

Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council

Unapproved Minutes
JCK State Information Center
Jefferson City, Missouri
May 20, 2005

Members in Attendance: Mike Keller, Chair, Joseph Matovu, Barbara Dewberry, Gary Maddox, Clayton Porter, Tim Azinger, Jerry Armstrong, Lloyd Tichenor, Donna Nichols, Jim Brinkmann, RSB; Kelly Flaughner, DVR

Members not present: Kevin Jenkins, Stephanie White, Donna Borgmeyer

Others in Attendance: Jackie O'Dell, DVR; Tamra Schlote, SILC; Gary Moll, DVR; Sherry Keller, Goldie Parrett, HILC; Craig Henning, DRA; LeAnne Weakley, WILS; Shirley Tichenor; Mark Stone, SIL; Debbie Reithmeyer; Bruce Lynch, ILCSEMO; Scott Ward, PAYCHEX

Agenda

Mike Keller called the meeting to order and started introductions around the room. Mike asked for a review of the agenda. The agenda was approved.

February Minutes Approval

Mike Keller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2005 Council Meeting. Joseph Matovu made the motion to approve the minutes, Tim Azinger seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the council.

Chair Report – Mike Keller

Mike and several other SILC members attended the Power Up Conference on April 18-19, 2005 at Tan-tar-a.

Mike reminded committee chairs to review the objectives in the State Plan to make sure their committee is following those objectives.

DSU Reports

Vocational Rehabilitation – Kelly Flaughner

On the state level, IL funds will remain the same as last year. DVR is working with DHSS to transition the PAS program to their agency. There will be a joint meeting on June 6, 2005 to discuss the program transition with the CILs and answer any questions they would have.

On the Federal level, a block grant was proposed but has stalled and probably will not make it through legislation this year.

Kelly answered questions from the audience on the PAS program and the upcoming joint meeting. There was discussion on the PAS program and the CILs involvement with DHSS. Gary Maddox suggested that a representative from DHSS attend the next SILC meeting.

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind – Jim Brinkmann

RSB funding will remain the same as last year. RSB is under a hiring freeze and cannot fill vacant positions at this time. Projected closure numbers for Older Blind Services, Independent Living, and Competitive Employment are staying on goal for the year.

Zeze Miller has worked with staff at SIL to train them on serving Older Blind consumers. The target date to start this service will be July 1, 2005.

The Student Connections conference will be held August 5-7, 2005 in St. Louis.

SRC Report – Gary Maddox

Gary had emailed a report to all the SILC members regarding the SRC meeting. The outcomes for the VR program standards and indicators looked very good. The SRC continues to take a strong advocacy role. There has been no news regarding the NIDRR research proposal to find out how the order of selection affects consumers. Gary attended a training

conference in Kansas City held by RCEP 7 on the role of state rehabilitation councils. Gary encouraged anyone wanting information on this training to contact RCEP 7.

The SRC is looking for new members for their council.

RSB Advisory Council – Donna Borgmeyer

The RSB Advisory Council met May 13, 2005. Reports from the St. Louis South and St. Louis North RSB district offices were read. St. Louis South has 22 cases that will be closed this year. There have been several placed in employment positions. The St. Louis South RSB has been working with the Pace Day Care program and the Starkloff Disability Institute. They have also worked on transportation issues and are starting a job club.

The St. Louis North RSB has started a job development program. They have placed two consumers with the IRS and have several people who are working but need assistance to continue work.

There was a presentation by Lighthouse for the Blind.

The Council will write a letter to RSA with a copy for the Governor stating their concerns about the closing of the regional RSA offices and the proposed changes under the Workforce Investment Act.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – Mike Keller

The committee discussed the BPAO grant. The grant will be extended for seven months. Mike will be setting up a committee to begin working on the grant proposal. The deadline is June 24, 2005.

The committee discussed recruiting new members for the council.

Budget Committee – Clayton Porter

The committee met May 19, 2005 and reviewed the SILC operations budget and the technical assistance fund.

Mike Keller discussed the SILC becoming a 501c3. The paperwork has been submitted to the IRS and state of Missouri. The results should be known in the next couple of months.

Gary Maddox made a motion to not send anyone to the NCIL conference. Tim Azinger seconded the motion. There was discussion on the NCIL conference. The council voted to not send anyone to the NCIL conference. Joseph Matovu made a motion to write a letter from the SILC Chairperson to NCIL expressing the council's dissatisfaction with the direction that they are leading. Gary Maddox seconded the motion. There was an amendment to give this letter to Missouri's representative on the NCIL board. The motion to write the letter was approved.

Communication Committee – Stephanie White

The committee has met twice and has recruited new members. The committee has identified projects to prioritize committee activity. The projects include developing a SILC/CIL media kit, developing an electronic newsletter to facilitate communications between the SILC, CILs, and other interested parties, develop a SILC fact sheet, coordinate with other groups to facilitate outreach using the SILC brochures, and work with the Legislative Committee to develop a Legislative Fact Sheet that will deal not only with legislative issues, but will incorporate facts about the CILs. Another ongoing priority is to maintain the SILC website.

Stephanie attended the BPAO meeting in Jefferson City on May 13, 2005 to educate the BPAO Specialists about the SILC and to ask them to hand out the SILC brochure as part of their outreach efforts.

Emergency Management – Gary Maddox

The committee has met and discussed the State Annex. The Annex is finished but still waiting on final approval by DHSS. The Task Force is working on its own policy or standard operating guidelines for dealing with the special needs population. The Task Force has broken up into three groups: Pediatric; Homelessness, ethnic diversity, and language; and senior disability. The tool kit they have been working on is about finished. They will be having regional meetings around the state.

Gary Maddox and Karen Benson are going to do a presentation on Emergency Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities at a meeting on June 7, 2005 at Tan-tar-a.

Gary will also be attending a forum in Dallas on the subject of emergency preparedness.

The SILC website has a listing of resources for CILs on emergency preparedness.

Gary asked for additional members on this committee.

Housing Committee – Joseph Matovu

The committee has met several times to plan the Universal Design Housing Conference to be held on September 8, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Select, Columbia, MO. Joseph encouraged every center to send representatives to this conference. Each center will be given one free registration to this conference. Joseph discussed the topics that will be presented at the conference. Registration information will be available on the SILC website.

Paul Levy, Executive Director of the Universal Design Housing Network, will be retiring this summer.

Legislative Committee – Donna Borgmeyer

The LEP had approximately 110 participants this year. There were 14 CILs that participated as well as groups from Missouri Parents Act, Missouri Rehab Center, Down's Syndrome Assn., Truman Medical Center Behavioral Health Program, and St. Louis People First.

There were several bills that affected people with disabilities that passed this legislative session. Refer to the Governor's Council on Disability website for legislative updates. <http://www.gcd.ia.mo.gov/legislation/updates.shtml>

Service Capacity – Kevin Jenkins

No report.

Training Committee – Donna Nichols

The committee has not met since the last SILC meeting. Donna asked if there were any ideas on training issues. Donna suggested that the committee might look into having another IL conference like last year if there was interest from the CILs. Gary Maddox suggested contacting RCEP 7 for sponsorship for a future IL conference.

Donna asked for volunteers for her committee to help work on the logistics for the next IL conference.

Transportation – Barbara Dewberry

The committee met via email correspondence regarding transportation issues. Kansas City has a para-transit program that sends out a newsletter. OATES has finally replaced some vehicles that were needed since 2003. There has been significant activity in Congress to reauthorize T-21 which will allow MODO to add vehicles and will likely increase operating funding available in rural areas for the provision of transportation in the state.

There was discussion of transportation legislation at the Federal level.

Quality Assurance/Consumer Satisfaction Committee – Tim Azinger

The IL Outcomes report is coming along very well. Dr. Penny Phillips has been working with Kelly Flaughner and Gary Moll to consolidate all the information into a report. The report should be completely finished this summer and will be disseminated to the CILs. This data will also be used in the year end 704 Report that is required by RSA.

The PAS Outcomes are being finished up as well. There was a discussion on the PAS Outcomes and how it would be affected by the transition to DHSS. Kelly Flaughner did not have an answer for that question, but she did indicate that the previous three years of data would be beneficial to have to show legislators the results of the program. It will be up to DHSS to determine if they will continue the PAS Outcomes process.

OLD BUSINESS

Gary Maddox suggested that the council revisit the articles of incorporation for the council to determine if the council could operate independently if the federal mandate to have a SILC was revoked due to legislative changes.

Gary Maddox made a motion to have the SILC Chair write a letter to Mr. Kevin Jenkins regarding his continued absence from the SILC meetings. Clayton Porter seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the council.

Correspondence

Brochures and conference information received since the last SILC meeting are available upon request to read.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Keller commended Jackie O'Dell for all her hard work and time she has put in for the SILC. Jackie will be leaving to work for DHSS with the PAS program transition.

Presentation by Scott Ward of Paychex. More information about this company can be found at the following website:
www.paychex.com

Open Forum

Rob Honan, Governor's Council for Disability, thanked The Whole Person, Inc. and WILS for sponsoring a student at the Youth Leadership Forum. Rob encouraged anyone who knew of a student with disabilities to submit their name for information regarding the forum. Further information on the forum can be found at the following website:
<http://www.gcd.ia.mo.gov/YLF2005app.htm>

Mike Keller encouraged people to find new members for the SILC.

Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn by Barbara Dewberry and seconded by Joseph Matovu. The motion was approved by the council.

The next meeting will be on August 19, 2005 at the JCK State Information Center.