



Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC)

55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Voice: (717) 975-2004 or (888) 250-5175 TTY: (717) 737-0158 Fax: (888) 524-9282

Email: parc@parehabilitationcouncil.org Website: parehabilitationcouncil.org

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2026

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Committee Members (P = Present) (NP = Not Present)

Michelle Mitchell (P)

Julia Barol (P)

Christie Cyktor (P)

Joan Goodman (P)

Lynn Heitz (P)

Twana Jones (P)

Julianna Rodrigues (P)

Susan Tomasic (NP)

Andrew Pennington (P)

OVR Staff Present: Chris Harbert, Denise Verchimak

PaRC Personnel Present: Michelle Gerrick, Christopher Todd

Ms. Michelle Mitchell called the meeting to order after quorum was established.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

MOTION was made by Ms. Julia Barol for approval of today's agenda and past meeting minutes. Ms. Lynn Heitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OVR UPDATES

OVer & Above Employee Recognition Program

- Members reviewed nomination forms received for the OVer & Above Employee Recognition Program and were provided with clarifications from Ms. Denise Verchimak, OVR. Recommendations were made by the committee to ensure a more robust and consistent review process for future submissions. Members agreed upon recommending a nominee for the categories of Teamwork and Customer Service. Those nominees will be moved forward to the next step in the process, and the State Board of VR will select OVR's 'Staff Member of the Year.'

CHAIR REPORT

Finalize draft agenda for Full Council meeting on May 6, 2026

Review and recommendation of updated Executive Committee goals for FY 2026-2027

Invitation to participate as a vendor at CTI at HGAC's annual Career & Transition Fair on October 21, 22, and 23, 2026.

PaRC representation at the PA APSE Day on Employment

- Mr. Chris Harbert provided updates and follow-up regarding member requests for Full Council meeting presentations, data collection, reports, and previously submitted PaRC committee meeting questions. Presenters for My Work and OVR District Office were confirmed for the upcoming meeting.
- Members reviewed and approved of the Full Council meeting agenda scheduled for May 6, 2026.
- Members reviewed the revised Executive Committee goals for FY 2026-2027 and had no changes or corrections.

MOTION was made by Mr. Andrew Pennington for approval of the Executive Committee goals for FY 2026-2027. Ms. Julia Barol seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Members reviewed opportunities for attending the CTI at HGAC's Annual Career & Transition Fair scheduled for October 2026 and the PA APSE Day on Employment scheduled for May 2026. Members requested that PaRC personnel provide information to Full Council and request members to respond with their interest in participating.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Action/Social Media – Joan Myers Goodman, Chair

- Ms. Joan Myers Goodman reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027.
- The Committee Chair/Vice Chair discussion has been tabled until after May Full Council meeting. The next Action / Social Media committee meeting is scheduled for May 13th at 9:30 AM.

CareerLink – Twana Jones, Chair

- Ms. Twana Jones reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027. The CareerLink Committee Chair/Vice Chair discussion will be held during the next meeting scheduled for May 18th at 1:00 PM.

Governance – Julia Barol, Vice Chair

- Ms. Julia Barol reviewed the slate of nominees for PaRC Officer positions for FY 2026-2027.

MOTION was made by Ms. Joan Myers Goodman for approval of the slate of nominees for PaRC Officer positions for FY 2026-2027. Ms. Lynn Heitz seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Ms. Barol reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027. Ms. Julianna Rodrigues was elected as Governance Committee Chair and Julia Barol was elected as Committee Vice Chair for FY 2026-2027. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 15th at 11:00 AM.

Legislative – Christie Cyktor, Chair

Recommendation of committee goals for FY 2026-2027

- Ms. Christie Cyktor reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027. The PaRC held 10 virtual meetings with State Legislators on April 16th, 17th, and 21st. 4 members attended spring conferences in Washington DC and met with Federal Legislators on Capitol Hill in early April 2026. Ms. Cyktor was elected to continue as Committee Chair and Ms. Julianna Rodrigues was elected as Committee Vice Chair for FY 2026-2027. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 11:30 AM.

Policy – Lynn Heitz, Chair

Recommendation of committee goals for FY 2026-2027

- Ms. Lynn Heitz reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027. The Policy Committee will hold discussion of Committee Chair/Vice Chair for the upcoming Fiscal Year during the next Policy meeting scheduled for May 28th at 11:30 AM.

Transition – Julia Barol, Chair

Recommendation of committee goals for FY 2026-2027

- Ms. Julia Barol reported that the committee reviewed and recommended their goals and objectives for FY 2026-2027. 2 PaRC members attended the Pennsylvania Department of Education Conference in late February 2026. Discussion regarding Transition Committee Chair and Vice Chair will be held during the next committee meeting scheduled for June 2nd from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

Ad Hoc Committee – Business Enterprise Program (BEP) – Lynn Heitz & Joan Goodman

- Ms. Lynn Heitz reported that the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Ad Hoc Committee previously approved of their goals and objectives and will be holding their next meeting on May 8th from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Ms. Joan Myers Goodman will continue to serve as Committee Co-Chair and a new Co-Chair will

need to be selected prior to July 2026 when Ms. Heitz term on the Council ends.

Ad Hoc Committee – Citizens Advisory Committees (CAC) – Andrew Pennington

- Mr. Andrew Pennington reported that the Citizens Advisory Committees (CAC) Ad Hoc Committee approved its goals in March 2026. The committee held its third meeting in April 2026 and continued to review the CAC revitalization options. The next meeting is to be determined.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Andrew Pennington provided Public Comment explaining how well run the PaRC's meetings with Legislators were. The Legislators and their staff were very receptive. Mr. Pennington congratulated Ms. Cyktor on the job well done and emphasized the hard work and dedication provided by members during the meetings.
- Ms. Cyktor provided Public Comment and thanked Ms. Lynn Heitz for all she has done while serving on the Council and for everything that she has learned from Ms. Heitz during her time serving PaRC.

ADJOURN

MOTION was made by Ms. Joan Myers Goodman to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Twana Jones seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.