



Idaho State Independent Living Council

120 South Cole Road(83709)
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-9601

**State Independent Living Council (SILC)
Quarterly Business Meeting
July 16, 2021
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time
Hybrid Meeting**

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

In Person: Angela MacDonald-Hertz, Candy Harris, Denise Myler, Max Hudson, Molly Pollastrini, Shiloh Blackburn, Alan Aamodt, Steve Achabal, Sean Burlile

Guests: Mark Leeper, Vickie Leeper, Steve Decker, Jane Donnellan, Jim Scherer, Jr.

Via Zoom: Jeremy Maxand, Erik Kimes, Tara Adams, Russ Saylards, Erin Olsen, Ray Lockary

SILC Staff: Mel Leviton, Megan Bates, Jami Davis, Janey Bruesch

9:30 a.m. Call to Order and Introductions

- Purpose: Establish a quorum - introduce members, staff, and visitors
- Facilitator: Angela Hertz, SILC Chair

- Angela called the meeting to order and declared quorum.
- Introductions were made

9:40 a.m. Approval of Minutes and Perfection of Agenda

- Purpose: Ensure Understanding
 - Facilitator: Angela Hertz, SILC Chair
 - Perfect the Agenda
 - Review and Approve Minutes from April 15 - 16, 2021
- (Decision)**

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- Molly Pollastrini moved and Denise Myler seconded to approve the April minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

9:50 a.m. April Meeting Evaluations

- Purpose: Feedback and Information
- Facilitator: Denise Myler & Max Hudson, Membership Co-Chairs
 - Handout provided
- Denise reviewed the meeting evaluation results.

9:55 a.m. Executive Director Report

- Purpose: Information and Decision Making
- Facilitator: Mel Leviton, Executive Director
 - SILC staffing and operations update
 - State operations status (annual reports and budget submissions)
 - State IL Conference update
 - SILC Project and Program updates
- Thanks to Megan for all the work on the AV.
- Have partnered with other agencies on vaccine clinics.
 - Great learning experience
 - During another meeting, Mel learned of a need for cooling neck wraps for farm workers. She contacted another partner to see if she could get some from the pharmaceutical companies. They ended up getting a grant for \$500 to \$1,000 to use for the neck wraps.
 - Learned it would be great to partner with events already happening in the area – go where the people will be
 - Tagging on those events
 - Including emergency preparedness information and bags
 - Also doing emergency preparedness for youth

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- Get to spin the wheel and win school supplies for participating
- ABLE information
- Jamie shared a video related to COVID but if you look past COVID, this is really a SPIL. The purpose of the video is to provide you with a deeper understanding of the AAMC's 10 principles of trustworthiness. Mistrust in health care, public health and government institutions existed long before COVID-19. The principles were developed through deep community engagement with individuals from across the U.S.
- In the next month we are finalizing and submitting our 2023 budget and our 5-year state independent plan

10:25 a.m. Executive/Finance Committee Report

- Purpose: Information and Decision Making
- Facilitator: Angela Hertz, SILC Chair
 - Review Budget, Megan Bates, SILC Financial Specialist
 - APRIL Conference participation - discussion (**Decision**)
 - NCIL overview
 - Set 2022 Council meeting dates (**Decision**)
- Megan reviewed the financial report.
- We reverted \$5,000.
- Everyone interested in attending the April Conference needs to complete their application and get it to Janey no later than August 6th. Cost is \$200 per person.
- NCIL is the next two weeks. Registered folks can get a link and go back and revisit workshops if they miss one.
 - Anyone attending needs to give a short report at the October Council meeting.

Max Hudson moved and Candy Harris seconded to approve \$2,000 for APRIL conference registration/attendance. Motion passed unanimously.

- Council meeting dates for 2022 will be:
 - Friday, January 14

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- Thursday & Friday, April 14 & 15
- Friday, July 15
- Thursday & Friday, October 13 & 14

10:55 a.m. BREAK

11:10 a.m. Committee Sessions (Break out rooms)

- Purpose: Collaboration, strategy, decision making
- Facilitator: Committee Chairs

11:40 a.m. Membership/Outreach Committee Report

- Purpose: Information and Decision Making
- Facilitator: Denise Myler & Max Hudson, Membership Co-Chairs
 - Open positions and target groups
 - Review applications for upcoming and/or current open positions
(Decision)
 - *Outreach*

- Denise introduced Jim Scherer. He is considering serving on the SILC.
- Four people term off next year.
 - Region I, II, VI, and Max term off.
 - Breanna will be submitted for LIFE position.
 - Need ideas on groups or individuals to talk to about serving on the SILC.
 - Ideas – doing videos and putting on website of testimonials; info on SILC, things we do, etc. Also put in the IL newsletter; maybe attend chamber luncheons, etc.
- Ideas for generating more interest in serving on the SILC
 - Video with testimonials
 - Put on website
 - Put on SILC's YouTube channel
 - Share on other social media
 - Poster/flyer that includes more information on the SILC
 - A rough example was shared
 - Put on website

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- Share on other social media
- Perhaps put it up in EXCEL classrooms in Boise for the youth position
- Put an article in the Independent Living Newsletter each month
 - One piece would be about recruiting new Council members
 - Then another article each month about what the SILC does, testimonials, etc.
- SILC and Commission on Aging need to work together. Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

11:55 a.m. Policy Committee Report

- Purpose: Information and Decision Making
- Facilitator: Shiloh Blackburn, Policy Chair
- Several items are on the radar
 - ESE rules and deadlines
 - Direct care workforce problems and shortages
 - Executive Committee suggested changing the focus from “disabilities” to the waivers when talking with legislators to help get a better voice and understanding with them.
 - Housing

12:10 a.m. Planning Committee Report

- Purpose: Information and Decision Making
- Facilitator: Molly Pollastrini & Steve Achabal, Planning Co-Chairs
 - Review quarterly SPIL survey
 - Set the stage for 2023-2026 SPIL planning in the afternoon
- SPIL survey
 - Planning group will start meeting in August and will meet at least weekly for a month or two.
 - Used to be split and we want to do that again.
 - One survey was for Council members, the other for agencies.

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- Will rework the survey for ease of understanding to help get better information from the CILs.
 - Will offer training on how to do the survey.

Other Business:

- It has been suggested that there be an exchange between the Developmental Disabilities Council and SILC where members set in on each other's meetings.
 - Other groups were also suggested for the exchange idea as well.
 - It was suggested that maybe they could do a short presentation for us about what they do.
- Candy thanked the staff and the Council for all their work during COVID. It is nice to meet in person.
- Announcements from LIFE, LINC and IDVR were shared.
 - If you would like a copy emailed to you, contact Janey Bruesch
- The Extended Employment Services Plan (EES)
 - will be submitted to the State Board of Education for approval in August.
 - Public comment will be in October.
 - Input from Independent Living community is greatly appreciated. We want to have a program that meets the needs of those it serves.
 - EES is separate from the federal services provided.
- Jim Scherer, Jr. stated that he is overwhelmed with the complexity of involvement and what SILC does. He does not feel he is compatible with this type of work. He is more the grunt work type of person. Doesn't feel he would make a meaningful contribution. This is not where he fits.

12:30 p.m. Lunch (Provided to those attending in-person) - Peer to peer support & regional collaboration

- Peer support: Casual interaction among Council members and staff to discuss issues of relevance to Independent Living
- Agency Announcements
- Facilitator: Angela Hertz, Council Chair

1:30 p.m. Training – DAC-NW

- Purpose: Information on DAC-NW - what they do, successes, barriers
- Facilitator: Mark Leeper, DAC-NW Executive Director

- Mark Leeper provided a power-point presentation DAC-NW.

2:30 p.m. Planning – The 2023-2026 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

- Purpose: SPIL Timeline review and discussion
- Facilitators: Mel Leviton, Executive Director and Angela Hertz, SILC Chair
- PowerPoint presentation

- Mel reviewed the SPIL process. It is time consuming.

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Planning – The 2023-2026 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

- Purpose: Discussion, questions and ideas
- Facilitators: Mel Leviton, Executive Director and Angela Hertz, SILC Chair
- Planning Team (**Decision**)

- Mel thanked Ray for continuing to be involved.

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- Planning Team members will be:
 - Steve Decker, Steve Achabal, Mark Leeper, Alan Aamodt, Molly Pollastrini, Candy Harris, Jeremy Maxand, Sean Burlile, Angela Hertz, Shiloh Blackburn, Mel Leviton, Jami Davis, Dana Gover
 - Tara Adams would like more information before committing. Mel will get her more information.
- Mel will have Jami get out a Doodle poll hopefully next week to get something going. Meetings will be virtual so no one will have to travel. We may break into smaller groups to pound out questions, etc.
 - Molly can't do Fridays
 - Fridays are best for Shiloh
 - We will meet two weeks in a row to start.
 - SILC staff will set up the Zoom meetings and provide a note taker.
- Issues last time were housing and sidewalks (especially in rural areas).
- We need help to find locations and help get people to the community meetings. This is one way to help without being on the SPIL Planning Group.
 - Can SILC help with transportation to the community meetings?
 - We will have to see what we can or can't do. There are a lot of things we can look at.
 - We can pay attention to when and where we meet based on transportation availability, where people are, etc.
 - Last time we hit the rural locations pretty hard including Driggs, Burley, Orofino, Grangeville, Kamiah and Sandpoint.
 - Molly – there is a group in her area that hosts an interagency meeting that covers several areas. You need to get on as a speaker. You would have a captive audience of individuals with disabilities. We could advertise to get more attendees.
 - Candy suggested peer groups, ICBVI, TBI group. There are multiple support groups for various disabilities.

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- Denise suggested doing a presentation at the Idaho Caregivers Alliance in February. It is one of the best conferences in Idaho. Not sure of the exact date.
 - Mel used to participate in ICA. Denise has taken over as the SILC representative. They share a lot of resources, families supporting people with disabilities, systemic help.
- Steve Decker stated as it gets closer, he will have lists of where to meet.
- Alan Aamodt suggested an evening session during the Tools for Life Conference.
- Another suggestion was the high school trade show for kids with a session for parents.
- For consistency, we have one SILC staff and one CIL staff at each meeting.
 - We have to be certain we ask the exact same questions everywhere we go and get an accurate record of all the comments.
 - SILC staff traveling is great. It helps us get into the communities. SILC staff switch which part of the state they do each time.
 - Mel-there will be some virtual only meetings for those who are staying home.
 - We may use hybrid meetings to get more input.
 - Steve - having hybrid meetings so people don't have to travel might be helpful.
 - Don't see the federal language changing much.
 - The goals won't change but the objectives may change.
 - Group agreed that we do not need a facilitator.

4:15 Meeting review, evaluations and travel forms

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- You need to complete your meeting evaluation before we can adjourn.
- Please take the toys with you.

Denise Myler moved and Max Hudson seconded to adjourn. Motion was approved.

4:30 pm. Adjourn