



Brittany Shipley, SILC Chair  
Mel Leviton, SILC Executive Director

**State Independent Living Council (SILC)  
Quarterly Business Meeting  
Minutes  
April 18 & 19, 2024  
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
ASL Provided**

- Attendance: Brittany Shipley, Tara Adams, Tara Rowe, Anhora Snodgrass, Justyne Collins, Ian Bott, Michael Lefevor, Sherri Boelter
- Ex Officios: Alan Aamodt, Steve Achabal, Russell Salyards, Erin Olsen
- Excused: Shiloh Blackburn, Brianna Tamayo, Erik Kimes
- Guests: Jeremy Maxand, LINC; Keith Mason, VHC; Julian Hamblin, VHC; Ruth Brown, Idaho Reports
- SILC Staff: Mel Leviton, Jami Davis, Megan Bates, Janey Bruesch

**April 18 Minutes**

<b>Call to Order and Introductions</b>	Brittany called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and declared a quorum. Introductions were made.
<b>Approval of Minutes and Perfection of Agenda</b>	There were no changes to the agenda.  Tara Rowe moved and Tara Adams seconded to approve the January 2024 minutes. Motion carries.
<b>January Meeting Evaluations</b>	Tara Adams provided a brief overview of the January meeting evaluations. The feedback was the most we have ever received and it really helps. One suggestion was that Council members need "care packages" for the virtual meetings (candy, toys).
<b>Executive Director Report</b>	Mel gave a quick overview of the ABLE meeting yesterday and thanked everyone who attended.

## SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<p>Brittany and Mel worked with the Anti-trafficking Coalition and were successful in getting the Joint Legislative Oversight committee to conduct a survey over the next year.</p> <p>There is no update on the PPR. We are still waiting for review and approval. It was submitted in January.</p> <p>Mel has not made the technical changes to the SPIL that need to be made. Idaho and Oregon were part of the beta group. The testing group had a lot of issues. It can't be submitted until it opens up to everyone next week. We were hoping to submit it by the end of May at the latest. Unfortunately, the Designated State Entity (DSE) which is the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) cannot sign it at this time.</p> <p>The DSE passes through Part B funds to the Centers for Independent Living (CILs), the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) and the SILC. The I&amp;E funds for the SILC are also passed through the DSE.</p> <p>The SPIL has to be submitted by the end of June. If it is not submitted before June 30<sup>th</sup>, SILC will have to ask for an extension. ACL will work with us as much as they can. SILC has to have a signed and approved SPIL by October 1 to get the Federal funds.</p> <p>Mel would like to give the DVR at least four weeks to work things out. If the DSE has to change, Parks and REC would be Plan B. Mel would like Council approval to meet with Parks and Rec the end of next week to see if that might be possible. It takes ILRU 3 to 4 months to change the DSE due to the federal process and training required.</p> <p>SILC will have to go out for public comment again on the SPIL if the DSE changes. Bottom line is that SILC can get the technical changes made on the SPIL, put the SPIL into the new template and will have to hang on to it for a while. Right now, we don't know what the SILC resource plan will look like.</p> <p>I&amp;E funds can't go over to ICBVI as they don't have the spending authority. Only DVR or ICBVI can receive the I&amp;E funds for the SILC. We don't know if the SILC is going to get that money. It pays for 1¾ staff so that is very concerning for staff. DVR is working extremely hard on trying to get this resolved.</p> <p>Tara Rowe moved and Tara Adams seconded to approve that the Executive Director moves forward with exploring a backup DSE. Motion</p>
--	---

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<p>carries.</p> <p>Mel stated she is confident that they will get the Part B figured out but not the I&amp;E funds. She is hoping staff will wait 4 to 6 weeks before starting to look for work.</p> <p>HB398 is a terrible bill. More later on it.</p> <p>Mel reviewed the handout for the SILC Mission and Vision statements. Discussion included saying “disabilities of all types” instead of just “disabilities”; using “in our communities” instead of “community of choice”; instead of “full potential” maybe say “their goals”. The Policy Committee will work on it and bring it back to the Council in July.</p>
<p><b>Program Updates</b></p>	<p>Jami did Tools for Life and an ABLE workshop in Idaho Falls. 70 people (16–21-year-olds) attended the workshop. Calls and technical assistance continue. The ABLE work group started last fall. Idaho is one of 3 states that does not have its own ABLE program. The group is looking at having legislation run next year for Idaho to get our own program.</p> <p>The ABLE workgroup held an informational session yesterday with legislators, the State Treasurer and her staff, parents, and others to learn more about ABLE. There were presentations from several people on how an ABLE account has helped them. There was also a presentation from STABLE. The hope is that the legislation will happen in time for the ABLE age adjustment in January 2026 when it goes up to 46.</p> <p>On June 7<sup>th</sup> Jami will be participating in the Emergency Prep fair with the Lewiston office of DAC. They are gearing some of the talks/speakers and activities towards the young adults. On June 10<sup>th</sup> she will be in Post Falls to do ABLE presentations with Justyne and Sherri.</p>
<p><b>Executive/Finance Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Megan reviewed the budget handouts. Our budget was approved by the Legislature. If there is additional information you want included in this report, please let us know when you complete your Meeting Evaluation.</p> <p>The Auditor will meet with Megan on April 26<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The OPE will be evaluating the roll-out of LUMA. It is extremely hard to get reports. With the previous system you could run one report to get everything. With LUMA we now have to run 7 reports to get part of the information. On April 7<sup>th</sup> state agencies were provided with a list of the</p>

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<p>reports available.</p> <p>Brittany reviewed the Executive Committee minutes.</p> <p>There was discussion regarding using the funds saved by having a virtual meeting in July to help cover expenses for Council members to attend meetings and events such as the ABLE meeting yesterday, etc. Mel stated that it would help to have discretion to use the funds going forward. The Council agreed.</p> <p>This is the first time the DD Councils will be in Washington, DC at the same time as NCIL. Mel had hoped to attend but it did not work out.</p> <p>The APRIL Conference is in Chicago in October. Mel and Jami plan to attend as staff. Tara Rowe, Ian Bott, Anhora Snodgrass, Justyne Collins and Erin Olsen are interested in attending.</p> <p>Tara Rowe moved and Anhora Snodgrass seconded to send up to three SILC members to the APRIL conference in October. Motion carries.</p> <p>Sherri Boelter moved and Ian Bott seconded that no one be sent to the NCIL conference and that 1 to 2 additional Council members be sent to the APRIL conference. Motion carries.</p>
<p><b>Training</b></p>	<p><b>Presentation – LIFE, A Center for Independent Living, Michael LeFavor, Executive Director</b>          Purpose: learning about our partners</p>
<p><b>SILC Congress Reports</b></p>	<p>Brittany provided a power-point presentation related to the weather and travel issues they dealt with.</p> <p>Jami stated that there were accessibility issues with this conference and some hiccups. She had a conversation with a lady from Nevada that is on the Nevada SILC and on the Nevada Deaf Council. The Nevada SILC sends her to events because she is deaf. Jami explained that we had a previous chair that was deaf and our current vice-chair is deaf. Several of the states do not have a diverse Council like Idaho. Idaho does not just “check a box”.</p> <p>Anhora liked the speed dating (round table session) and learned a lot about other SILCs. She met a person from a SILC that goes to sports events and talks about the SILC. They said it has helped with their</p>

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<p>funding. It was interesting to learn how different SILCs work.</p> <p>Mel stated that there were pieces of the conference that were stressful, political issues that should not have been there, issues with the ramp to the stage, hotel issues, and accessibility issues that should have been addressed. The hope is that going forward we won't have those issues.</p>																														
<p><b>Member Updates</b></p>	<p>Michael attended a national conference on self-direction. It is related to Medicaid waivers and veterans. It was very good and will be virtual next year.</p> <p>Ian is working with the City of Boise related to accessibility. He does a lot of advocacy.</p> <p>Tara Rowe stated that the Census Bureau suddenly changed the way they ask about disabilities. There was a significant decrease in the number of people on the census with disabilities. The data is used by groups for things such as for heating assistance, etc. They did back off and went back to the old question. Blue Cross is going to have community meetings on dual eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid. If anyone is interested, talk to her.</p> <p>Jami stated that Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, there is a Community Health &amp; Resource Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Caldwell Event Center in Caldwell.</p> <p>Erin stated that anyone with a disability is 2.5 times more likely to fall. She is doing a conference at the Jump in August. It will be a fun event with lots of demonstrations and very engaging. It is a free event. She will send out a flyer with information when it is available.</p>																														
<p><b>Motion for Executive Session</b></p>	<p>Tara Rowe, Policy Committee Chair, moved and Michael Lefevor seconded, that the Council, pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206 convene in Executive Session to consider personnel matters [Idaho Code § 74-206 (1)(a) &amp; (b)]</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">Yes</th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">No</th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">Abstained</th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">Excused</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brittany Shipley, Chair</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tara Adams, Vice Chair</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership &amp; Outreach Chair</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Erik Kimes, Planning Committee Chair</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Excused</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tara Rowe, Policy Committee Chair</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes	No	Abstained	Excused	Brittany Shipley, Chair	Yes				Tara Adams, Vice Chair					Membership & Outreach Chair	Yes				Erik Kimes, Planning Committee Chair				Excused	Tara Rowe, Policy Committee Chair	Yes			
	Yes	No	Abstained	Excused																											
Brittany Shipley, Chair	Yes																														
Tara Adams, Vice Chair																															
Membership & Outreach Chair	Yes																														
Erik Kimes, Planning Committee Chair				Excused																											
Tara Rowe, Policy Committee Chair	Yes																														

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	Anhora Snodgrass, Council Representative	Yes	
	Shiloh Blackburn, Immediate Past Chair		Excused
	Sherri Boelter, Council Member	Yes	
	Ian Bott, Council Member	Yes	
	Justyne Collins, Council Member	Yes	
	Michael Lefevor, Council Member	Yes	
	Brianna Tamayo, Council Member		Excused
	Executive Session Convened at: 3:45 p.m.		
	Executive Session Adjourned at: 4:21 p.m.		

**State Independent Living Council (SILC)  
Quarterly Business Meeting  
Minutes  
April 19, 2024**

Attendance: Brittany Shipley, Tara Adams, Tara Rowe, Anhora Snodgrass, Justyne Collins, Ian Bott, Michael Lefevor, Sherri Boelter

Ex Officios: Alan Aamodt, Steve Achabal, Russell Salyards

Excused: Shiloh Blackburn, Brianna Tamayo, Erik Kimes, Erin Olsen

Guests: Jeremy Maxand

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

**April 19 Minutes**

<b>Call to Order and Introductions</b>	Brittany called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and declared a quorum.  Introductions were made.
<b>Presentation – Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities</b>	Purpose: learning about our partners  The SILC and DD Council will plan to meet in the fall to discuss upcoming legislation.  The Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance, Safety and Resilience Conference will be June 25-26 at the Riverside Hotel in Boise.
<b>Executive Session Report</b>	Ian Bott, Council member, moved and Tara Adams, Vice Chair, seconded to give Executive Director, Mel Leviton an exemplary performance rating. Motion carries.

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	<b>Excused</b>
			Abstained	
	Brittany Shipley, Chair			
	Tara Adams, Vice Chair			
	Membership & Outreach Chair	Yes		
	Erik Kimes, Planning Committee Chair			Excused
	Tara Rowe, Policy Committee Chair	Yes		
	Anhora Snodgrass, Council Representative	Yes		
	Shiloh Blackburn, Immediate Past Chair			Excused
	Sherri Boelter, Council Member	Yes		
	Ian Bott, Council Member	Yes		
	Justyne Collins, Council Member	Yes		
	Michael Lefevor, Council Member	Yes		
	Brianna Tamayo, Council Member			Excused
<b>Committee Sessions</b>	<b>Membership and Outreach Committee</b> – Lemhi Room <b>Policy Committee</b> – Lobby/Breakfast Area <b>Planning Committee</b> – Conference Room			
<b>Membership/ Outreach Committee Report</b>	<p>The Council recognized Steve for his service on the Council.</p> <p>The Committee recommended that the Council hold the application from Andrew Mills for a year since there is not an open position in Region 3. Mel will let him know.</p> <p>Tara Adams moved and Justyne Collins seconded to submit Kylie Reed’s name to the Governor for appointment to the Council for an At-Large Youth position on the Council. Motion carries.</p> <p>Tara Adams moved and Michael Lefevor seconded to submit Faith Neibert’s name to the Governor for appointment to the Council as the Region 7 representative, pending no issues arise during her phone interview. Motion carries.</p>			



	<p>Tara Adams stated that we are still looking for someone from Region II. Justyne has someone she will reach out to.</p>
<p><b>Policy Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Tara Rowe reminded everyone that if they contact anyone regarding disability issues, jot a note down so you can report it on the SPIL Quarterly report.</p> <p>The session is over, but HB 398 is still an issue. There are questions about how it will work, who it will affect, denials of service, delays in approvals, and more. This isn't going away and currently there is no resolution. This will come up again and again and might be special session worthy. Mel learned there will very likely be a special session on this but has not heard when it will happen. We need to be very vocal about this.</p> <p>Brittany stated there was a lot of bipartisan work to have the OPE do a survey of abuse and neglect in facilities. We need to know how to protect our vulnerable youth and put safeguards in place. This will create data to ensure safeguards.</p> <p>The Policy Committee recommends that Policies 97-1, 95-5, 95-6, 95-4 be listed as inactive and that the Conference Attendance policy be approved. The Policy Committee will review the policies on Meeting Accessibility and Conflict of Interest prior to the July Council meeting.</p> <p>Michael Lefevor moved and Tara Adams seconded to inactivate policies 97-1, 95-4, 95-5, and 95-6 and accept the Conference Attendance policy as presented. Motion carries.</p>

	<p>There will be an ABLÉ workgroup debriefing on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.</p>
<p><b>Planning Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Michael stated that based on the SPIL Quarterly Reports, we are doing great at reaching out.</p> <p>Mel stated that due to issues that have come up, staff will make the technical changes to the SPIL and the financial edits by the CILs and then the SILC will have a special meeting to approve it at a later date or the SILC can approve it today hoping everything works out.</p> <p>Michael Lefevor moved and Tara Adams seconded to approve the SPIL with the technical edits and financial edits by the CILs pending the ability of the current DSE to sign the SPIL. Motion carries.</p>
<p><b>Best Practice Workshop Opportunities</b></p>	<p>Purpose: Learn about ways we can teach others about the importance of community access for people with disabilities</p> <p>The SILC did a training several years ago for groups like Hewlett-Packard, Medicaid Managers, Housing, Coalition on Sexual and Domestic Abuse, etc. demonstrating some of the issues people with disabilities face. The group consisted of a blind person, a person who was deaf, someone with autism and two people in wheelchairs.</p> <p>You have to have a good sense of humor to participate and not get your feelings hurt or take things personally in the training. The training usually starts with activities and conversations and shows that one size does not fit everyone.</p> <p>The Health Care industry has been pretty insensitive and uncaring related to disabilities. The Idaho Health Conference received over 50 applications for workshops and ours was accepted.</p>

SILC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

	<p>The SILC receives 3 registrations with the workshop which will be used by Mel, Jami, and Tara Adams. There is no charge if you are only participating in the workshop. Registration is \$125. We are sponsoring a day of ASL. If you want to attend the conference, we need to know right away.</p> <p>Workshop participants will include Jen from LINC; Ian, Tara Rowe, Mel, Jami, Anhora, and Erin. Erin, Tara Adams, Anhora and Ian will also attend the conference. Justyne will contribute and will let staff know if she decides to attend. Anhora said she is not great at role-playing but could practice.</p>
<b>Other Business</b>	<p>Please send your conference applications to the SILC ASAP. Remember to include any accommodations, including dietary. Janey will email the conference application to all Council members first thing on Monday.</p> <p>Brittany stated that we need a separate application for each conference you are interested in attending. If possible, please get them to the SILC office by Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<b>Adjourn</b>	Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.