

Minutes of August 6, 2015

Attending Members
Executive Committee: Sara Powell, Chair, Springfield
Terri Finn, Vice Chair, Salem
Jeri Wooters, Treasurer, Decatur

Members: Gianna Baker, Chicago
Margarite Brooks, Normal
John Eckert, DOA, Springfield
Betty Elliott, DDD, Springfield
MaryBeth Farmer, DRS, Springfield
Amy Foster, Alton
Michael Griswold, Rockford
Ed Heflin, Macomb
Esther Lee, Arlington Heights
Cynthia Swanson, Naperville
Jennifer Phillips, DeSoto
Hadley Ravencroft, Urbana
Stacia Robertson, Murphysboro

Guest: Ann Ford, INCIL

Staff: Sarah Durbin, Executive Director
Tara Dunning, Financial Manager

Thursday, August 6, 2015

Call to Order: The meeting of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois was called to order by Chair Powell at 10:10 a.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2015. She welcomed our new members Michael Griswold, Esther Lee, Hadley Ravencroft and Amy Foster who were appointed by the Governor just last week.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the May 6, 2015 meeting were distributed for review and approval.

MOTION: Brooks motioned to accept the minutes of May 6, 2015 meeting as presented. Finn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair Report: Powell reported the resignation of member and current secretary Dana Craig. She would like to appoint Ed Heflin to complete the term of secretary until June 30, 2016. Heflin has graciously agreed and the Chair asked for a motion.

MOTION: Swanson motioned to appoint Ed Heflin to complete the term of secretary. Finn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Secondly, Powell discussed the development of an Independent Living (I.L.) Network Design Committee to concentration on the development of the 2017-2019 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). A significant part of the SPIL is Section 3 which addresses the design of the statewide network, priority areas and the expansion of the network of centers if and when additional monies become available. To address this section Powell would like to appoint an I.L. Network Design Committee comprised of six members; two CIL Directors, two SILC members along with SILC Director Sarah Durbin and INCIL Director Ann Ford. The CIL Directors will be Cathy Contarino from IMPACT in Alton and Julie Bosma from RAMP in Rockford. The SILC members will be Terri Finn and John Eckert. She asked for a motion to approve these appointments.

MOTION: Heflin motioned to appoint the recommended CIL Directors and SILC members to the newly developed I.L. Network Design Committee. Foster seconded this motion. Motion carried with one abstention from Finn.

Finally, Powell opened the discussion to opinions and thoughts about yesterday's retreat. Durbin reported that it is a good partnership between the CILs and SILC to kick off the start of the planning process and development of the SPIL. Ford reported that she feels it extremely important to bring the Centers and SILC together. The SILC has the responsibility of developing the SPIL and the Centers have the responsibility of making sure that the SPIL works.

Operations Committee Report: Baker referenced the three financial reports in the packets and asked that members review and approve. She reported that at the end of the fiscal year on June 30 we had a profit of \$5,458.88. This revenue was acquired from the administrative work SILC provides for two programs and the refund from our security deposit when the office moved. Contracts have been signed with DHS for fiscal year 2016 but with the budget crisis in Illinois it is unclear when monthly reimbursements will be coming to SILC. SILC has discretionary funds that could sustain the office for approximately three months. Baker reported that audit is scheduled for August 13th for fiscal year 2015. The Operations Committee will be seeking multiple year bids for new auditors following this year's review.

MOTION: Foster motioned to accept the April, May and June 2015 financial reports as presented. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Outreach Committee Report: Brooks reported that three vacancies on the Council were filled last week by Governor Rauner. She is pleased to welcome Amy, Hadley, Esther and Michael to the Council. There remains two vacancies that we hope to fill with a

representative of the deaf and hard of hearing community. The Outreach Committee has two individuals who are interested in serving and Sarah Durbin will be conducting interviews with each in the near future to determine if one or both should be recommended to the Governor for appointment.

Executive Director's Report: Durbin discussed the timeline for completion of the next State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) which is due June 30, 2016. She discussed work that will be done in stakeholder meetings, conference calls of advisory groups and drafting committee meetings. She will keep everyone in the loop with frequent email updates and all drafts of the SPIL will be available on the DropBox link.

Durbin reported on the progress of the objectives and activities in the current SPIL. Specifically, Informed Policy Makers Objective 10: Increase full access to medical services for individuals with disabilities. Durbin reported that in order to accomplish some of this objective this year it was decided to concentrate on the physical access piece and host a general ADA training to CILs on providing accessibility surveys to health care entities and providers. She is working with the Great Lakes ADA Center to schedule dates for the training and the creation of an agenda.

Durbin provided an update on the Part C funding issues. Currently, there is an INCIL subgroup who has developed a strategy. At this point, SILC will continue to support INCIL's efforts but no official action is needed at this point.

In our state plan, Section 3 deals with the Design for the Statewide Network of Centers. There are two critical areas. Section 3.1 Existing Network deals with our "unserved" and "undeserved" areas in the state and identifies them by priority. Section 3.2 Expansion of Network deals with where we would want to allocate additional monies above and beyond existing funding and COLAs. SILC has created a workgroup to look at these issues and make a recommendation to the SILC council and center directors for consideration which would then be discussed, revised and agreed to and ultimately go into the 17-19 SPIL. The IL Network Design Committee is comprised of six members: INCIL and SILC directors, 2 center directors and 2 SILC members.

Advocacy Advisory Group Report: Durbin reported in the absence of the Advisory Group Chairperson. She reported the Advocacy Advisory Group has been reviewing the current goals and objectives in the SPIL. Some challenges this group has had is that there are legislative updates and other advocacy issues that arise that distract from the objectives within the SPIL. At this point, the Advocacy Group will be looking at how to structure the meetings to accommodate all the agenda items of such an important Advisory Group.

Employment Advisory Group Report: Swanson reported the Employment Advisory Group has been reviewing the objectives to determine if they want to incorporate them into the next SPIL, modify the objective in some way or eliminate it. Along with this process, barriers to employment have been discussed at length to help determine achievable activities for the next three years.

Housing Advisory Group Report: Baker reported that during the last meeting of the Housing Advisory Group the members reviewed the goals and objectives in the current SPIL. The Group unanimously agrees that a variety of trainings should remain in the next SPIL but the type of trainings and the audience may change in the next SPIL. The Group also discussed recruiting other members across Illinois who have expertise in housing.

Transportation Advisory Group Report: Finn reported that the Transportation Advisory Group has been reviewing the goals and objective to determine what is working and what needs to be removed or modified for the next SPIL. Because some of the activities in the current SPIL are impossible to meet without cooperation by the local and state government, it is likely that this Group's goals, objectives and activities will change significantly in the next SPIL.

INCIL Report: INCIL representative Wooters discussed the state budget crisis and its effects on Centers. Some CILs have temporarily closed, others have taken furlough days. Wooters reported Senate Bill 2042 has passed the Senate and hopefully will pass the House by August 13. This bill will require the comptroller's office to release Federal funds to service providers. She also discussed increasing the DON score and the impact that would have in Illinoisans with disabilities.

DSU Report: Farmer reported that Vivian Anderson, DRS Home Services Program, Ann Ford, INCIL, and she met with representatives from HFS and DOA regarding the status of the "No Wrong Door (NWD)" system implementation. Concerns were shared with HFS and DOA representatives that information and training had not been provided to the network of Centers for Independent Living (CIL). HFS agreed to share the training on NWD with CILs. The first webinar took place on July 22 and follow-up webinars will occur upon implementation of the NWD system and as the Universal Assessment Tool (UAT) is finalized and introduced. These webinars will then include more information on the roles and responsibilities of the AAAs, ARDCs and the CILs, along with the use of the Universal Assessment Tool (UAT) Level 1 and 2 screenings.

Farmer reported the budget negotiations are at an impasse. Many of the CILs are still operating regular hours, but some have reduced hours, furloughs or placed employees on lay-off status at the direction of their Board of Directors. Upon finalization of the budget, DHS DRS will seek guidance regarding payment reimbursements for entities that reduced hours or placed employees on lay-off status and services provided during the impasse time period.

DRS has been reviewing all the Centers budgets as they are posted on the CSA system so that reimbursement may resume once the budget impasse is resolved. Due to the circumstances surrounding the FY'16 contracts, the DHS Office of Contract Compliance extended the date for submission of proposed budgets to August 31, 2015.

DDD Report: Betty Elliott is present today for Troy Markert and the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Elliott reported that DDD has upcoming trainings regarding the Life Choices Initiative which is person-centered direction and provisions.

DOA Report: Eckert discussed the Balancing Incentive Program. He reported that the national average through 2013 is 50% and Illinois is slightly behind at 41.9%. Eckert reported he is working closely with INCIL and DRS on No Wrong Door policy. He feels this is a good opportunity for CIL involvement.

Eckert discussed the Nursing Home Deflection pilot which some CILs are involved in. It is a way to catch people when they are getting discharged from the hospital before they enter a nursing home. The goal is to keep them from going in.

Eckert discussed the 1115 waiver which was meant to consolidate the aging waiver along with seven Medicaid waivers in the State. With the change in administration, this has been tabled for the time being. There have been some amendments to the aging waiver however, to more person-centered planning language.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting of the SILC was made by Wooters and seconded by Phillips. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.

Next Meeting: The Statewide Independent Living Council will meet next on November 4, 2015.

Edward Heflin, Secretary

Date