



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

DC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes – May 28, 2015

Attendees:

District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary
Richard Simms, Member
Catherine Dillahunt, Treasurer
Shileta L. Gorham, Member
Dahlia G. Johnson, Administrative Assistant, SILC

Rehabilitation Services Administrations (RSA)

Andrew Reese, Deputy Director, RSA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary; at 12:25 pm. Elver was unable to attend, due to health issues.

MINUTES

1. The SILC budget is not set at \$106,000 as indicated by Andrew Reese, Deputy Director, RSA.
2. The acronym (WIOA) stands for: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
3. The WIOA went into effect upon the signing on July 22, 2014. Independent Living Services and the budget will be removed from the U.S. of Department of Education.

Everyone felt it's helpful to have Mr. Shawn Calloway, previous State Rehabilitation Council President employed with the United States Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS).

At the SILC Congress, Ms. Yvonne Smith was elected Region 3 Representative, replacing Ms. Jan Derry. Jan is now the Region 3 Alternate Representative. The Council was informed about a Region 3 meeting held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 chaired by Yvonne Smith. She also informed the Council that she learned a lot about the SILC at the SILC Congress in January 2015. She also informed the Council that the next time someone attends the SILC Congress; they should take a gift basket from the District of Columbia.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes be accepted with changes.

DISCUSSION OF BY-LAWS

Marsha informed the Council that she and Yvonne Smith went over the By-Laws quickly without members Elver Ariza Silva or Shileta Gorham. The following changes are recommended.

Page 1, "Functions"

5. Ensure that all regularly scheduled meetings of the Council are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided.

Page 2, Sections 2 "Goals"

2. To prepare and submit a 3-year plan addressing the long-term goals and recommendations for independent living programs and services which includes and annual review of goals and objectives.

Article II, Section 2 "Goals"

1. To advocate for and guide the development and expansion of independent living program concepts and policies on a District basis.

There needs to be some clarity on which policy and concepts are being referred too. Are they the SILC or RSA policies and concepts? Yvonne said they do not have to be inserted into the Bylaw's, but warehoused to make reference too.

Andrew Reese stated that the SILC should be aware that there isn't any IL Policies or Regulations in existence. Vocational Rehabilitations (VR) is identified as RSA Regulations in the DC Municipal Regulation and it says that it is the regulations that address VR Supportive Employment and IL. In fact, the regulation hardly includes any language that addresses IL directly and we need those and we do not have independent living policies.

Marsha said that we cannot be an effective SILC with the CIL, RSA and therefore we cannot be effective for the citizens of the District if we don't have framework that we can follow. We can start by clarifying the By-Laws, which will give us our work plan for the next SPIL.

There was discussion about a website for the SILC, where our By-law, minutes, members, future activities of the SILC and be posted.

Mr. Simms said the CIL is willing to do whatever they can to assist.

It is felt that there should be a policy on recruiting members.

SATISFACTION SURVEY

Marsha started the discussion by stating that she did not have an up to date survey. Andy stated they Quality Assurance does a survey 3 times a year. They start out with emails, followed by a letters and then phone calls.

Quality Assurance is starting to do customer service based per provider, so when people are sent to a provider we send something out asking about their experience with that provider, so we have that information to provide to people to make informed choices.

The CIL and the SILC are obligated to do a consumer satisfaction survey once a year

Richard Simms would like pair each member of the SILC with a member of his staff as a contact person to find out what is going on in the community. He also explained that as a SILC member it is your job to support the network of IL Centers throughout your state.

Marsha stated "what is it we should be looking at to so in the next SPIL, so we can have a great SPIL, not from the CIL and RSA aspect, but from the SILC's aspect, so we will know that we are meeting our Federal and local mission that we are charged with".

Since the next SPIL is due July 1, 2016, why not take a look at the current SPIL and make the necessary amendments to the current SPIL for FY16. All agreed to meet on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm at 1400 Florida Ave., NE.

MEMBERSHIP

Marsha suggested that a letter be written Deputy Mayor Brenda Donaldson asking her what is she going to do about getting this Board properly populated. This Board can have as many as twenty-five (25) people. As of yet, MOTA has never effectively reappointed the present members.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to be discussed.

ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm