



Statewide Independent Living Council
One Independence Square
250 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

DC STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT COUNCIL

March 24, 2016

12:00 – 2:00pm

Minutes February 4, 2016

1400 Florida Ave., NE

Washington, DC

Attendees:

District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Elver Ariza-Silva, Interim Chairperson
Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary - Excused
Richard Simms, CIL Executive Director
Yvonne Smith, Member
Shileta L. Gorham, Member
Lucious T. Mangrum, Jr., Member
Caren Kirkland, Member
Andrew Reese, Deputy Director, DCRSA
Darnise Henry Bush, Member
Dahlia G. Johnson, Administrative Assistant -SILC

Rehabilitation Services Administrations (RSA)

Andrew Reese, Deputy Director (represented by Angel Bryant)
Darnise Henry Bush, DC-RSA Program Liaison
Angel Bryant, Transition Program Manager

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Elver Ariza-Silva

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Ms. Yvonne Smith feels that the DCCIL does very good work, and wanted to know if the CIL has any intention of helping people with emotional or mental challenges. Does the CIL staff receive training to understand people with these needs?

Ms. Bush stated that some criteria of the Human Care Agreement (HCA) include training for staff and peer groups that includes all disability types.

Ms. Kirkland thought \$100,000 could be bided for. It was explained that the money is IL money and it is to be bided on as IL RFP (Request for Proposal)

Mr. Simms expressed that at the SILC Congress they were informed that RSA has no business allocating the SILC funds without SILC's acknowledgement. He insisted that the SILC should be discussing whether we want RSA to continue as the fiscal agent. SILC money should not be going out for RFP, without SILC's suggested allocations

Ms. Kirkland asked if there is an intergraded body that would take into consideration what other providers of disability services want and need.

Ms. Smith explained that the SILC is an organization that support the CIL and that the SILC take into account other IL providers. Ms. Smith said that the fund SILC receives from the FEDs is not the same process as that of the DC Government. And of course, the SILC would love to partner with other agencies.

While attending the SILC Conference we found out that the Federal Government had taken the authority from some SILCs that were not in compliance. And, we were told that DC needs to be in compliance. They named several states that had lost their federal compliance.

After much discussion regarding the money, Ms. Smith made a motions that there be written communications with DSE asking to release the money to DCCIL, and ask for an affirmative respond in 7 days. The motion was seconded and accepted, with copies to be sent to Ms. Laura Nuss and Mr. Tim Beatty

It was explained that to get a clarifications in terms of finance, check with ILRU.

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The question was asked “why it takes so long for those travelers to receive their advances?” No clear answer was given. Ms. Bryant explained that they receive their VR money quarterly. It is based on what is authorized and what is spent.

SILC CONGRESS

Mr. Simms expressed enthusiasm about attending the SILC Congress. He felt that the relationships between the SILC and the CILs in most of the states were very good in terms of collaboration, support, interaction and understood what the independent philosophy was all about. They embraced the philosophy and were on an equal playing field. Mr. Ariza- Silva said that the SILC wants to have a strong relationship with the DCCIL.

Mr. Ariza-Silva stated that when the SPIL is written, it has to be in accordance with what we plan to do. Mr. Simms said, when we write the state plan and hold the public hear, we should make sure that everything that is in the SPIL is what has been agreed upon to move forward and put our energy into it. Ms. Smith suggested a schedule, so that members will know what is being worked on each month in reference to the SPIIL. She also suggests that the burden of writing the SPIL not fall on one person, and that some of the members be mentored on the writing of the SPIL.

There was some discussion about non-employed Board members receive a stipend Ms. Smith made a motion that non-employed members receive a stipend of \$60.00 per meeting. The motion was second by Mr. Simms and accepted.

There was some discussion about the Murphy Bill. Mr. Ariza-Silva will participant in the conference call with other SILC members to discuss this Bill. He will inform the members of the outcome at the next meeting.

Ms. Smith informed the Board that the SILC Congress has a balance of \$73,360.
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OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Mr. Ariza-Silver read the officers to be nominated.

ELECTION PROCEEDINGS

SILC members will receive a ballot from Dahlia and it is to be returned with your nominations by February 18, 2016. Along with your nominations you should include a short synopsis about that person.

SUBCOMMITTEE SELECTIONS

Subcommittees' positions are voluntary

2016 ACTIVITY PLANNING

There was talk about a community forum, but no definite plans.

STATE PLAN

The State Plan is due by the end of May, but a Public Hearing has to take place first. The Public Hearing has to be published in the District Register 30 day prior to the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing is Mandatory. The State Plan needs to be completed soon.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:00pm, it was seconded and all were dismissed.

