



DC Statewide Independent Living Council
1125 15th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005-2726

DC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2014

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Attendees

District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Robert Coward, Chairperson
Elver Ariza Silva, Vice Chairperson
Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary
Catherine Dillahunt, Treasurer
Yolandra Plummer
Tiffany Sanders
Yvonne Smith
Shileta Gorham
Thomas Mangrum
Dahlia Johnson, Administrative Assistant, SILC

Rehabilitation Services Administrations (RSA)

Andrew Reese, Deputy Director
Darnise Henry Bush, DC-RSA Program Liaison

Department on Disability Services (DDS)

Adam Mingal

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by the chair, Mr. Robert Coward.

Minutes

The minutes were read by the SILC secretary, Ms. Marsha Thompson. The minutes were approved as read with a change to indicate that the March 6, 2014 meeting was the make-up meeting for the January 23, 2014, meeting which was cancelled due in inclement weather.

Update on Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA)

Ms. Thompson stated there was a conference call with San Diego State University, project director of the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA), project director. She said it was like a pre-planning meeting because they're waiting for the funding to be loaded for that particular project.

It looks as if there will be about 15 or maybe more focus groups. There will be direct contact provided to SDSU so they can make appropriate outreach to people who will be compiling the membership for the focus groups and to ensure the focus groups are effective. We have an aggressive schedule and we don't see anything that will be a barrier to a successful CSNA this year.

The SRC was extraordinarily helpful for the last CSNA; therefore, SILC and CIL should ramp up as equally strong partners for this cycle.

Bobby stated that we have a budget to do outreach, and we could use this assessment as a map to outline our 704 Report. We should be heavily involved in this assessment.

Status of Fiscal Agent

No update yet, as SILC needs a strong Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and wants the best service for the fairest cost.

Expiration of Current Members' Terms and Recruitment

The Mayor's Order is clear on term lengths for each member. No member can serve more than two consecutive terms. Current members need to consider recruitment strategies early enough to build the membership prior to term expirations.

Felipe Lulli, USDE, RSA Independent Living Program (2:30-3:00)

Mr. Felipe Lulli called in and the Chair explained to him that we had a Mayor Order giving the SILC autonomy, and the SILC is seeking to handle its own funds, by hiring a fiscal agent.

Felipe Lulli of federal RSA provided technical assistance, with Robert Coward leading the discussion points for the SILC. Discussion clarified the duties of the SILC, allocation and authorized use of funds from Part B. If the SILC establishes a nonprofit, Part B funds cannot be used to set it up. The SILC can use donations to build its nonprofit. Essential guidance on how the SILC may draw down, document, and manage funds was provided. This led to some rethinking of the fiscal agent recruitment effort, and discussion on how best to move forward. The Executive Committee will meet to further explore the matter.

Adjournment