

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Holiday Inn, Minot

Thursday, May 14, 2015

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

Roll Call: Members Present: Trevor Vannett, Bill Willis, Larry Thiele, Diane Secaniec, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Peter Yung, Jen Schill, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan, Royce Schultze, & Melvin Erdmann.

Members Absent: Erik Willaimson, Rod Gillund, Sandra Koffler Jamie Hall.

Others Present: Nate Aalgaard, Randy Sorenson, and Helen Baumgartner

Guest: Judy Garber with Peace Garden and Northern Plains Special Ed Services. Judy is also the Souris Valley Teens Night Out Coordinator. Alison Dollar - Director of Souris Valley Special Education Services serving 19 school districts.

Approval of Minutes: Melvin made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Peter. Passed.

Correspondence: None

Transition Services: Russ Cusack, Patty Wanner, LouAnn Nider and Cheryl Hess attended this portion of the meeting via conference call. Scott provided the history of how Youth Transition Services began at Independence, Inc. With the new WIOA regulations, there will be an increased emphasis on transition services. Scott and his staff dedicated 9 months to developing a program for Youth Transition Services. He researched services provided in other states. His primary focus was on young people w/disabilities who don't qualify for DD services. The program implemented is called BEYOND. This program has been implemented into 11 different schools. Each classroom has its unique way that the program has been implemented, depending on the needs and interests of the student. There is a greater need for additional schools to implement the program; however, the Youth Transition Specialist is too busy to add more. There were 167 students served this year. Items covered through BEYOND are disability awareness, self-advocacy, IL Services, employment, healthy lifestyles, etc. Students choose the areas they need assistance with. This is a 10 week program, however, the school decides the rate of progress of the curriculum. Russ Cusack informed the SILC that a recent survey showed a primary need for students with disabilities is transportation. Independence does offer permit training and does have driver simulators in their office. Training is provided for public and fixed route transportation, however, students like to drive, not ride public transportation.

Judy shared that she covers 17 different schools. She works very closely with Independence, Inc., utilizing each other's services when possible. Judy provides social skills programming to students with disabilities – Teen Night Out. She also provides training for parents once a month providing information on services available. Through Peace Garden and Northern Plains, families have a retreat. Families are provided with information and activities to assist students with the needs they currently have and will have in the future. Judy also works on building relationships among the students w/disabilities so that they can learn and grow from each other. Alison shared that her staff works with over 1700 student's w/disabilities. Her staff does training for teachers to understand what is required for the transition years for student's w/disabilities and help parents understand what agencies to invite to IEPs. Alison is finding that the Special Ed teachers today do not have the training and background they used to get prior to becoming a Special Ed teacher. CROSS ROADS is a program for transition information for students. The A-STEP Program is an occupation training program for students after graduation from High School.

As a result of this discussion, a goal that was emphasized is to coordinate efforts and services between DVR and DPI to provide services for transition students. DVR has the funding to advance pre-employment transition services. DVR can assist CILs and school districts to enhance their program to work with transition students. There was encouragement for CILs and DPI to submit proposals for a program. A Purchase of Services agreement between DVR and the CIL and/or DPI will be drafted if the proposal is acceptable. Alison suggested DVR coordinate with NDCPD to provide pre-employment transition services.

Cheryl Hess, from the Developmental Disabilities Council, informed the SILC that they are working on the next 5 year State Plan. There are several types of funding opportunities available through the North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Small Grants for Self-Advocacy Groups - These are small grants of \$2,500 or less that support Advocacy Groups led by people with developmental disabilities.

Teen Grants - These are small grants of up to \$500 per project to teens or young adults, ages 14 – 21, who want to make their schools or communities more welcoming to people of all abilities.

Consumer Leadership Investment Fund - Each year, the Council sets aside funds to assist individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities with the cost of attending conferences.

Committee Breakouts: Committee Breakout sessions took place at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

2016 – 2018 Needs Assessment: Helen will send out the results from the statistical analysis from the 2013 – 2015 needs assessment for the SILC to analyze to see what questions could be removed and what the needs were at that time. Members will review this document and send any suggested changes for the 2016 Needs assessment to Helen by the end of May.

ND Funding Formula: Russ Cusack, Lynn Derman, Patty Wanner and Dennis Lyon met after the last SILC meeting to discuss the funding formula Randy presented at the February SILC meeting. The decision not to move forward at this time on funding this project included the following rationale: 1) There clearly is not enough time for the travel from the May meeting to be processed and the remaining SILC funds to be used towards the \$8,000 for the contract. 2) It was recommended that this be delayed until the next biennium and there be a discussion to potentially use funds from the additional \$500,000 that is in the Governor's budget. 3) It would be easier for the CIL Directors to procure this rather than us because we would be required to secure 3 bids. There is a possibility of including this in the scope of the new contracts. Randy informed the SILC that the CILs have made contact with CO to do the study. Melvin made a motion that the CILs each fund 1/5 of the cost and the SILC fund 1/5, for a total cost of \$8,000, seconded by Jen. Melvin shared that if all five entities are responsible for payment, the CILs and SILC back the need for the analysis. The CILs are interested in contributing 1/5 of the funds from each Center. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Appreciation Boxes for SILC Members: Diane gave a report on the boxes for outgoing members as appreciation for their service to the Council. The boxes can be made to be any size from any type of wood. The boxes would cost approximately \$50 each with an additional \$20 for laser engraving from another source. Since there are changes being made to the spending regulations at this time, the SILC will need to explore whether or not this is an appropriate expenditure.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report: Melvin gave the Treasurer's Report showing that there is over \$9,000 remaining authority to cover the costs of the May meeting and paying 1/5 of the funding formula project.

Friday, May 15th, 2015

Call to Order: Dennis called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Roll Call: Members Present: Trevor Vannett, Bill Willis, Larry Thiele, Diane Secaniec, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Peter Yung, Jen Schill, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan, Royce Schultze, Rod Gillund & Melvin Erdmann.

Members Absent: Erik Willaimson, Sandra Koffler & Jamie Hall.

Others Present: Nate Aalgaard, Randy Sorenson, and Helen Baumgartner

Guests: Rhonda Thompson, Independence, Inc. Emily Roadaker - NDCPD

Speaker: Russ Koreniewski, DHS Risk Manager, spoke to the SILC on Emergency Preparedness. When there is an emergency, Russ helps train the emergency responders so that the response is happening at the lowest level first. DHS's primary service in emergencies is Mass Care – to ensure people have a safe place to go & make sure shelter locations are accessible. Components of Mass Care:

Sheltering – provide a safe place to come with some of the comforts while away from the home environment. Medication, food, personal items, etc are provided.

Feeding – provide a meal to comfort people.

Distribution of Emergency Supplies - get things to people who have specific needs. Have relationships with people who can provide these needs – DHS, Dept of Health, etc. Medication, first aid, durable medical goods, mental health assistance, etc.

Reunification: bring people back together, finding people who are lost, communicating to people outside of the disaster area regarding location of family members.

Incident Command Structure – a course in the process of the response system. A link will be sent out by Russ for members to complete.

Shelters: Three different types of shelters:

General Population – Red Cross and DHS - open to all people who have been displaced and affected by a disaster – place to sleep, get food and access needs.

Medical Shelter – Dept of Health – for individuals who have a medical issue who need immediate and long term medical care – if a hospital has a disaster – need this type of shelter. Russ recommends a presentation from the Dept of Health to share what they can offer in a disaster.

Animal Shelter – Division of Animal Health is responsible.

Russ, Rhonda, & Randy will be having a conversation soon to discuss what the next steps are in making sure PWD get the emergency services they need at the time of a disaster.

Committee Reports: Director's Reports:

Scott for Independence, Inc. – attached. The Women's Leadership Training in Minot was asked to do fundraising in the community. Independence was chosen. They gave a donation of \$1,000 in cash and \$6,500 in in-kind funds to do advertising. Independence will use these funds to promote the 25th Anniversary of the ADA. A celebration will be held on July 16th at Heritage Park to promote awareness of IL. An essay contest will be held in conjunction with this celebration. Essays are due May 26th. Freedom is doing an art contest, so Diane suggested the two contests be combined to make a booklet.

Randy for Options – attached

Nate for Freedom – attached

Royce for Dakota - attached

Internal Affairs: Input on the questions for the Needs Assessment should be given to Helen by the end of May. Grid Update: Things are being completed on time.

External Affairs: Scott made a motion that the SILC request that the Governor make a proclamation for the 25th Anniversary of the ADA, seconded by Royce. Motion passed. Scott will work with the President of the SILC to write a letter to the Governor. The fact sheet will be updated and put on the website. Will have Paula Ous, DOT, present at the next meeting. Scott will reach out to KAT Communications to utilize the information given by Harley at the February meeting. Scott will also work on a press release announcing the new members of the SILC.

Governance: The committee will work on officially assigning a mentor to new members. A slate of officers will be presented at this meeting for the elections. The self-assessment form was revised and sent out to all members to complete. The paperwork for all reappointments has been sent to the Governor's office. Diane gave the results of the self-assessments. Dennis asked the Governance committee to go through each question and make recommendations on how to resolve some of the concerns. The SILC will go through the recommendations at the next meeting.

SRC: A presentation by the Attorney General's Office on Open Records was given. The SRC was asked to have a bigger role in the choice of employers for the Business Awards. Efforts will be made to recognize the business for being fully accessible.

Region 8 Conference Call: The dates and location for SILC Congress 2016 have been set – January 15 & 16 in Phoenix, AZ. A workshop on WIOA has been requested. The latest update of the Standards and Indicators for SILC was sent out. Next call is the third Tuesday of June.

National Conference Attendance: SILC will fund the attendance of one SILC member to the APRIL Conference in October and SILC Congress in January. Randy suggested we have the Director of APRIL speak to the benefits of a membership in the organization at our next SILC meeting.

End of Year Report: Dennis reported on some of the highlights the SILC experienced during the past year. The SPIL was amended to receive an additional \$9,292. Public forums were held via conference call which brought more people in for comment. We have a full membership for the first time in several years. The SILC has a good working relationship with DVR. The meeting at Spirit Lake this year was very successful. The SILC has had a variety of speakers on topics related to IL and working with people with disabilities. Attendance at the meetings has improved, with almost 100% attendance at most meetings. A motion was made to pay for part of the statistical analysis of the needs of IL Services in ND. Dennis thanked everyone for the great two years as President.

Selecting a DSE: The SILC will wait to get direction to determine who selects the DSE.

2015-2016 Meeting Schedule:

Meetings: July 23 and 24 – Bismarck November – 5 & 6 – Fargo
February – 4 & 5 – Grand Forks May – 5 & 6 - Turtle Mtn – Minot

Election of Officers: The slate of officers was presented by the Governance Committee. Terms are for two years with an option to serve two terms. A unanimous ballot was cast for Emma Kotzer – Secretary, Melvin Erdmann – Treasurer and Jen Schill – President. Rod Gillund was nominated by the Governance Committee for Vice President. Trevor Vannett was nominated from the floor. A ballot vote election resulted in Rod Gillund being elected as Vice President.

Jen asked if there was any further business. With no further business, Dennis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.