



## **Minutes of February 3, 2021**

### **Officers:**

Jae Jin Pak, Chair, Chicago  
Michael Griswold, Vice-Chair, Rockford  
Grace Tsao, Secretary, Des Plaines  
Allison Boot, Treasurer, Urbana

### **Members:**

Anna Austin, DSE Representative  
Heather Baker, Olney  
Jesus Campuzano, Chicago  
Amy Foster, Edwardsville  
Emma Danielson, Springfield  
Amy Deegan, ISBE Representative  
Patrick Galligan, Edwardsville  
Hershel Jackson, Rock Island  
Norma Machay, DCFS Representative  
Ryan Maloney, Galesburg  
Andrea Medley, DDD Representative  
Dave Patton, Good Hope  
Dan Stupavsky, INCIL, Quincy

### **Staff:**

Shelly Richardson, Executive Director  
Tara Dunning, Financial Manager

### **Guest:**

John Herring, INCIL  
Amy Morris, RAMP

### **Wednesday, February 3, 2021**

**Call to Order:** The quarterly meeting of the SILC was called to order on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:05 am by Chairperson Jae Jin Pak. Welcome and roll call was taken. Pak discussed video meeting etiquette for this Zoom meeting.

**Mission Statement:** SILC's vision and mission statement was read by Shelly Richardson.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting were distributed for review and approval.

**MOTION:** Campuzano motioned to accept the minutes of November 2020 as written. Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair's Report: Chairperson Pak reported SILC staff are continuing to practice safe COVID-19 protocol and are back in the office full time generally. It is likely that this Council will continue to meet virtually for many more months.

Pak discussed the proposal to share office space with the Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL). INCIL Director Herring discussed the space on South Second Street in Springfield and the plans for renovations and combining the two offices to share resources. This will be at least a 12-month project so we will continue to keep the Council informed as plans progress.

Pak reminded the Council that elections for new officers will take place at the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Per SILC's by-laws, a member must be nominated by a peer 45 days prior to the election and a slate of officers must be presented to the Council 30 days prior to the meeting date. The Outreach Committee will take the lead on collecting nominations and drafting the slate of candidates.

Election Timeline:

March 21, 2021 – Deadline to Nominate a candidate for an officer position.

April 5, 2021 – State of candidates provided to the Council for consideration.

May 5, 2021 – Election held during meeting.

Lastly, Pak discussed the annual evaluation of the Executive Director and asked that Council members watch for the letter and form to be sent to them within the next couple of weeks.

**MOTION:** Campuzano motioned to approve the plans to combine office space and resources with INCIL and gave authority to move forward with planning. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Boot provided a brief synopsis of her written report and reviewed the financial reports for October, November, and December for approval.

**MOTION:** Tsao motioned to accept the financial reports for October, November, and December 2020 as presented. Stupavsky seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Operations Committee: Committee Chairperson Boot reported that the Operations Committee still has personnel policy revisions on their radar, but nothing has been done at this time.

Outreach Committee Report: Chairperson Amy Foster reported that the Committee will begin work to get the nominations and slate of candidates out by the April 5 deadline as her final duties before her term ends June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Richardson reported that we are still waiting for the reappointments of Hultgren and Jackson as well as the appointment of Lisa Cesal. The Outreach Committee has vetted and recommended Nafia Lee, Noah Ohashi and John Paschedag to the Governor and Shelly is interviewing two additional potential Council members soon.

Guest Speaker Amy Morris, RAMP: Shelly Richardson introduced Amy Morris who is the Development Director at RAMP Center for Independent Living in Rockford. Ms. Morris is here today to share with us ideas and methods for successful fundraising techniques.

The Council discussed many ways to increase SILC's resource plan. Ideas include selling shirts, encouraging friends and family to host a Facebook birthday fundraiser, signing up for AmazonSmile, and letter writing campaigns. SILC does have a donate button on our website which can also be shared.

At 12:00 pm the Council adjourned for a 30-minute lunch break. Chairperson Pak reconvened the Council at 12:30 pm and began with SILC's Advisory Group reports.

Advocacy Advisory Group: Chairperson Griswold directed members to the minutes of the last Advisory Group meeting in January. Richardson provided a wrap up of advocacy objectives from the SPIL 17-20 and provided updates on the current SPIL 21-23 goals, objectives, and activities.

Employment Advisory Group: Chairperson Foster directed members to the minutes of the last Advisory Group meeting in January. Richardson provided a wrap up of employment objectives from the SPIL 17-20 and provided updates on the current SPIL 21-23 goals, objectives, and activities.

Housing Advisory Group: Richardson directed members to the minutes of the last Advisory Group meeting in January and provided a wrap up of housing objectives from the SPIL 17-20 and provided updates on the current SPIL 21-23 goals, objectives, and activities.

Transportation Advisory Group: Chairperson Patton directed members to the minutes of the last Advisory Group meeting in January. Richardson provided a wrap up of transportation objectives from the SPIL 17-20 and provided updates on the current SPIL 21-23 goals, objectives, and activities.

Executive Director's Report: Richardson reported that the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) 2021-2023 has been approved by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) following submitting the revised SPIL with minor changes/corrections requested by ACL.

Richardson is pleased to report that the Illinois Department of Human Services has announced they are providing over \$800,000 to fund services in the nine southernmost counties in Illinois that are unserved by a Center for Independent Living (CIL). Additional funds have been allocated for the seven CILs who lost funding when the ARRA funds went away in 2010. This is wonderful news as it accomplishes the top two priorities outlined in the SPIL for expanding and building the statewide network of CILs based on increased funding, new funding, one-time funding, or cuts in funding.

The Council discussed the implicit bias training staff that several Council members participated in recently. Members present discussed their thoughts on the training and how we as a Council can expand upon the training.

Richardson discussed the annual CIL's consumer satisfaction survey which has been completed and the final reported email to the Council. Overall, and even in the midst of a pandemic the satisfaction of CIL's consumers is high; 82.1% of the consumers served by a CIL reported they have achieved the goals or received the information and help they sought from the Center.

Lastly, Richardson reported the SILC website has been updated and looks nice. She encouraged members to visit the site.

INCIL Report: INCIL Representative Stupavsky reported that CILs are still in various and sometimes different stages of pandemic life. Some CILs continue to work from home, while others are back in the office. He stated that IDHS has released the FY22 Grantmaking Timeline which notifies CILs of important contract application deadlines. FY22 DHS contract budgets are expected to be submitted no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>.

He discussed the strategic planning currently being conducted by INCIL. They are working to identify and define CIL director roles and INCIL Board member roles. Stupavsky reported that CILs currently have no inside information about the upcoming Governor's State of the Budget Address, but the general feeling among CILs is to expect flat funding for DHS contracts.

Stupavsky further states that CILs across Illinois report having difficulty providing programs and services for youth during the pandemic but continue to look for new ways to reach this population outside of the school setting.

ISBE Report: ISBE Representative Deegan reported that ISBE anticipates that Spring testing will occur as the expectation at the federal level has not changed. This includes testing for high school age students (SAT). Some districts have opted not to engage in standardized testing for students who are at high risk, as they want to keep vulnerable students safe.

ISBE has staff in the Special Education Department that are part of various transition-related advisory boards and committees. To improve communication and collaboration,

we are beginning to meet monthly to update one another on goings-on with our respective groups.

Illinois does have many districts returning to the classroom, but many districts do still have remote or hybrid options.

DCFS Report: DCFS Representative Machay was unable to stay for the entire meeting but provided this update via email. She reports DCFS continues to implement the Core Practice Model which emphasizes parent voice throughout the state. Illinois DCFS has opted to implement Family First.

Adjournment: Campuzano motioned to adjourn the meeting of the SILC at 3:09 pm on February 3, 2021 and Tsao seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: The next quarterly meeting of the Statewide Independent Living Council will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.

Grace Tsao

Grace Tsao, Secretary

05/17/2021

Date

**Signature:** 

**Email:** tingtsao@gmail.com

# FEBRUARY 2021 Minutes

Final Audit Report

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