

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Canad Inn, Grand Forks, ND

August 7, 2014

Call to Order: Dennis Lyon called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Roll Call: Members Present: Dennis Lyon, Sandra Koffler, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan, Erik Williamson, Rod Gillund, Nate Aalgaard, Peter Yung, Emma Kotzer, Diane Siekaniec, Melvin Erdmann, Jen Schill and Joan Ehrhardt. Trevor Vannett attended via phone.

Members Absent: Larry Thiele and Jamie Hall

Others Present: LaRae Gustafson; Helen Baumgartner, DSU; & Royce Schutze, CIL Dir.

Approval of Minutes: Nate made a motion to approve the May minutes, seconded by Royce. Motion passed.

Correspondence: Dennis read correspondence from NCIL listing some of the changes coming to the IL Program as part of the passage of WIOA. Some of these include adding transition as a core service, also having the CIL Directors sign off on the 704 Report and the option to choose the DSA the CILs and SILC will operate under in the future.

Committee Breakouts: Committees met for 45 minutes

Old Business: SPIL Amendment – Helen informed the Council that the SPIL Amendment was submitted through the MIS System to RSA. A letter was requested from and sent to RSA outlining the steps ND took to amend the SPIL. Still waiting for approval from RSA that the process is complete.

APRIL Conference – Brittany Hogan was chosen from the members who indicated interest to represent the ND SILC at the APRIL Conference October 17 – 20 in Albuquerque, NM.

New Business: Treasurer's Report – Melvin will have a budget prepared to show the expenses by region for the next meeting. Helen reported that the funds in the "Unobligated Grants" line of the budget submitted by Lynn Derman have been removed. Lynn was not aware that the SSR funds are no longer being allocated to the CILs.

Committee Reports: Director's Reports –

Royce: See attached report

Nate: See attached report

LaRae: See attached report

Scott: Jamie participated in the VR Teacher Internship Program in June. She shared the information she gained with the staff. She is now working on transition with 12 different schools. The IL Clubs are currently made up partially of IL Skills and partially mentoring groups. There is an active book club and cooking club. Had a consumer who attended Partners in Policy – he is now an avid listener of audio books on his own iPad. In Bottineau, Michele is working on several different community projects and trying to build community relationships. She worked with Metigoshe Ministries to assist at a camp for people with disabilities. Mosaic tiles were designed out of colored glass pieces showing how each person can create a beautiful piece of art by working on it – this concept was related to people with disabilities. This received media coverage. Independence was also in the news for planting Juneberry trees at Annie's Ski Lodge. As a follow up, people were taught how to use the fruit grown to prepare Juneberry syrup for themselves or to sell. This taught the lessons of how to plant and how to be self-sufficient. Independence is collaborating with agencies on the Turtle Mt. Reservation to try to make a presence there. There are more people on SSI in Rolette County than all the other counties combined in the Minot region. Referrals are starting to come in from that area,

but a great effort is being made to have a continual presence in the area to let people know about the services available through Independence. Work is being done on developing regular office hours and office space in the Turtle Mt. area. On July 24th, during the State Fair, Independence held “Celebrating Independence Day”. Only about a third of the people attended due to the rain that day. The Youth Advocate of the Year was awarded to Brittany Hogan. Jamie has developed a YouTube page. Independence received a small grant to work on voter issues through the Association of Counties. A staff member attended the ADA symposium in June in Denver. Staff are working on parking lot accessibility at a local restaurant.

Friday, August 8, 2014

Call to Order: Dennis Lyon called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Roll Call: Members Present: Dennis Lyon, Sandra Koffler, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan, Erik Williamson, Rod Gillund, Nate Aalgaard, Peter Yung, Emma Kotzer, Diane Siekaniec, Jen Schill and Joan Ehrhardt. Trevor Vannett attended via phone.

Members Absent: Melvin Erdmann, Larry Thiele and Jamie Hall

Others Present: LaRae Gustafson; Helen Baumgartner, DSU; & Royce Schutze, CIL Dir

Speaker: Rebecca Quinn from the ND Brain Injury Network (BIN) was our speaker. This is a new program run through UND Med School. During the last legislative session, funding was secured for three outreach workers - one in Bismarck, one in Towner and one in Grand Forks who also serves Fargo. The BIN is a source of information and support for patients with BI. This is an avenue of information for patients, family members, caregivers and professionals. The BIN works in partnership with other agencies, such as the CILs, Mental Health, etc. It helps in the coordination of resources for an individual. BI services are severely lacking in ND. There is a long waiting list to get into a BI facility. Many BI patients are in basic care facilities and should not be. Rebecca is trying to advocate for change. There is currently a penalty for becoming more integrated into the community. To access services, one needs to maintain institutional level dependence or lose their waiver. The primary needs in the community to help those with BI become more integrated are supported housing and day services for those who are not at competitive employment levels and not institutionalized. They end up in the criminal system. There is a need for intensive rehab to get the person ready for employment through transitional housing and day programming. Those needing the most help don't meet DD criteria because their IQ is too high and they need full time support to live in the community and become employed. The BIN will assist in setting up support groups in areas around the state and educate agencies on TBI. On October 9, there will be a strategic planning meeting in Bismarck regarding issues such as supported living and community living. The three TBI facilities in ND are: Dakota Alpha in Mandan – skilled; Dakota Point – basic care group home; and High Soaring Eagle Open Door Center. Rebecca can be reached at: North Dakota Brain Injury Network, 1-855-866-1884 – toll free, 1-701-777-1431 – fax, 1-701-777-5200 – Rebecca's direct #, or

Rebecca.quinn@med.und.edu

Committee Assignments: Internal Affairs – Dennis, Jen, Emma, Rod, Melvin, Randy, Jamie

External Affairs – Scott, Larry, Sandra, LaRae, Peter, Brittany

Governance – Royce, Nate, Trevor, Erik, Diane

Committee Reports: Internal Affairs – No report

External Affairs – In an effort to reach out to the Native Americans, the Feb, 2015 SILC meeting may be held at Prairie Knights and on the Turtle Mt. Reservation in May, 2015. There is a need to replace John Johnson to assist with transportation advocacy issues. Will be moving forward with the website.

Scott will send the link for the SILC brochure and fact sheet out to everyone so each member can get the information out to the public. At the next SILC meeting, members will be asked who they shared the information with.

Governance - Royce reported that the committee had a conference call last week. Today we have a full council; tomorrow we won't have a full council. Joan will be retiring from her job with Aging Services, so will need to be replaced. Royce made a motion to replace the wording in our Orientation Manual regarding honorariums with the one the SRC uses, seconded by Rod. Motion passed. The length of the terms for President and Vice President were discussed. Trevor made a motion to move the President and Vice President terms to one year terms, seconded by Erik. Discussion was held. Motion was defeated. Royce made a motion that all offices of the SILC may have the option to run for a second two-year term if desired, seconded by Diane. Motion passed.

SRC Meeting – Rod reported the SRC met on July 24 & 25 in Bismarck. The Launchmylife website was discussed – launchmylifend.com. Invitations have been extended to the tribes to attend the meeting via conference call. Donna Thomas was on the call to give an update on the Turtle Mt. Reservation. Warren Granfor spoke on the standards and indicators. Changes to VR as a result of the passage of WIOA were shared – 90 day eligibility, SEP extended from 18 mo. to 2 years. Reduction in VR Counselor education requirements – ND will maintain the CRC requirement.

Region 8 SILC Conference Call – Rod reported that other states are also having problems with accessible, affordable housing for people on a fixed income and disabled. There is a survey for the SILC Congress coming out soon. The next call will be on August 18th. Rod also reminded the SILC of the annual VR Conference held at the Holiday Inn in Fargo October 22 – 24. The RSA Commissioner will be there. Any member of the SILC interested in attending may do so.

704 Assignments – There was agreement among the council members that they would like to complete the 704 Report as committees rather than assigning parts to individual members. Helen will send the 704 Assignments out sometime around October 1st, along with last year's sections that were completed by each committee.

Other Business - Peter and Rod made a request that the CIL Directors determine who the DSA will be with the implementation of WIOA.

Dennis thanked Joan for her service on the Council and the wealth of information she brought to the meetings she attended. Rod made a motion that the SILC provide a plaque for people retiring from the council in appreciation of the services provided, seconded by Royce. Diane knows of a wood worker in Mandan who makes boxes for people who have worked on Councils. He makes them applicable to the board a person represents. Rod withdrew his motion. Diane will bring more information to the next SILC meeting.

Adjournment: Rod made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held in Fargo, November 13 & 14.