

**Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council
(MSILC)
Full Council Meeting
Teleconference**

March 26th, 2020

Attendance:

Present: Tony Lawson - (MSILC- Chair), Denise Thomas - (MSILC-ED), Mike Bullis - (CIL Rep), Laurie Elinoff, Rose Carey - (MSILC Vice Chair), Joyce Brooks (MSILC Secretary),

Guest: Lividya Belovska- (SMCIL ED),

Absent: Raymond Smith, Tom Laverty, Bong Delrosario

Welcome Remarks and Introduction: The meeting began at 11:02am. Mr. Lawson led the meeting with welcome remarks and Introduction.

Executive Committee:

Secretaries Report - (Joyce Brooks, MSILC Secretary):

- **Roll Call:** A roll call regarding members was taken and recorded.
- **Review and Approve 12/12/19 Full Council Minutes:** The Full Council Meeting minutes from 12/12/19 were reviewed by members. Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Elinoff seconded, motion was carried and the minutes were approved.

Chair Report - (Tony Lawson, MSILC Chair):

- **SILC Congress 2020:** Mr. Lawson gave important updates regarding SILC Congress. SILC Congress is no longer part of independent living. The SILC Congress Board decided to go in a different direction. They decided to apply for non-profit status, and no were awarded 501 (c) (3) status. Their new name is NASILC (National Association of Statewide Independent Living Council). They drafted their new by-laws, and distributed that document during the last conference.
- **MAP Meeting:** This meeting was held in Queen Anne's County, which is one of the counties covered by Bay Area CIL. The main purpose of the meeting was to share information regarding local nursing homes and Rehab centers. Because of the Corona Virus Crisis the meeting didn't last long.
- **DAV Conference:** For the last four years MSILC has been a part of DAV Conference as a guest speaker. Because of the Corona Virus Pandemic this event will not happen on time or be cancelled.
- **Potential Members:** Mr. Lawson stated that two individuals Wilberto Flores and Ronald A. Pagano, JD have applied for Council membership. Mr. Flores is from St. Mary's County and Mr. Pagano is from the Eastern Shore. Both have great experience in working with the disabled community. The Executive Committee is trying to contact them to invite them for a small speech during the next Full Council Meeting. Currently, both applications are on hold.

Treasurer Report- (Denise Thomas): Council members reviewed the financial report, which was included with other meeting materials.

- 1st Quarter FY 20 Report: Ms. Thomas highlighted two main items; Workers Compensation insurance & Audit and Tax preparation. Both items showed negative balances. She explained that both items were paid annually, that's why both showed negative balance.
- Rent Expenses: Mr. Lawson highlighted the rent expenses, which showed that the current office location is expensive. He announced that we will be moving to another location in Rockville in November 2020. He mentioned that the new location is cheaper and accessible for everyone.

Outcomes Committee Report- (Laurie Elinoff):

- IL Awareness Event 2020: Ms. Elinoff stated that everyone observed a big change in the IL Awareness Event for 2020. Participants attended hearings regarding advocacy and every CIL staff met with legislators individually. They went to hearings regarding the Home Act Bill. Ms. Elinoff asked every participant regarding updates on the bill. She wants to know whether the Governor signed it or not. Mr. Bullis replied that he didn't know if that bill passed or not. Mr. Lawson shared that he was invited to attend the hearing on House Bill 1171. He met with Karen Young, Delegate from Frederick County. She stated the Advisory Council needed to report only to the House or Senate. According to Ms. Young that Bill is related to the DDA Issue. For clarity about the Council's involvement in the bill, he emailed Ms. Young. He said after getting complete and accurate information from her he would share with other Council members.
- IL Partners Retreat: This event, scheduled for March 30, 2020, with Ms. Sorenson was chosen as a host of the Event. According to the updates from the IL Partner meeting, all Center Directors agreed to postpone it because of the COVID situation. Ms. Thomas gave an update that after discussion with IL Partners Group they decided to do the IL Partners Retreat on September 29, 2020. She further said that the facilitator is available on that date for a morning session.

Center of Independent Living Report- (Mike Bullis, CIL Rep): Due to the Corona Virus situation all centers are contacting their consumers through phone calls and e-mails. Every center is working remotely and all centers arranged a zoom meeting for their staff and for serving their consumers. He said he will contact MDOD and Department of Health and Human services for trained staff who are willing to work with consumers for personal assistance in this situation. He stated that our focus is on use of safety gadgets or kits, if they visit the consumers houses.

Public Engagement Committee Report- (Tony Lawson):

Upcoming Outreach;

- Howard County Expo; This expo is scheduled on April 4th for the youth but due to the CoronaVirus Crisis, the event is also cancelled.

- World of Possibilities Expo 2020; According to the updated information World of Possibilities Expo in PG County was re-scheduled until October 24th, 2020 and the location will be Landover, MD

Individual Outreach;

- Because of the Corona Virus Mr. Lawson went to pick up a disabled lady because transportation is not available in this situation. He advised all Council members to be respectful and helpful to everybody, particularly in this critical condition.
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Announcement: Mr. Lawson announced Bong Del Rosario is the new Chair of the Public Engagement Committee.

SRC Report: Ms. Thomas stated that the Executive Committee chose Ms. Elinoff as the new SRC Rep. The Council already processed her application for membership. She said that the application process might be lengthy because of the current situation.

Infrastructure Committee Report: Ms. Carey reported that the Infrastructure Committee is now working on updating the Council Operation Manual. In the last meeting they updated the meal reimbursements limit according to the State law. After editing and updating, the Infrastructure Committee will refer it to the Council Members for final review.

Public Comments: No Comments

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.