

SILC meeting December 2013

Attendance

Members: Mike Kennedy, Steve Higgins, Courtland Townes III, Mary Dennesen, Judi Rodger, Betty King, Merle Ferber, Joe Bellil, Filomena Tripp

Nominees: David Correia, Hang Lee, Angelisa Cephas

Ex-Officios: Rachel Tanenhaus, Ann Shor

Guest: Frank Surette, Tara O'Connor, Paul Spooner, Ann Ruder, James Cephas, Martina Carroll

Meeting called to order 11:06 am.

Minutes tabled until after lunch.

Chairs report Mike Kennedy

Mike reported that Martina Carroll has been appointed to Chair the Public Information & Education Committee, Joe Bellil has been appointed to chair the Finance Committee, Nancy Trzcinski has been appointed to Chair the SPIL Committee, Paul Spooner has been appointed to

chair the Special Event Committee and Steve Higgins has been appointed to chair the nominations and Development committee for 2014.

He noted that Ann Ruder who has been filling the consultant position on a contracted basis during the interim will be leading the process to fill the Coordinators position which remains open at this time.

Mike share his number at the Center for Living & Working in Worcester as a backup number in case people need to contact him directly during times the SILC office is not covered during the transition.

During the transition Ann will be in the office ten hours per week and will be checking the phones at least twice each week.

Treasurer's report, Joe Bellil.

Last quarterly meeting in September the SILC approved its annual starting budget of \$155,731.00. Since the meeting the Finance Committee has been working with MWCIL the fiscal Intermediary and MRC to determine the final roll over amount from 2013 to 2014.

At its most recent meeting the following recommendations were made for application of rollover funds once determined.

\$8,000.00 will be applied to the special events Line Item
\$1,000.00 will be applied to the ASL Line Item
\$1,000.00 will be applied to the CART Line Item

If additional funds are rolled from 2013 to 2014 the recommendation is to apply those to the 2014 conference line item.

During the September meeting of the SILC a motion was made to create a second Consultants Line Item funded at \$26,000.00. This Line Item is necessary to fund additional consulting responsibilities the SILC is working with MRC on for providing technical support for the centers for Independent Living.

The Line Item for the Fiscal Intermediary has been adjusted to \$24,000.00 for 2014.

The Rollover once agreed to by SILC, MRC and MWCIL, will be amended into the budget and presented for the approval of the body at the March quarterly meeting.

Joe invited participation in on the committee.

Ann Shor updated people on the status of the VR funding that has been used over the past couple of years to fund the State IL Conference. At a meeting in DC the CFO of MRC was made aware the federal govt. is saying the funds can only be spent on projects that benefit people who are VR clients directly and the funds may not be available for use at the conference in 2014. MRC is looking at other funds that have less restriction that can be used to fund the conference.

MRC was asked if they are looking at any ways to expedite the applications for TAP TIP referrals versus having to sit on a mandatory waiting period. Ann replied the three month waiting list is for everyone. They are discussing with VR staff to see if there is a. Way to speed this up. Could mean some slightly older kids than in the past who have a VR counselor.

Students would need to be referred now in order to be expedited and participate in this summer program.

MSC to accept the Finance report as presented by Merle Ferber, Second Steve Higgins
MSC carried

PIE committee report

Mike Kennedy introduced Martina Carroll who will be chairing the committee for 2014. He also thanked Paul Spooner for his years as chair of the committee.

Martina noted with MFP people are still having trouble finding housing. In 2014, the committee will be spending time on housing issues such as AHVP, Assistive Technology & seeking additional funding for centers.

Martina noted that the committee needs more members and the committee meeting time may need to be changed

Persons interested in participating on the committee for 2014 should contact Martina at Mcarroll@stavros.org or by calling 800-804-1899 ext. 213

Motion to accept report as presented Courtland Townes III, second Betty King.

MSCC carried

One thing we want to do As SILC members everyone is required to be involved in a sup committee. See Mike Kennedy or Steve. Higgins.

Nominations and Development Committee, Steve Higgins

Steve reported that Tracy McCann had been appointed and sworn in by the Governor's office and prior to the meeting he learned that Courtland Townes III had also been appointed and sworn in.

It was reported that at the December 3 meeting of the Committee several priorities for 2014 were discussed. The included a review of all SILC Member/Nominee hard files to update the status of all members, Development of new SILC member recruiting materials which clearly explain that the SILC is a policy body and not an advocacy board. And updating the entire nominations process.

MSC report as presented by Betty King, second Merle Ferber

MSC Carried

SPIIL committee Nancy Trzcinski

The SPIL committee presented report was presented by Steve Higgins

All in attendance received an excel spreadsheet outlining the progress of the goals and objective of the 2011 – 2013 State Plan for Independent Living. Each goal was reviewed with the body. The SPIL was comprised of eight goals with several objectives for each goal.

The committee reported that the 2014-2016 State Plan for Independent Living had been accepted by RSA with minor edits and was in effect.

MSC to accept the report as presented by Lisa franklin
second Betty king
MSC carried

Minutes September 2013 Steve Higgins

Members review the minutes for the September 2013 SILC meeting during their lunch break.

MSC to approve minutes as presented Merle Ferber
Second Betty King
MSC Carried.

Special Events, Paul Spooner

Open house December 19.

Education day state house March 20

ADA day awaiting date have paperwork.

Tentative date in mid sept for the 2014 state IL conference

MSC Courtland second Merle Ferber

MSC passed

SILC Coordinator report Ann Ruder

Exec comm. Met yesterday timeline and announcement presented Took time to update the description that may create longevity Question was asked: Is it human services or administrative background that is more important.

Ann reported she is at the SILC office about ten hours each week will return call by the end of the week anyone calls Working on putting some organization into the office

If anyone has any concerns please keep in touch with Ann.

MSC Steve Higgins second Betty King

MSC passed

Old Business

Question how did people think the conference went. Franklin Surette mentioned on the third day his luggage was moved out of the room by the hotel staff.

The conference was the last day of the coordinator. The committee has asked the coordinator to look for the conference evaluations. Conference topics very good according to Mary Dennesen. Lisa. Franklin suggested if not too expensive have flash drive made up with the materials for the different workshops.

New Business

Two topics were discussed under new business and assigned to committees to begin discussion. The Nominations and development committee look at size of SILC. This is a topic that was suggested by the US Dept. of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration During their last site visit to Massachusetts that continues to be a challenge.

The Finance committee look at the issue of consultant vs employee. Does the SILC Consultant actually meet the

definition of a consultant vs that of an employee which is now very clearly defined in law? Questions the committee will tackle are; if a change is necessary how would that take place? Who becomes the employer of record?

Other

Ann Shor shared regarding housing the housing bond was re authorized at \$55,000,000 the bond cap is \$4,000,000 for the New Year.

Over the last year there has been growth in the loan program. It could run out of new monies this spring. And people would need to on a waiting list until additional funds are available. The HMLP committee meets at CEEDAC Mike Kennedy and David Correia are participating on behalf of the SILC

At a recent meeting with the Governor's office of Administration and Finance MRC Spoke of additional funding for the TIP/TAP programs. The meeting was also attended by Paul Spooner, Steve Higgins, and Bill Henning long with the leadership from MRC to begin the process of increasing these funds.

Motion to adjourn Steve. Higgins, second Mary Dennesen
MSC passed

Meeting closed at 2:35

Next meeting March 12

June 11

Dec 17