



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

DC STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT COUNCIL
Thursday, February 4, 2016
November 19, 2015 Minutes
12:00 – 2:00pm
1400 Florida Ave., NE
Washington, DC

Attendees:

District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Elver Ariza-Silva, Interim Chairperson
Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary
Richard Simms, CIL Executive Director
Yvonne Smith, Member
Shileta L. Gorham, Member
Luius T. Mangrum, Jr., Member
Heyab Berhan, Member
Caren Kirkland Member
Hazel Mosby, Member
Darnise Henry Bush, Member

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 Ms. Darnise Henry Bush in the absence of Mr. Ariza-Silva.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Each member introduced themselves.

Ms. Bush informed all that the Chair would be late.

The question was asked, how long does an interim person serve. It was explained that, until we have enough sworn-in board members for an elections.

There was discussion about member's terms, and having a fully sanctioned board. It was stated that the Mayor has been in office for about a year, and people are still being sworn in across the different boards. There are 142 Boards and/or Commissions.

Minutes

The minutes were read by Ms. Yvonne Smith. After the minutes were read Mr. Simms explained that RSA hired San Diego State to do a needs assessment for the District of Columbia on the disability populations and it was collaborated between the DCSILC and the SRC.

Ms. Bush explained the purpose of the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) for the benefit of the new members.

A motion was made to accept the minutes with, pending the correction (spelling error) and seconded.

Meeting Dates

Ms. Bush read the suggested meeting dates and explained that the meetings are generally 2 hours (12:00-2:00pm). The dates are as follow: January 28, 2016; March 24, 2016, May 26, 2016; July 28, 2016 and September 22, 2016.

Mr. Simms stated that we have a permanent venue at 1400 Florida Avenue, NE, unless there is an exception. He also said that for members that drive, there is

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parking in the rear of the building, and for those who wish to park there he would provide them with a code to enter the parking lot.

Ms. Yvonne Smith made a motion that the meeting dates be accepted and second by Ms. Marsha Thompson.

Ms. Marsha Thompson said that we now have a new SILC Board, it is time to elect new officers and set up new subcommittees or continue with the ones already set up. She also said that we need members to be committed to the subcommittees and willing to do the work.

Ms. Bush suggested that the nominations for officers and the subcommittees' members be done via email, so that we can be ready for the January 28, 2016 meeting. Ms. Thompson said that the email should include the list of officers to be nominated as well as the subcommittees and each committee must have a chair and each committee have a scope of responsibility. Each member was asked to write a brief introduction as to who they are and which committee they would like to be a part of.

The officers to be elected are: chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer, and a list of the subcommittees will be emailed to each member. Ms. Thompson made a motion that the SILC nominations be placed in writing and emailed to Ms. Darnise Henry Bush and disseminated to the group, so that when we come back for our January meeting, we can vote on who our new officers and committee chairs will be. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simms. Ms. Bush amended the motion; she asked that the emails go to Dahlia Johnson.

SILC CONGRESS

Ms. Yvonne Smith explained the purpose of the SILC Congress. Mr. Simms explained that all SILCs should be independent of the Designated State Units (DSU) in every state. He went on to say that SILCS are made up of SILCS throughout the state. DC is called a state, even though it is not, but it gets

designations as far as money allocations, etc. This SILC like all SILCs throughout the country are a combination of all Centers for Independent Living.

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Mr. Simms suggested that a new member's package be created for all new members. And, he emphasized that the SILC has a responsibility to provide an introductory package to new members.

704 Report

Ms. Bush informed the members that it's time for the 704 Monitoring Report. She explained that this report is due annually and is given to our federal funding agent. It is a synopsis of the accomplishments, the challenges and the problems areas during the year. It is also a collaborative report with information from the SILC, DSU and the CIL. It is due November 30th. Members were asked to write a short paragraph about what they've done on behalf of the SILC thru their affiliations in terms of the disability community. Ms. Bush will send each member an electronic copy of last year's 704. This information is needed by the close of business, Monday, November 23, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Bush also informed the members that we are in the last year of the current State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). The current one ends in 2016. The Board wanted to reallocate funds that were going to wheelchair basketball. Ms. Thompson expressed that we are focusing on a couple things too long. She went on to explain that the 704 is an end of the year summary report that is written annually to support the 3 years SPIL. It is reviewed every year and from time to time it needs to be revised. It was revised and the money was reallocated. Ms. Bryant stated that the wheelchair basketball contract is over.

Since it is time to write a new SPIL, the board has been working on new objectives and goals in the last few meetings in the format required by the federal government to submit the SPIL. There is a budget that goes along with this. This is critical. Ms. Bush informed those that didn't know that WIOA legislation changed in July 2014 and we're not sure DDS will remain responsible for the SILC.

Independent living Services moved from under the US Department of Education to the US Department of Health and Human Services.

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Mr. Simms suggested that we ask Mr. Andrew Reese how the funds are going to be allocated for the rest of the year. Ms. Bush thought that a motion was made to cover the peer groups because it seems to promote independent living across the board. . Technically the money had to be reallocated by October 1, 2015. Ms. Bush said she does not remember writing anything for the SPIL revision or contract change. The question was asked “what needs to be done to carry it forward?” There needs to be a process to transfer the money from the wheelchair basketball contract.

Ms. Yvonne Smith made a motion that the money be allocated to the CIL peer group for support. It was second and approved.

The meeting was adjourned.