



Minutes of February 7, 2024

Officers: Grace Tsao, Chair, Hoffman Estates
Hershel Jackson, Vice-Chair, Rock Island

Members: Riley Anderson, Iuka
Anna Austin, IDHS-DRS, Springfield
Lisa Cesal, Naperville
Lori Clampitt, ISBE, Chicago
Jacquelyn Dortch, DCFS, Deerfield
Timotheus Gordon, Chicago
Edward Heflin, Macomb
John Paschedag, Edwardsville
Ryan Maloney, East Galesburg
Andrea Medley, IDHS-DDD, Springfield
Sara Witherell, Galesburg

Staff: Shelly Richardson, Executive Director
Tara Dunning, Financial Manager

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Call to Order: The quarterly meeting of the Council was called to order on Wednesday, February 7 at 10:36am by Chairperson Grace Tsao. Introductions were made and SILC's mission statement was read by Chairperson Tsao.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November 8, 2023 meeting were reviewed for approval.

MOTION: Maloney motioned to approve the minutes of the November meeting with one correction. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair's Report: Chairperson Tsao requested a moment of silence in memory of two former SILC members who passed recently, Andres Gallegos and Esther Lee.

Tsao reported she has signed the annual Program Performance Report (PPR) for Federal fiscal year 2023 and it was submitted to the Administration of Community Living (ACL) on January 23, 2024.

Finally, Tsao reminded the Council members that it is time for the Executive Director's annual evaluation. She will be sending the evaluation tool out to the Council members in an email with a deadline in March, 2024.

Executive Director's Report: Richardson discussed ~

- SILC is partnering with Equip for Equality to host a webinar on voter's right on February 27th.
- SILC is pleased to report our annual Program Performance Report (PPR) for 2023 was submitted to ACL before the deadline.
- Shelly will be attending the SILC Congress in Little Rock, Arkansas on March 10-13.
- On February 15th, Shelly will be on a national panel for the magazine ShelterForce. As a panelist, she will discuss the need for more low-income housing to be built and how the lack of affordable housing affects people with disabilities.
- SILC is partnering with HOPE Fair Housing Center to host a webinar on housing rights in April.
- Shelly continues to co-present with Thane Hunt from Advocates for Access on emergency preparedness.
- Shelly provided an update on the transportation complaints. She continues to work with Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym even though Andres Gallegos has passed away the attorney firm wants to continue his work on this important issue. The firm wants to meet with the staff of the CIL that took the transportation complaints so we will be having a meeting with every point person at every CIL that took a transportation complaint.
- Finally, in an effort to save time, Shelly provided an update on all the SPIL Advisory Groups activities.

Outreach Committee Report: Richardson reported that she is pleased to have a new representative from the Department of Children & Families Services, Jacquelyn Dortch, with us today. We are still waiting for the Governor to reappoint Hershel Jackson to a second term and appoint the new INCIL representative, Emily Witt. With these two appointments filled, we will have two vacancies on the Council.

Operations Committee Report: Gordon reported the Operations Committee has not meet recently but have plans to meet in the near future to review the by-laws and come back to the Council with some minor revisions such as changing the Outreach Committee's name to Outreach and DEI Committee.

Richardson reported she has reached out to all the current SILC board members who have terms expiring June 30, 2024. If they are qualified to serve a 2nd term, she needs to know we can start the process with the Governor's office of appointments.

Treasurer's Report: Dunning discussed the three financial reports in the packet for October, November, and December.

MOTION: Paschedag made a motion to accept the financial report as provided. Maloney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

State Agency Reports

Department of Children & Family Services: Jacquelyn Dortch provided some background since this is her first meeting as a SILC ex-officio member. Ms. Dortch reported she has been with DCFS for three years but has worked in child welfare for the vast majority of her career. At DCFS she is responsible for the placement of youth including young people with developmental delays, so she works hand in hand with DHS and other sister agencies to identify the appropriate placements for youth.

Illinois State Board of Education: Lori Clampitt reported at ISBE her focus is on low incident populations however she is excited to hear that Shelly Richardson has been doing emergency preparedness trainings because she is working with various external stakeholders on a project and guidance document which will focus on school safety.

Adjournment: Paschedag made a motion at 1:49pm to adjourn the Council meeting. Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Statewide Independent Living Council will be on Wednesday, May 8, 2024.



Nafia Khan, Secretary

5/24/24

Date