓ Accessible Iphone/Andriod – things – Perspectives



- ✓ Donating to worthy charities
- ✓ Celebrate community heroes



- ✓ A board game day
- ✓ A Teamwork/Team building
- ✓ Playing advocacy bingo
- ✓ Party Planning

Our members came up with many great topics for us to look into for future meetings. Thank you so much to our members for your input. We greatly appreciate it.



See you in October 2025!

5. Motion to Adjourn

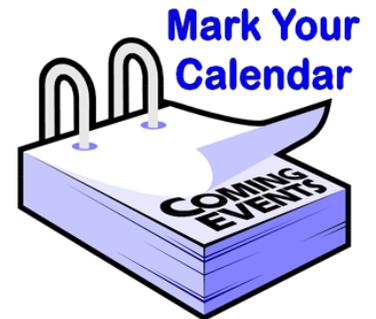
The meeting adjourned at about 3 pm.

NEXT MEETING

Date: MONDAY, October 6, 2025

Location: Warwick Public Library

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm



Minutes submitted by Tanja Blicher-Ucran