



DC Statewide Independent Living Council  
250 E Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20024

DC Statewide Independent Living Council  
Minutes for Thursday, March 23, 2017 Meeting  
12:00pm – 2:00pm  
250 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024

ATTENDEES

Elver Ariza Silva, Chairperson  
Yvonne Z. Smith, Co-Vice Chair  
Darnise Henry Bush, Co-Vice Chair  
Marsha Thompson  
Hazel Mosby  
Yolandra Plummer

DCRSA

Dr. Pamela R. Downing-Hosten, Deputy Director

Guest

Joseph R. Smith

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 by the SILC Chairperson

MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

All members in attendance introduced themselves. After the introductions, the members were informed that Dr. Pamela Downing-Hosten is the new deputy director, replacing Andrew Reese.

## 704 BRIEFING

Darnise reminded the members that there were some corrections made at the SILC's January 26, 2017 meeting, and that the 704 was due on March 26, 2017. Dr. Downing-Hosten explained that Mrs. Marlene Kinney-Jones would input the 704 into the system and after reviewing is completed; she will forward the 704 to the SILC Chair for his signature.

## SUB-COMMITTEE SCHEDULING

The Chair asked Yvonne Smith to name the committees and their chairpersons, who are as follows: 1. State Plan Committee, Darnise Henry Bush, Chair; 2. Advocacy Committee, Hazel Mosby, Chair; 3. Finance Committee, Caren Kirkland, Chair; 4. Public Relations Committee, Tiffany Sanders, Chair; 5. By-Laws Committee, Marsha Thompson, Chair; and the Executive Committee.

Yvonne suggested that each committee chair brief the Board on their activity during the meeting. She also suggested that Dahlia be contacted if meeting space is needed... There were suggestions on how to hold their meetings, like Skype, Hang Out and Facebook.

There was some discussion about press releases namely, if there is a specific protocol we have to follow in order to issue a press release; does it have to be cleared by any PR person in the Mayor's Office or anyone else, or do we just put it together and release the press release. There was no clear answer.

## NCIL CONFERENCE

Dahlia informed the Council that the NCIL Conference will be held July 24-27, 2017 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington. DC. She also informed the Council that the SILC membership dues had been paid and that the early bird special for the NCIL Conference is \$190.00 per person expires on April 29, 2017. Members that were interest in attending the Conference were asked to contact Dahlia.

There was a discussion about the March on the Hill by the attendees at the NCIL Conference. Hill Day is Tuesday, July 25. Hill Day is a March and then a rally is held on the Capitol Grounds. A bag lunch is served. The Senators and Representative that are friendly to these issues are asked to come and speak. In order to speak to your Senator or Representative you make an appointment to meet with them in their office prior to July 25th. DC residents are encouraged to meet with Maryland and Virginia senators and representatives, as well as Eleanor Holmes Norton for Hill Day.

Marsha stated that in order to be effective, we need partners. There are provider coalitions that we need to contact; Hospital Coalition, the DD Providers Coalition and the DDH Providers Coalition for Hill Day participation. If we share the information with these VERY ACTIVE ORGANIZATIONS, they may participate. She thinks the reason we've missed their presence on Hill Day before is that we haven't engaged people in the City as much as we should.

She went on to explain that since the SILC advocates, we want to know what we can do, as far as, system advocacy is concerned. Especially around the health legislation that is before the House now and any other legislation. We want to know what the key points are, so we can break them down into language that is simple and easy for everyone to understand. She also said to contact other activist organizations in the city and get them on board with us on Hill Day.

Yvonne Smith stated that there are 10 committees within the NCIL Organization, and in order to strengthen the vote you must become an individual member. The individual membership fee is only \$35.00.

Darnise summarized the process of Hill Day.

The Chair asked those members present to let Dahlia know if they wanted to attend the NCIL Conference.

### MOTA RECRUITMENT

Darnise Bush informed the Council that there should be twenty-one members on the Council and we are ten short. The new members' recruited cannot work for the Agency or the Center. Persons with disabilities should make up 51% of the Council. MOTA is processing 3 applications now. It was suggested that we reach out to Veterans, and Dr. Downing-Hosten suggested that we contact Mr. Christopher Nace, with the DC Office of Special Education. And the Chair said he had 4 people that maybe interested.

### SCHOOL TALK

Several SILC members have worked with School Talk (youth advocacy group) in the past to plan forums, hearings and workshops. We should contact them and have them with us on planning the Forum Youth Conference presentations.

NEW BUSINESS

The budget was discussed for the forum, namely the contributions from RSA, SILC and DCCIL. According to the State Plan, the SILC has \$10,000 to contribute to the annual forum, with RSA and DCCIL paying the rest. Estimated cost is \$40,000.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.