Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council

Full Council Meeting

**In Attendance:** Joyce Brooks, Laurie Elinoff, Rose Carey, Karen Anderson-Scott, David Drezner, Dr. Katherine L.R. Jones, Mike Bullis, Pamela Ford,

**Welcoming Remarks & Secretary’s Report:** SILC members instructed to review attendance log for the past year. Log is sent to the DSE at the of the end of year. Members were asked to review the September 24 Council minutes. Afterward, the minutes were

**Treasurer’s Report:** Review FY21 budget, document with red margins. Reviewing IE funds with our DSE and part B funding. Yearly budget of $154K that contains the same items from previous years. Monthly rent went down significantly due to new office relocation.

FY20 final budget actual report. Fiscal year ends on 9/30 and accounts for expenditures prior to 9/30.

FY21 proposal notes show that Ms. Thomas is taking a pay decrease. It was discussed that after budget reviews with the Executive Committee and if there is funding remaining, a bonus could be issued to the Executive Director. There is also $2k budgeted for a temp, could it be reallocated?

**Training:** Denise encouraged the council to use training funds. The DSE does not want to see large amounts carried over. It’s expected that the council use these funds for networking/enrolling in training opportunities. The SILC Executive Director can create a spreadsheet to make the council aware of what trainings are offered.

**SRC Report:** SRC meeting held on 11/18/20. Sandy Bowser coordinated meeting; minutes are not complete. Agenda items included introduction of new members, discussions about sub-committees and ensuring everyone is setup.

**Outcome Report:** MD’s policy platform: Relating to IO partner meeting where everyone was trying to decide what should be part of legislation. Legislative committee needs to decide on whether to continue the committee and whether Katie and/or Laurie will oversee. It was discussed bringing in partners throughout the community and having a visible broadcast every couple of weeks where we highlight where legislation is and what can the partners help with.

IL network, diversity, training/mediation: IL partners meeting, Reyma, gave an excellent presentation. Rema will be our trainer/mediator. Next action step, distribute times available for the 4-hour mediation discussion. Mike suggested that we work with a true mediator. Reyma will be involved with pre-conversation meetings before mediation training.

**Infrastructure Report:**  Operation manual still in the works. By the next council meeting, should be able to present edited operation manual. Review officer’s selection process. For reference, page 7, item number 8 from the current manual. During a full council meeting, the Council, as a whole, will vote by paper ballot. Suggested sending votes by email. Need to discuss the positions for Treasurer and Chair.

Established a process in August where candidates could declare themselves. Mike declared that he was interested in being chair. Mike emailed ACL and they indicated it’s technically legal, but it would create divisions. Mike would withdraw his name from being chair and would nominate Rose. Rose willing to act as Chair. Motion approved to have Rose nominated by acclimation and nominations closed.

As new members join the council, perhaps there will be interest in the Treasurer position. Individuals have been sent to the Appointment's Office for background checks. One individual did not show up for interview, a second invitation will be sent. Some candidates were refereed by the Centers. Candidates are good mix of the geographical area.

**Staffing Report:**  Regina reviewed SILC state plan and it looks good. For future reference, signatures required for the SPIL need to be presented on one document. The SILC Working with ILS, DSE and SILC on form. Most information is listed on document. Denise may need to send one email to council members to get more information. Will be able to submit on time.

The SILC office has relocated to a new address and telephone number shown on website.

Training requests will be provided quarterly. A listing of available training will be given to members. Calendar year: regarding council meetings, would members like to continue to meet 4 times a year or bi-monthly? One location or two locations? Laurie proposed having an additional meeting in Annapolis. She feels this is a way for Council members to educate legislators. Group agreed to 4 meetings with the option for an ad-hoc meeting.

**Public Engagement Committee:** The SILC website shows new address and phone number. New networking feature added to the website.

**Center for Independent Living Report:** Independence Now has been purchasing Chrome books for nursing homes. ARI is distributing PPE to Howard and Ann Arundel counties. Also distributing Chrome books and support contract for training. Adding staff to work with the hotlines for the counties. Working on vaccine distribution priority for people with disabilities or in assisted living and nursing homes. Working on better wages for in home health care workers. Received an end-of-life grant from the Horizon Foundation. This will assist individuals with wills and trusts and finalizing and protecting their assets. I Am broadcasts have been a huge success, held once a week since 3/19. David reported out the all the centers have tried hard to fill gaps in service. Provides grocery deliveries. Partnered with Jamie’s (Freedom Center) husband and established a scholarship fund in her name at Hood College which has a heavy emphasis on human services and non-profit degrees. Specifically for a student with a disability who will be going into human service or advocacy.

No public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm