



Idaho State Independent Living Council

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**State Independent Living Council (SILC)
Quarterly Business Meeting
January 14, 2022
10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MST
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PST
ASL & Zoom Captioning Provided
Zoom Meeting**

MINUTES

Attendance: Angela Hertz, Brittany Shipley, Candy Harris, Denise Myler, Erik Kimes, Jeremy Maxand, Molly Pollastrini, Sean Burlile, Shiloh Blackburn, Tara Adams

Ex-officio: Alan Aamodt, Steve Achabal, Erin Olsen

Absent: Max Hudson

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

Guests: Ray Lockary, Russ Salyards, Michael Lefevor, Dianna Willis

Call to Order and Introductions	The meeting was called to order and a quorum declared at 10:34 a.m. by Angela Hertz, Chair. Introductions were made.
Review virtual meeting process	Mel Leviton provided a quick reminder to speak slowly, not talk over each other, etc. as the ASL interpreters and captioning cannot capture everything if more than one person speaks at a time or if we talk too fast.
Approval of	There is a change to the agenda this afternoon.

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<p>Minutes and Perfection of Agenda</p>	<p>After Michael Lefevor’s presentation, Dianna Willis from LINC will present information on their “Barriers to Services” questionnaire.</p>
<p>Review and Approve Minutes from October 15, 2021</p>	<p>Denise Myler moved and Sean Burlile seconded to approve the October meeting minutes. Motion passed</p>
<p>October Meeting Evaluation</p>	<p>Facilitator: Denise Myler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise reviewed the October meeting evaluation results.
<p>Audit Report</p>	<p>Rachel Pulliam, Pulliam and Associates stated that she emailed the final audit report to Megan Bates. Megan will share it with the Executive Committee.</p> <p>The audit is clean. The only change for SILC is that due to COVID, staff/Council weren’t able to travel as much. “SILC does great on checks and balances, oversights, and there are no holes.”</p>
<p>Executive Director Report</p>	<p>Facilitator: Mel Leviton, Executive Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2021 PPR is due the end of this month. It is complete, just trying to get signatures and submit it. • Disability awareness day will happen at the Capital but will be scaled back. It will focus on the housing issues, direct care worker shortage, digital access to government. It will be on the first floor 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CID members all agreed to push the same talking points on housing and personal assistance or direct care issues throughout the legislative session.• Housing Advocacy Day is January 24.• JFAC is Feb. 7. The Governor recommended our full request.• Mel will be at the statehouse several times a week during the session.• We have four folks terming off the Council in May plus one Ex-officio so there will be lots of new faces coming to the Council.• The 2020 PPR will be on the website next week. It was approved in December.
Executive/Finance Committee Report	<p>Facilitator: Angela Hertz, SILC Chair</p> <p>Megan Bates provided the financial update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SILC requested a small increase due to a rent increase and asked that any increase in salaries or benefits be covered by State General Funds.• We have spent 57% of our personal costs and 19% of our operating expenses.• We had an extension to spend the Title 7 funds. We spent the remaining funds and are right on schedule.• We have met the Title 1 match requirement.• Finances are looking good.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mel stated that when we meet in person, we will take the time to do some financial training regarding our budget. • SILC Congress is a good conference for people to learn more about how a SILC functions, especially for those looking to be on the Executive Committee. • We'd like to send two staff. <p>Molly Pollastrini moved and Shiloh Blackburn seconded to allow for up to 7 attend SILC Congress including support staff. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.</p>
<p>Membership/ Outreach Committee Report</p>	<p>Facilitator: Denise Myler, Membership/Outreach Committee Co-chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eric Peterson, Region II PWD representative, and Sherri Boelter, DAC representative, were recommended to the Council for approval. <p>Molly Pollastrini moved and Candy Harris seconded to approve the application from Sherri Boelter as the DAC representative. Motion passed.</p> <p>Candy Harris moved and Sean Burlile seconded to approve the application from Eric Peterson as the representative for Region II. Motion passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positions on the Council that need to be filled include a representative from LIFE, and terming off in May – Region I, DAC Representative (see above Sherri B.),

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	Region VII – PWD terming off in May, and Youth with a disability, terming off in May.
Policy Committee Report	<p>Facilitator: Shiloh Blackburn, Policy Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some of the items we will be following during the Legislative Session include direct care, housing, and the voting issues.• Encourage council to contact legislators even if you aren't in Boise.• Five Council members (Molly, Shiloh, Candy, Denise, Brittany) would like a hard copy of the Legislative Directory. Staff will pick them up and mail them to you.• You can also find your legislator here: https://legislature.idaho.gov/legislators/ <p>Denise Myler moved and Candy Harris seconded to allow Mel Leviton to testify during the legislative session as needed in support or against legislation. Motion passed.</p>
Planning Committee Report	<p>Facilitators: Molly Pollastrini & Steve Achabal, Planning Co-chairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Molly shared the results of the SPIL survey report for the first quarter.• Molly shared a brief history of the statewide assessment (surveys and town meetings).• The CILs will work with SILC on where the townhall meetings will be held.• The same person should take notes at each of the community meetings.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be sure we get input from underserved areas as much as possible.• Molly is trying to work with the local Tribes as well.• Statewide Assessment will be going out this month and probably next week. We won't send it out until we receive the Braille translation.• Assessment surveys will be in Braille, English, Spanish, large print and electronic.• It will be available on the ICBVI website, SILC website, etc.• Hoping to share it with legislators and try to get them to attend meetings in their areas.• Survey will be out until end of August or end of September depending on responses.• You can take the survey more than once. Just want to be sure we capture where people are and what is going on.• Mel appreciates how hard the group worked on the Assessment. Molly said that the team was so cohesive and kind. "It was amazing."• Brittany asked if on Question #2, we need to add "check all that apply". Mel stated that it is ok to do the survey twice. You cannot check both on the online survey as the survey path will change depending on how the question is answered.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Molly and Angela suggested a short cover sheet with instructions. Mel stated that any changes have to be resent for interpretation and it will delay it.• Molly suggested we shoot it out the door as planned.• Mel stated that during the community meetings presenters can tell people that they may provide information from any or all 3 different perspectives.• Molly suggested that we bring SILC (membership) applications to townhall meetings and maybe provide a short informative session on the SILC to help get new members for the Council.
Program Updates	<p>Facilitator: Jami Davis, SILC Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continues to work on Emergency Preparedness activities.• There were 136 new ABLE inquiries in 2021.• The Quarterly SPIL survey/Report asks about satisfaction surveys. Jami stated that she makes follow-up calls and asks a few quick questions about 2 to 3 weeks after talking with someone about ABLE. Those calls provide survey responses. She usually has around an 82% participation rate. It is not a hard copy survey.• Initial calls can take as little as 5 to 10 minutes and up to 40 minutes, depending

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	<p>on the person and their knowledge about the program. Overall, she spends 5 - 105 minutes per contact. This is often over more than one meeting or phone call.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about ABLÉ accounts https://silc.idaho.gov/able-accounts/
<p>SILC Chair and Vice-Chair Elections</p>	<p>Shiloh Blackburn was elected as the new SILC Chair.</p> <p>Candy Harris was elected as the new SILC Vice-Chair.</p>
<p>Newly elected Chair takes over duties</p>	<p>Angela Hertz immediately passed the baton to Shiloh Blackburn to chair the remainder of the Council meeting.</p>
<p>APRIL Conference Reports</p>	<p>Facilitator: Shiloh Blackburn, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jami and Molly did a session on Mental Health at the APRIL conference last October. Feedback about their workshops indicated that an hour was not enough time. APRIL staff want them to facilitate the same subject again in the future. There were 112 - 122 attendees. The workshop had one of the highest attendee numbers of all the breakout sessions. Everyone stayed and turned in their evaluations. "It was great. It was amazing how people shared and asked for input/suggestions." • Molly also helped facilitate (behind the scenes) another session on "You're 18 now

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	<p>and what are you going to do, how to find a place to live, etc.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denise stated there were a couple of Independent Living sessions she really enjoyed. APRIL is definitely something to attend.• Megan stated that she attended “Creating a Disability Justice Podcast”. It was really good and she was amazed at what it takes to do a podcast. She also attended “Disability Advocates Taking Action.” It was about data collection and “was wonderful.”• Janey attended 3 sessions. The first was “Keeping it Real – SILC Member Engagement.” It was a reminder of things to keep members involved and to consider the group as a whole. She attended “Strategies for Engaging Today’s Youth with Disabilities”. This session pointed out that Zoom meetings make it much easier for some folks to participate and actually harder for others who really need the in-person contact. The last one was “Partnerships to Improve Recreation.” It was a reminder that we need to work with groups and Parks & Rec, Fish and Game, Forest Service, BLM, etc. to help make outdoor recreation activities more accessible for everyone.• Mel was a presenter for a couple of the sessions about emergency preparedness and partnerships. She learned that she
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	<p>needs to allow buffer time between Zoom meetings. With in-person meetings there is always time to get from one to the next. However, with Zoom we tend to literally schedule them back-to-back with no break or buffer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin stated that she attended several sessions. They fit well into what she is doing and she enjoys hearing what others are doing and learning from their experiences.
<p>Training - LIFE, A Center for Independent Living</p>	<p>Facilitator: Michael Lefevor, Executive Director, LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael shared a PowerPoint presentation • He will send it to SILC staff to share with Council members. • Shiloh will share some PowerPoint presentations she has with Michael.
<p>Council Training</p>	<p>Mel Leviton sent out information on some Council training LIFE is providing on January 22nd. This is really valuable and she encourages Council members to attend. It is on a Saturday.</p>
<p>Information – “Barriers to Services” Questionnaire</p>	<p>Facilitator: Dianna Willis, LINC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dianna shared information on LINC’s survey about the challenges of Independent Living in the community. • They hope to better understand what’s happening with getting direct care workers to stay so people can remain in their home.

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	<p>LINC also hopes to learn about issues related to housing, affordable housing, transportation, and basic resources needed for people to stay in their home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LINC plans to get the survey out in various ways – share with the legislature, news media, etc.• Goal is to help the general public better understand the crisis.• Questionnaire is meant for anyone with a disability, family/parent, etc.• Survey will be out until at least April, perhaps longer.• It was suggested they add the option of the YES waiver to the survey. For more information on the YES waiver, here are a couple of links: https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/medicaid-health/youth-empowerment-services-yes or https://yes.idaho.gov/• Here are links to the Barriers to Services questionnaire in both English and Spanish• https://lincidaho.org/barriers-to-services-questionnaire• https://lincidaho.org/obstaculos-a-los-servicios
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.