

Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council

Unapproved Minutes

Kirksville, Missouri

May 16, 2008

Members in Attendance: Donna Borgmeyer, Chair; Stephanie Brady (by conference call); Joseph Matovu; Gary Maddox (by conference call); Lloyd Tichenor; Mike Keller; Nancy Pope; Lori Steffen; Pat Chambers; Dennis Atkins; Jim Brinkmann, RSB; Kelly Flaughter, DVR

Members not in attendance: Katheryne Staeger-Wilson; Brenda Mitchell

Others in Attendance: Gary Moll, DVR; Tammy McSorley, SILC; Sherry Keller; Shirley Tichenor; Sara McDowell, SADI; Debbie Hawman, Access; Jim Terrill, DVR; Tonya Fambro, DVR; Theresa Myers, RAIL; Carolyn Chambers, RAIL; Jean Calhoun, RAIL; Chuck Comstock, RAIL; J.C. Dollar, MERIL; On Conference Line: Nancy Murphy, DCIL; Tim Azinger, LIFE; Chris Camene, Paraquad; Debbie Reithmeyer, Captioner

Agenda

Donna Borgmeyer called the meeting to order and started introductions around the room. Donna asked for a review of the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Joseph Matovu and was seconded by Mike Keller. The motion to approve the agenda was approved.

SILC Meeting Minutes Approval

Donna Borgmeyer asked for approval of the minutes from the February 2008 Council Meeting. Pat Chambers made a motion to approve the minutes. Dennis Atkins seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the council.

Chair Report – Donna Borgmeyer

Donna welcomed Dennis Atkins, newly appointed SILC member, to his first SILC meeting. There are now 12 SILC members.

DSU Reports

Vocational Rehabilitation – Kelly Flaughter

The Rehab Act has not been reauthorized by the Legislation.

RSA will be onsite at DVR for a monitoring review next March. There will be some preliminary work done before that time. Kelly encouraged the SILC committees and CILs to work on SPIL objectives as RSA will be monitoring compliance with the State Plan.

The Legislature voted to approve a \$280,000 increase for the VR employment program and a 2% increase in provider rates. The increase to the CIL funding was approved at \$275,000.

VR referrals are up 7% this year over where they were last year. As a result, the waiting list time will be longer.

IL grant applications are due to VR by June 13, 2008. Those will be reviewed and grant award letters will go out by July 1.

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind – Jim Brinkmann

RSB has filled all vacant positions statewide.

RSB is working on the new electronic case management system. There are workgroups for ILR, VR, fiscal issues, POB, and BEP. The groups are revising the forms used in the system.

The Older Blind Program services grant is decreasing by 1.7% and RSB will have to revise the processes for that program.

SRC Report – Gary Maddox

Gary Maddox attended the CSAVR conference in Washington, D.C. Gary talked with several legislators and their assistants about the importance of VR services. He had a packet of information prepared by VR to give out. Gary also discussed information about CILs and IL.

Gary has been appointed Chairperson of the SRC.

There was discussion on the collaboration between VR and the CILs.

RSB Advisory Council – Donna Borgmeyer

Donna attended the RSB council meeting on May 2. RSB is doing outreach in low population counties to see if they can find more clients and find employment for more people in those areas. RSB is working with small employers to find employment opportunities in rural areas. RSB is also working with the VA Hospital in Columbia to place potential employees.

RSB is doing summer employment for students at Camp Wonderland at the Lake of the Ozarks.

The National Eye Institute has a traveling exhibit on low vision. It will be in Kansas City starting in May until July 6. They will have assistive technology resources and other information available.

RSB is still working on the electronic case management system and training staff for implementation in the next few months.

RSB still needs appointments to their council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – Donna Borgmeyer

Clayton Porter requested that SILC provide funding for TWP to have an exhibit booth at the school counselor's conference in November. The Executive Committee discussed this and decided to recommend that TWP use their technical assistance funds to sponsor part of this rather than using SILC conference funds.

The committee reviewed the SPIL to determine if the committees were following the objectives.

Budget Committee – Mike Keller

The committee reviewed the SILC expenditures from the last quarter. The SILC expenses are under budget so far, but there will be two more meetings and the Housing Conference to add to the expenditures.

Communication/Service Capacity Committee – Mike Keller

The PSA's are finished and ready to be sent out to the centers. Pat Chambers will give a demo of this to the SILC.

The committee will review the SPIL objectives to determine what the SILC needs to do regarding outreach to minorities.

Emergency Management – Gary Maddox

The Annex X is completed and is in the process of being signed off by all the partner agencies.

Gary is stepping down as Chairperson for this committee. Pat Chambers will be the new Chairperson.

Housing Committee – Nancy Pope

The Universal Design Housing Conference will be September 22-23, 2008 at SLU in St. Louis.

The committee met May 6 to discuss the other SPIL Housing Objectives.

Shelby Butler gave a report on HB 2459 during the committee meeting. This bill was sponsored by Representative Storch and focuses on design standards for affordable housing in Missouri.

The committee recommended updating the accessible housing resource links on the website.

The committee will attend the LEP next legislative session. The attendees will discuss affordable, accessible housing with their legislators.

The committee decided to hold the UD Housing Conference every other year instead of annually. They discussed locating this conference in more rural areas around the state so that people who normally wouldn't get to attend would have a closer venue.

Legislative Committee – Donna Borgmeyer

The committee did not meet prior to the SILC meeting. The next meeting will be in the summer after the session is over.

The LEP was held from February to April this year and it worked well in that format. There were 70 people that attended the LEP sessions. Katheryne Staeger-Wilson suggested having students attend the LEP and then earn credit by helping with the LEP sessions. Donna encouraged everyone to attend the LEP next year.

Resource Committee – Stephanie Brady

The committee is working on information to create a new SILC webpage for SILC and CIL resources online. This should be completed by the next SILC meeting. Information will include grant resources and fund raising, best practices in resource location, training and educational information, a section on reporting tips, and a section on outreach.

The committee will also look at grant resources for the SILC with either a group of SILC members to do the grant writing or hiring a grant writer.

Training Committee – Pat Chambers/Donna Borgmeyer

The committee met May 15 to discuss starting plans for the 2009 IL Summit. The target date is June 2009. The committee is looking at various locations around the state. There was discussion on where the conference should be held. The general consensus of the SILC and the audience would be to have the summit in a central location in the state.

The format of the conference would be to hold a 2-3 day target audience specific sessions with board members having session topics on a Saturday or Sunday. The CIL staff would have session topics the next day and a specialized session for executive directors on the last day.

The SILC discussed funding options for the summit. Gary Maddox mentioned that RCEP 7 will not be in existence to use their funding opportunities. Funding will need to come from registration income, SILC funds, and IL technical assistance funds. The committee will also seek corporate donations to offset some of the costs.

Pat Chambers will be sending out a survey to the CILs asking what topics they would like to have presented at the summit.

Pat Chambers discussed the committee planning several regional trainings on emergency management and the Annex X. A training on outreach to un-served and underserved populations could also be added to these regional trainings.

Transportation – Lori Steffen

The committee has met three times since the last SILC meeting to discuss the SPIL objectives tied to transportation issues. The committee will be inviting people from various transportation agencies around the state to join the committee and/or give presentations to the SILC on their agency programs on accessible transportation.

Another idea the committee had was to give presentations on the SILC and the transportation committee at these same agencies to familiarize them with what the SILC is and does.

The committee will also work on accessible transportation sessions and speakers for the IL Summit next year.

Quality Assurance/Consumer Satisfaction Committee – Stephanie Brady

Stephanie is looking for someone to take the Chairperson position for this committee. The committee has not met since the last SILC meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Correspondence

Donna Borgmeyer read a committee chairperson resignation letter from Gary Maddox. He will remain a SILC member.

SILC By-Laws Revision – Mike Keller

Mike Keller read a proposed SILC By-Law revision regarding membership minimums. The proposed change would decrease the minimum members allowed from 11 to 8. A motion was made to accept the change in the by-laws. The motion was seconded by Joseph Matovu. The motion was approved by the SILC.

NEW BUSINESS

PSA Demo – Pat Chambers

Pat Chambers and Stephanie Brady played aloud the new PSA's developed for the CILs which were purchased by SILC. They reference a toll free number for the CIL to customize. The toll free number to access the statewide CIL information is available now. Stephanie Brady dialed the number and played the dialogue aloud. It has touch tone access to all areas of the state and references the CILs by region and then by county. OMO is housing the equipment for the toll free number. The toll free number is (888) 667-2117.

Circuit Breaker Tax Relief presentation – Nancy Pope

Nancy Pope gave an overview of the Circuit Breaker Tax Relief which is a property tax credit claim.

Open Forum

Joseph Matovu asked the centers to educate their staff on the SILC and what it does.

Pat Chambers wanted to let everyone know about a cost help for people that claim a disability can get a sales tax exemption for over the counter medications.

Adjourn

Mike Keller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joseph Matovu seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the council.

The next meeting will be on August 15, 2008 in Kansas City. Location will be announced soon.