

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Holiday Inn, Fargo
Thursday, November 5, 2015

Call to Order: Rod Gillund called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Scott Burlingame, Melvin Erdmann, Rod Gillund, Brittany Hogan, Sandra Koffler, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Royce Schultze, Diane Siekaniec, Trevor Vannett, Erik Williamson, Bill Willis, and Peter Yung

Members Absent: Jamie Hall, Dennis Lyon, Jen Schill, and Larry Thiele

Others Present: Nate Aalgaard, Randy Sorensen, Patty Wanner and Kate Ramsey

Approval of Minutes: Erik made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Peter. Motion passed.

Correspondence: None

OLD BUSINESS:

SILC Meeting Schedule and Location: Members discussed different options and preferences for meeting dates. Scott made a motion to continue meeting in all four quadrants of the state, seconded by Diane. Motion passed. Scott made a motion to meet on days other than Monday and Friday, seconded by Trevor. Motion passed. The Governance Committee will discuss further and make recommendation for specific dates and locations.

2016 – 2018 Needs Assessment: Robyn Throlson, DVR Planning and Evaluation Administrator, is coordinating the needs assessment process. A request has been submitted to create a document that can be scanned and once complete the survey will be distributed.

Speaker: Russ Korzeniewski, DHS Risk Manager, spoke to the SILC on Equal Access Planning for Disasters. This presentation is a follow-up to his May 14, 2015 presentation to the SILC in Minot. Since May, Russ has met with stakeholders and partners to receive input on the direction and tools needed to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities during a disaster. A reference guide was drafted and shared with the Department of Emergency Services. Emergency managers liked the document and stated it is what they needed but requested resources be included. Russ inquired where the emergency managers can go for help and what should be included to complete the resource guide. The IL Directors stated they would be the primary resource for the emergency managers. Russ will update the document to include the contact information for all of the IL Centers. Russ described his role as pre-planning and education. His goal for next year is to strengthen relationships with surrounding communities.

Speaker: Diane Siekaniec and Cindy Gabbert, IL Advocates from Freedom Resources, spoke to the SILC on Freedom in Action. Freedom in Action has been established for the last 5 years and works to integrate relationships between community and clients. Clients learn how they can express themselves through arts and crafts. Participants have been known to grow and leave Freedom in Action and blend back into the community to coexist with positive outcomes.

SILC Congress: Diane Siekaniec will be attending the SILC Congress meeting in January in place of Jen Schill.

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

Friday, November 6, 2015

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

Roll Call:

Members Present: Scott Burlingame, Melvin Erdmann, Rod Gillund, Brittany Hogan, Sandra Koffler, Royce Schultze, Trevor Vannett, Erik Williamson, Bill Willis, and Peter Yung

Members Absent: Jamie Hall, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Jen Schill, Diane Siekaniec, and Larry Thiele

Others Present: Nate Aalgaard, Randy Sorensen, Patty Wanner and Kate Ramsey

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report: No report at this time.

WIOA and the Upcoming SPIL (additional item requested by Scott): Scott provided a handout summarizing his key points. He attended the APRIL conference and participated in a breakout session presented by the Wisconsin SILC. The Wisconsin SILC has had their SPIL approved and Scott reviewed to see what they did. Under WIOA, IL moved from RSA to HHS, a new branch of government. Rule-making is still in process and the mechanism to complete 704 has not been developed yet. The website is scheduled to be out mid-December. A new SPIL is due June 2016. Need to start conversations today to begin the process and build consensus around issues. Define responsibilities of the CIL. SILCs will have standards and indicators. This is something that has never happened before. DSE selection will have to happen. ILCs will need to prepare for 5th core service of transition. Need to work on definitions to include in the SPIL. Timelines and clear sets of responsibilities will need to be developed. It will be important to create a dialogue with IL Administration. Jamie Kendall, Acting Director wants this process to go smooth. Scott suggested appointing an ad-hoc committee to work on the next SPIL and he volunteered to be on the committee. Trevor, Brittany, Royce, Nate, and Robyn Throlson will also be on the committee. Scott will bring in other resources as needed. The committee will review Wisconsin's SPIL, look at legislation around the funding, and work to ensure the SPIL doesn't compromise funding stream. Conversations will be important to have with the Governor's Office. Committee work will be by conference call.

Committee and Director's Reports:

Randy for Options: See attached

Royce for Dakota: See attached

Scott for Independence, Inc.: See attached. It was noted that Scott Burlingame was awarded the Earl Walden award for outstanding advocacy in rural America.

Nate for Freedom: Freedom in Action is making a difference; group skills classes are still working well. Freedom was received a review from the state of Minnesota and they inquired about expansion plans for Freedom. Nate indicated they are in contraction mode due to receiving less money from Minnesota and the same amount of money from North Dakota. It has been hard to keep people on staff and they are dealing with cutbacks. Nate was involved in a press conference on September 1 for the MAT bus system, encouraging people with disabilities to ride the bus. The bus system has a new restraint system that individuals can utilize themselves. Accessibility funding is available so Nate is sending an accessibility specialist to training in Seattle. Nate worked with Beyond Shelter to assess apartments for senior housing. He provided his opinion on accessibility features for disabled citizens and hopes to continue working with them in the future. Freedom has completed all polling site assessments. Nate also mentioned the Art of Freedom Event; Medicare D enrollments in Lisbon and Wahpeton; and participation in an Amtrak press conference. Giving Hearts Day fund raising will be held in February to help subsidize the Freedom in Action program. Staff continue regular outreach efforts.

Internal Affairs: Randy reported the committee reviewed the grid and talked about the SPIL and the upcoming 704 and what is involved. The tasks are procedural and the bulk of the work will start in February for the SPIL. The 704 reports will be used as a map for the SPIL and for advocating for funding from the legislature.

External Affairs: Scott provided a handout of fact sheets and brochures for the Council. Brittany will work with Patty Wanner on suggested changes to the website.

Governance: Following report was provided by Royce. The Governance Committee had a conference call October 29 and all members were present. We reviewed the membership list to see who is up for reappointments. Those up for reappointments are Jamie Hall 2nd term, Sandra Koffler 2nd term, Diane Siekaniec 2nd term, Erik Williamson 2nd term and Bill Willis 1st term because he filled an unexpired term. Next we reviewed the 2 sections that we are responsible for on the SILC 704. They are SILC composition and appointment and membership qualifications. Nate and I split up but each of us will do. Nate will bring copies of the training and technical assistance needs form for council members to fill out. These will get compiled and give us an idea on what trainings to do for the upcoming year for SILC. We will review the SPIL during our breakout session. Nate handed out a survey for training needs assessment for SILC members to complete. The Governance Committee will review these and the results will be included in the 704 report. Nate and Royce will split up the 704 pieces and send to Patty.

Proposal for Meeting Dates: Following is proposed for meeting dates and places for 2016:

- **February 3-4** in Grand Forks instead of the previous February 4-5.
- **May 3-4** at Turtle Mountain or Minot instead of the previous May 5-6.
- **August 3-4** in Bismarck
- **November 1-2** in Fargo

Melvin made a motion to approve the dates as proposed and Royce seconded. Motion passed. The SILC Liaison will work with the IL Director on details of location, hotel rooms, estimated # of people, etc.

State Rehabilitation Council – Rod Gillund: A joint meeting was held in July with the SRC and the SILC. WIOA was a primary topic and numerous presentations were heard. A summary of activities of the SILC and SRC was shared with each committee. The SRC has established an ad hoc committee to develop a plan for a ND hiring initiative for individuals with disabilities. Plans are to implement the initiative in the next year.

Region 8 Conference Call – Rod Gillund: Rod provided an update from the minutes. Montana is working with a consultant on the SPIL. They are working on surveys and are looking to change their strategy. The next call is scheduled for November 12. Rod will get information to Patty Wanner to join future calls. Diane was selected from SILC to attend the SILC Congress in January. Rod indicated the SILC funded members to attend the VR annual training and he recommends members attend in the future.

State Plan Progress – Update 2014-2016 Grid: No updates to the grid.

2017-2019 State Plan Assignments: The ad hoc committee led by Scott Burlingame will address this and will also talk about public forums. They will meet and bring information to the February meeting.

ND CILs Funding Formula – Randy Sorensen: The SILC and the four IL Centers had a statistical process completed which gives a funding amount needed to serve the entire state of ND by county. This should be looked at when completing the SPIL. Discussion will be postponed until the February meeting.

ND State Developmental Disabilities Council – Trevor Vannett: The DD Council is working on a state plan and dealing with the same issues, including transportation. The council will meet December 10 and Trevor will provide further updates at the February meeting.

Erik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:36 pm.