

Minutes of February 1, 2017

Attending Members

Executive Committee:

Terri Finn, Chairperson, Salem
Jeri Wooters, Treasurer, Decatur
Jennifer Phillips, Secretary, DeSota

Members:

Debra Alexander, DDD, Springfield
Gianna Baker, Chicago
Margarite Brooks, Normal
Diane Cottrell, DCFS, Harvey
Amy Foster, Alton
Melanie Fleenor, ISBE, Springfield
Michael Griswold, Rockford
Esther Lee, Arlington Heights
Kevin MacDonald, Vienna
Rachael Mellen, Peru
Sara Powell, Springfield
Hadley Ravencroft, Urbana
Barbara Stotlar, Pinckneyville

Staff:

Tara Dunning, Financial Manager

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois was called to order by Chairperson Finn at 10:02 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Introductions and welcomes were extended.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November 2, 2016 meeting were distributed for review and approval.

MOTION: Mellen motioned to accept the minutes of the November 2, 2016 meeting as presented. Griswold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair Report: Chairperson Finn discussed the 2017 consumer satisfaction survey of CIL consumers. This activity is in the 2017-2019 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and will be conducted for the next 3 years. Finn discussed SILC's agreement with the Western Illinois University, Institute for Rural Affairs.

MOTION: Powell motioned to continue our contractual agreement with WIU. Griswold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Finn discussed the Region V Independent Living Conference INCIL and Illinois CILs are hosting in April in Oak Brook. INCIL has requested SILC sponsor the conference for \$3,500 and has also requested the assistance of Tara Dunning during the conference. The Council discussed the organizational budget and its flexibility to provide this level of sponsorship. Dunning reminded the Council that there will be funds to expend due to the absence of an Executive Director for the last 3 months.

MOTION: Mellen motioned that SILC sponsor the Region V I.L. Conference, allow Dunning to attend the conference to assist and pay for all expenses of any SILC members who would like to attend. Foster seconded this motion. Motion passed.

Finn reported that she has received a resignation letter from Cindi Swanson. Swanson has becoming increasingly busy with her work scheduled and does not feel she can commit fully to the Council at this time.

Finn discussed the SILC retreat that takes place in conjunction with the August meeting. She reported that Lynn Jarman is not available to facilitate on those dates. The Council discussed other individuals who may be able to moderate. Finn reported that Michele Miller will be at the May meeting for asset mapping session from 12:30 – 1:30. She asked the Council about compensation or a stipend for the moderator. The Council discussed travel expenses versus a stipend and other scenarios. It is the intent of the SILC to continue with asset mapping and team building exercises at each quarterly meeting.

MOTION: Powell made a motion that the Council continue with our asset mapping and team building trainings at quarterly meetings with funds and time permitting. MacDonald seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Director Search: Finn reported that the Executive Director Search Committee interviewed two candidates on January 31st for the open position of director. They have offered the position to Dawn Richardson, who goes by Shelly. She is currently employed at IMPACT, Inc. in Alton and will be able to start at SILC on March 1st. Approval of the hire requires a vote by the Council.

MOTION: Powell motioned to accept the recommendation by the E.D. Search Committee of Shelly Richardson as the new SILC Executive Director. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with one abstention by Foster.

2017 SILC Congress: Foster and Lee discussed their experiences at the SILC Congress which was held in Arizona at the beginning of January. Foster found the conference interesting and did a lot of networking. She learned about how SILCs in other states are run and spread the word about the Independent Living Conference INCIL is hosting in April.

Lee brought back an abundance of information about WIOA and how the law affects SILC and CILs. She shared information on financial management and fee for service for CILs.

Operations Committee Report: Wooters discussed the October, November and December financial reports which are in the packets. She also reported that a budget modification will likely be presented at the next meeting as funds will need to be shifted to account for 3 months with no director.

MOTION: Mellen motioned to accept the October, November and December financial reports as presented. Lee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Outreach Committee Report: Brooks reported that the election for new officers will take place at our May 3rd meeting. Nominations for chair, vice-chair, treasurer and secretary can be made to her before March 19th. Brooks also reported that the Outreach Committee continues to maintain a list of candidates for potential appointment to SILC. The new director will reach out to the Governor's office and attempt to push forward with filling two positions as soon as possible.

Advocacy Advisory Group Update: Dunning reported that the Advocacy Advisory Group met in January. They approved mini-grants for three CILs to develop a consumer leadership training program. They include RAMP in Rockford, Stone-Hayes CIL in Galesburg and Access Living of Chicago.

Employment Advisory Group Update: Mellen reported the Employment Advisory Group met in January and are beginning to move forward with accomplishing the objectives and activities within the current SPIL.

Housing Advisory Group Update: Baker reported the Housing Advocacy Group met in January and are beginning to move forward with accomplishing the objectives and activities within the current SPIL. She also discussed the legislation that Housing Action Illinois is working on to minimize landlord discrimination of rentals on government assistant or Section 8.

Transportation Advisory Group Update: Finn reported that the Transportation Advisory Group met in January. They approved mini-grants for two CILs to assist staff and consumer participation in their local HSTP meetings. They include Lake Co. CIL in Mundelein and Access Living of Chicago.

INCIL Report: Wooters discussed the Region V Independent Living Conference in Oak Brook on April 4, 5, 6. She also reported that INCIL's subcommittees continue to work on their objectives.

ISBE Report: Fleenor reported that ISBE has been monitoring the procedures of others states in an effort to improve Illinois' education system. Vacancies in many departments continue to cause things to slow or be put on hold.

DCFS Report: Cottrell discussed the over 16,000 youth in care, 5,600 of which have disabilities. She discussed the complicated system to transition wards of the state with

disabilities into adult services. The largest barrier being housing and lack of resources specifically psychological. At age 21 wards are emancipated.

DDD Report: Alexander reported they Division of Developmental Disabilities is in the last six months for the final benchmark requirements for the latest decree. They are very close to reaching their goal of placing 3,000 on the waiting list for services by June 30. Another benchmark for DDD is to place all individuals who were in an ICF/DD on June 15 2011 and expressed desire for community services will be placed in those services by June 30 2017. Obstacles they have faced as not enough CILA providers. Alexander discussed three waivers that DDD currently manage.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting of the SILC was made by Brooks and seconded by Foster. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.

Next Meeting: The next quarterly meeting of the Statewide Independent Living Council will be held on Wednesday May 3, 2017.

Jennifer Phillips, Secretary

Date