



Idaho State Independent Living Council

380 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 102 (83702)  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-9601

## MINUTES

### STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SIILC) QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING HOLIDAY INN, BOISE, IDAHO FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017

#### Attendees

**Council:** Roger Howard, Rick Huber, Max Hudson, Ray Lockary, Laurie Lowe, Angela MacDonald, Ramona Medicine Horse, Denise Myler, Non Reyes, Molly Sherpa, Mike Smith

**Ex-Officio:** (Non-Voting Members) Raul Enriquez, Beth Kriete, Nancy Wise, Jane Donnellan

**SIILC Staff:** Mel Leviton, Jami Davis, Lyn Moore, Jerry Riener

**Guests:** Beth Cunningham, Rachel Evans, Sandy Sanchez, Dean Nielson, Douglas Stephens (Mike's PA), Debbie Arment (Interpreter), Frances Bennett (Interpreter), Bille (Non's PA), Krista Cramer (ID Assistive, Technology Project), Mark Leeper, Candy Harris, Dana Gover

**Absent:** Eric Bjork, Janice Carson, Melva Heinrich, Sean Burille (Ex-Officio)

**1. Call to Order**      The meeting was called to order at 9:13 am, Friday, May 5, 2017 by Ray Lockary, Chair

**Introductions**      Purpose: Introduce members, staff and visitors  
Facilitator: Ray Lockary, Chair

**2. Motion**      Motion was made and carried to approve the February 7 –  
**Approval of**      8, 2017 Council meeting minutes.  
**Minutes**

**Motion**      Additions and changes to the day's agenda: Motion was  
**Perfection of**      made and carried to approve the agenda without changes.  
**Agenda**

**3. February**      Facilitator: Ray Lockary, Chair

## **Meeting Evaluation**

Ray presented an overview of the February Meeting Evaluation.

- February Meeting Evaluation Form handout was provided to Council.

## **4. Executive Director Report**

Facilitator: Mel Leviton, Executive Director

- Budget Updates: Title I, Title VII, Gen Fund, SWDEV. Council Members had no questions.
- Marketing plan – SILC is revamping SILC/CIL brand to improve outreach to policy makers. Project includes revising all publications for a uniform look. Publications will be prepared in braille, large print, and plain text. Suggestion to prepare in CD format for visually impaired will be researched. Other activities are revamping the SILC website to improve the site and increase accessibility for people with a variety of disabilities, and the creation of our Infographic. SILC requests the Council's input and edits to the Infographic. Testimonials are also needed.
- State legislative update – Preparing for the 2018 session. Currently no plans to request an increase in General Funds or to run legislation. Council Members are encouraged to follow legislation in 2018 and identify opportunities to testify on issues related to disabilities.

Concerns about Representative Troy's desire to increase nursing home beds. The SILC Executive Director has reached out to Representative Troy, but not yet heard back. We agree that Bureau of Facility Standards' relationship with providers can be improved. However, we do not believe the solution is to add more nursing home beds for non-dementia residents. We believe the answer lies in community supports and services. However, we also recognize a need for dementia care facilities or community placements.

Possible statutory revisions related to service animals. This will be worked on by a group. Cheryl

Bloom and Dana Gover may know more.

Parking statutory changes may come up. If Council Members hear of issues in your district, please make SILC aware.

A Council Member raised a question about legislation to require vendors of services read “the fine print” to the elderly and people with low literacy, cognitive delay, vision problems or other disability impacting reading/understanding. Ex-Officio Member, Raul Enriquez, stated he is not aware of changes to Bureau of Facility Standards to require vendors read contracts. He encouraged reporting concerns or noncompliance at nursing home facilities to BFS community ombudsman. Use of Medicare Patrol for Medicare related scams.

Ex-Officio Member, Beth Kriete, reminded Council that we can’t regulate vendors so we must use self-advocacy. A representative from SHIP would be good information for SILC Council Members.

SILC Staff, Jerry Riener communicated the Idaho Attorney General’s office is providing information on avoiding scams as part of financial literacy. AG’s office has books, prior cases, and publications to assist. Also promotion of “no solicitation” signs on doors.

The next meeting Raul will provide materials and resources for Council Members to read and distribute. This is a great opportunity for Youth Advisory Committee to work with Commission on Aging and Blind to build awareness.

- Statewide issue updates:
  - Social Justice – Community Conversations, held in Boise on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Two more will follow in Twin Falls and Northern Idaho. Dates not yet released.
  - Housing – SILC Executive Director would like to bring the Executive Director from Intermountain Fair Housing Council to the July Council Meeting to share what IFHC does. Working with partner agencies on social justice related to bullying, abuse in school

settings, and abuse by daily care providers. SILC Executive Director is working with IDHW workgroup on new rules for ICF/ID/MI secure treatment facility. SILC remained neutral, but we are involved with rule making for this facility. This group will have rules before the legislature in 2018.

DD Waiver, proposed Adult DD waiver renewal and A&D Waiver, proposed A&D waiver renewal comment periods end May 29, 2017. See Attachment B for additional information. Council Members are encouraged to submit comments. SILC, CILs and other state agencies can assist with preparation to articulate comments. Currently not a lot of comments received. Comments are worth the time as IDHW staff review all comments.

- Federal legislative issues/updates:  
American Health Care Act – threat to those with chronic health/preexisting conditions. Current AHCA drafts will allow states to ask for waivers that insurance companies won't have to provide basic health care (essentially catastrophic care only) and can charge higher premiums to older Americans and those with preexisting conditions. States using the waivers will be allowed to create "high risk" pools to provide insurance to this group. Previously, in Idaho, the only way into the high risk pool was by being denied coverage. What happened previously is that people weren't denied they just couldn't afford the premiums at around \$800 per month (2002 figure). Very few people actually made it into the pool. These tended to be people with terminal illness who were waiting to get approved for SSI/Medicaid/Medicare.  
Medicaid Per Capita caps or Block Grant formulas will be harmful to people on HCBS waivers. Currently, Idaho receives about 71% (71 cents/federal, 29 cents/state) of every Medicaid dollar spent under our state plan and waiver programs. If instead, as recently proposed, Idaho receives per capita or block

grants, the amount of money contributed by the federal government through tax dollars will be greatly reduced.

- SILC Internal Operations:

ABLE Idaho – SILC has an internal process in place to handle inquiries. Jerry is attending ABLE training in Minnesota later in May. Mel and Jerry are working to connect with National stakeholder groups. We are working on ABLE pages for the SILC website. SILC will begin providing ABLE and Financial Literacy outreach and education statewide in the Fall.

Intermountain Fair Housing Council – IFHC grant total is \$2600. Expended to date from statewide development fund is \$1950. Funds billed quarterly in the amount of \$650 used to supplement other unrestricted funds. Full funding will be expended in early July 2017. Mel disclosed that she is interim President for IFHC and suggested SILC review possible concerns regarding potential conflict of interest for continued funding of this project. SILC is progressing with minor SPIL amendments due June 30, 2017. Annual state plans and reports are also due in June.

Raises (also known as the CEC) for staff approved by the Governor's office. Mel expressed appreciation to Council for supporting our staff.

SILC building lease expires October 31, 2017. We are working to renegotiate. The building is for sale, but per current lease they must give 90 days to vacate. We are working on contingent plan in case we must move. Executive Committee will be involved in any lease decisions.

All SILC staff are taking ASL classes beginning May 9<sup>th</sup> and continuing twice a week until September 2017.

ABLE to Work website has moved to DOL and is off SILC's website.

Further discussion among Council Members at lunch regarding Federal, State and SILC internal issues.

## **5. Youth Advisory Committee Update**

Facilitator: Jami Davis, SILC Staff

Currently 6-7 Youth Members. Committee meets monthly via telephone. Working on the following:

- BluePath project and contest – goal to increase businesses on website. Contest to increase with prize of pizza gift certificate. Boise did practice maps starting with LINC.
- Fundraising – goal to get all youth to APRIL conference. LINC will look into accessible van, plus provide gas, for transportation to APRIL. Cost will be approximately \$1,000 per person. CILs will be asked to chip in, plus fundraising. SILC can't hold money, but a CIL can. DACNW agreed to hold money raised by youth. Working with restaurants, baristas for "Giving Night". Submit other fundraising ideas to Jami.
- YAC account – first SILC to SILC, Youth to Youth mentoring program in the U.S. Model after Montana's successful program. Jami will travel to YL Forum, along with Max, for training in June.
- Arizona Youth Leadership Forum – Jami involved in interviews for Youth participants.
- Tools for Life update – Jami and Jerry presented individual courses. Both sessions well attended. Jerry presented on "Emergency Preparedness" and Jami presented on "Self-Advocacy". Contact Jami for additional information.

## **6. Committee Sessions**

Facilitator: Committee Chairs – see updates below.

## **7. Planning Committee Report**

Facilitator: Melva Heinrich, Planning Chair

Angela MacDonald chaired in Melva's absence. Before the July meeting, SILC and CILs will let committee know where they are planning to provide IL conference. Pocatello is the tentative plan in August 2018. The committee proposed a meeting this Fall to begin planning and finalize venue and budget.

- 8. Closed Session** Facilitator: Ray Lockary, Chair  
Full Council will finalize 2016 Performance Evaluation for SILC Executive Director.
- Working Lunch  
On site** Independent Living discussions on Federal, State, local and SILC concerns, including inter-regional peer to peer support.
- 9. Motion  
Policy  
Committee  
Report** Facilitator: Rick Huber, Policy Chair  
Committee expressed concern for a potential conflict of interest with family members of current Council Members, SILC or CIL staff as new Council Members. The Council will not accept any nominations of family members.  
**Motion** was made and carried to approve policy change. Change to use H&W regions not Vocational Rehabilitation regions since H&W does not change region boundaries.  
**Motion** was made and carried to use H&W regions.
- 10. Executive  
Committee** Facilitator: Ray Lockary, SILC Chair  
NCIL update (July 24 – 27, 2017). Council approved sending two members to NCIL. Molly expressed interest in NCIL and was approved to attend. Jerry will attend as SILC staff member. Max is going to Youth Leadership Conference instead of NCIL.
- 11. Emergency  
Management  
Update** Facilitator: Jerry Riener, SILC Staff
- FEMA Training update – Jerry attended Maryland course on integrating needs and access into emergency planning. Idaho is ahead in both urban and rural emergency planning and training. Most states were in panic mode or responding to lawsuits. Sheltering and support services are high focus. What is considered reasonable accommodation in shelter vs. sending someone to a medical facility? There were lots of varying opinions at the training related to where representation was based. The training provided a great opportunity to see how emergency managers plan and strategize. Recovery is big

component of emergency planning, example 5 years after Katrina, people still homeless with 90% of those PWDs. Integration Officer for FEMA previously worked for an IL Center so they are looking to use IL center as "best practice". Jerry will return in June for advanced training and certification to teach emergency preparedness. FEMA covers airfare to trainings so SILC's cost is less than \$300 per trip.

- ABLE – Jerry going to Minnesota for training on coordination and outreach to rural areas. Twenty-two states have their own programs which are varied in what they offer. There are only three states that do not allow people from different states into their program. Michigan has highest number of ABLE enrollees. Jerry looking at Michigan to research and analyze their program.

**12. SPIL  
Review**

Facilitator: Mel Leviton, Executive Director  
See attachment A. Council Members broke into two groups to discuss progress toward SPIL. One group reviewed goals 1 & 3, the second group reviewed goals 2 & 4. Goal 5 is statewide assessment for new SPIL so that discussion will come at a later date. New SPIL is done every three years and we are in year one of current plan.

**13. SPIL  
Review  
Continued**

Facilitator: Mel Leviton, Executive Director  
See attachment A.

**14. Motion  
Membership  
Outreach  
Committee  
Report**

Facilitator: Eric Bjork, Membership Chair  
Ray Lockary chaired in Eric's absence. The committee reviewed new application for Rachael Evans. Motion was made and carried to accept Rachael as a new Council Member.

**15. Agency**

Facilitators: Agency Representatives



## Updates

IDVR - Jane Donnellan, Administrator of IDVR, shared that as the State Designated Entity (DSE) for the Idaho State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), IDVR would begin assessing the 5% administrative fee allowed by reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act, through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) on October 1, 2017. Jane explained that with the increased demands of WIOA upon IDVR resources to fulfill their primary mission, and the increase of administrative duties involved in the distribution of Part B funds, the 5% administration fee is necessary. The 5% fee will be assessed based on the full Part B grant award. Council members and other affected agencies indicated that they were aware of the need and no one voiced opposition. Jane also said that the DSE would require quarterly reports. Mel indicated that wouldn't be a problem and was anticipated. There was also a discussion, including questions, about funding allocations and the process of drafting minor amendments to the SPIL. Involved parties (IDVR, ICBVI, DAC-NW, SILC as well as LINC and LIFE Center Directors) will work together to draft the amendments at a date to be determined in the near future. Amendments will be provided to the Executive Committee prior to final submission. The discussion had to be wrapped up due to time.

Meeting time ran out prior to completion of Agency Updates. Agencies were invited to submit updates via email and are included in separate attachments. Please note that agency updates provided via attachments B & C are not within the official meetings minutes; as such, they are not subject to approval within the context of the official public meeting minutes. However, they are available to the public upon request.

- DAC-NW
- ICBVI - See Attachment C
- ICOA
- LIFE – See Attachment C

- LINC
- Medicaid – Information and links:  
Please see Attachment B

**16. Complete  
Travel  
Forms and  
Evaluations**

Next Meeting Location:  
Holiday Inn Boise Airport  
2970 W Elder  
Boise, Idaho 83705

**Next Meeting**

July 12 – 13, 2017

**Motion  
Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:35pm May 5, 2017. Motion made and carried to adjourn.