

SILC meeting June 11 2014

Meeting Minutes

Members present

Nanette Goodwin, Judy Roger, Betty King, Lisa Franklin, Nancy Trzcinski, Merle Ferber, Joe Bellil, Filomena Tripp, Mike Kennedy, Steve. Higgins, Bonnie Jones,

Ex-Officios

Ann Shor, Alan Motenko, Rachel Tannenhouse,

Nominees

Franklin Surette, Hang Lee, Matt Pelegrino,

Guest

Sadie Simone, Martina Carroll, Josh Boardman, Josh Mendelsohn, Bill Allan, Amanda Warbois, Paul Spooner

Meeting called to order at 11:15 by Mike Kennedy SILC chairperson

Presentation of March 2012 Minutes,

Motion to accept Minutes as presented Merle Ferber, Second Judy Roger

Motion Carried

Chairs report,

Mike reported he will be attending the NCIL conference in Washington DC at the end of July representing the SILC, He thanks the SILC coordinator and Executive members for their support and guidance through the recent transition.

Motion to accept Merle Ferber, Second Judy Roger.

Motion Carried

SILC member training,

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, presented by Josh Mendelsohn Legal Counsel, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission.

The training was a reminder and a review of the open meeting law and how it applies to councils like the SILC

The purpose of open meeting law is to ensure transparency within the deliberation of public policy and to ensure that the meetings are open and transparent to the public.

The open meeting law applies if there is communication and it is considered a deliberation.

Deliberation can take place in a meeting or via email as long as there is a quorum of members. All meetings must be public including email and any minutes of the meeting.

If a quorum is not present it is not necessary to meet open meeting. Although it is recommended to maintain minutes.

If a quorum is not present any votes or action items may not be able to take place/or acted on in the meeting

Agendas, schedules and logistics are not covered. Unlike communication with the whole council or committee.

Any communication of the council can be made public at any time.

All SILC members must complete a certificate of completion of the Open Meeting Law on the secretary of State's web site. It is

recommended all members retake the online test if a copy of completion is not available in the members file.

Notice of all meetings must be made 48 hours prior to any meeting on the SILC web site. It has been recommended that an agenda also be posted in the same time frames to ensure the public has notice of what will be discussed.

If a quorum is present a council/committee must take minutes, and minutes from previous meetings must be approved. Minutes also must be maintained and stored by SILC and must be made available within ten days of any request.

Minutes do not have all of the attachments used during a meeting but the attachments should be referenced in them.

Public may participate in a meeting of the council but must be recognized by the chair in order to speak/present.

A recent change in the law allows for Remote Participation. Remote participation can be via, Video Phone, TTY, or other means of communication such as Skype. A vote of the SILC must occur prior to allowing remote participation at meetings. The vote to have remote participation does not need to occur at every meeting but can be a vote of the council recorded at a SILC meeting.

Even with Remote Participation, majority of members must be present physically at the meeting in person for a quorum to count.

Remote participation is allowed if the any of the following determining factors are met; personal illness, personal disability, military service, geographic distance.

Keep in mind a quorum must be present at the meeting physically to conduct the meeting.

There is no need to have a quorum of the entire SILC in committee/subcommittee meetings. The way the SILC has conducted business the committee/subcommittee meetings fall under the category of advisory in that the actions/recommendations of the committees/subcommittees are voted on by the SILC body next Quarterly meeting of the SILC.

PIE Committee

Paul Spooner reported that he is filling in on the PIE committee. Martina Carroll who had been appointed to the committee had a change in her position which would not allow participation, Paul will be chairing the committee in an interim position until a new chair is identified and trained.

Most of the committee work this spring has been budget related. The Governors, House and Senate budgets have all been released. They are now in conference committee.

The House budgets did not contain the IL Line item lumping us back into the 4120-4000 line item. The 4120-0200 was included in the Senate version and becomes a discussion during Conference Committee.

A small increase was seen in the Senate also for AHVP vouchers that would assist PWDs transitioning to the community.

There were significant efforts by SILC members and Centers this season working with their legislators. Many organizations reported there was a lot of ambivalence from the state house this year to increase funding.

We still need to act on things like S1869 the bill that would change the AWB rules to include employee work areas into the current regulations? Senator Murray's office is leading this committee. 617-722-1500. Lisa Gentile is the person to speak to in the president office

There is also action to pass a bill which allows spouses to be PCA,s. It would require that state to spend state dollars in the case a spouse is working as a PCA.

Motion to accept committee report as presented Nanette Goodwin,
Second Merle Ferber.

Motion Carried

Finance Committee Report,

Joe Bellil reported that the SILC budget for 2014 was presented to everyone in their packets prior to the meeting.

The budget contained the rollover spoken of at the March meeting and the year to date expenses.

The Finance committee met in May discussing the below action items.

Recommendation are to send SILC coordinator and SILC chair to the National Council of Independent Living Conference in DC

Working on detailed budget for the 2014 State Independent a living Conference, May be requesting additional funding from MRC

Working on reviewing the current contract with the Disability a policy Consortium

Researching within the committee SILC coordinator becoming an employee vs consultant.

MSC to approve finance report as presented Merle Ferber, Second by Betty King MSC

Nominations and Development Committee Report

Steven Higgins reported that the committee has been meeting monthly since the March quarterly meeting.

The SILC Coordinator has Re-established monthly communications with Governor's addressing the issues of SILC Composition.

The SILC Coordinator and Committee Chairperson Met with Governor's in person to review composition and ensure the SILC office and the Governor's office were on the same page.

There are currently 4 people with submitted nominations paperwork. The committee is updating and reviewing the interview process.

In Addition to this, the committee is reviewing/updating outreach materials, brochure, current member/appointee orientation and considering training for each meeting to keep current members up to date.

Motion to accept as presented Betty King, Second Merle Ferber.
Motion Carried

Lunch Reconvened

SPIL committee

Nancy Trzcinski reported a written report on the work of the committee and progress of the SPIL will be presented at the annual meeting in September.

The SPIL committee met in May to review progress of the current SPIL. The SPIL is on track to meet our year one goals and plans. There will be a SPIL committee meeting help in August date yet to be determined.

Nancy noted that at the end of Sept we will already have completed one year of the current SPIL. (Note, it is recommended by SILC

Congress, ILNet, & RSA that the SILC begin planning for the next three year plan approximately 18 month into current SPIL)

MSC to accept report as presented Betty King, second Merle Ferber
MSC Carried

SILC Coordinators Report

Sadie Simone thanked everyone in welcoming here to the SILC over the past few months.

Sadie reported that one of her first tasks was to ensure that all of the committees of the SILC had at least one meeting in the last quarter which was accomplished

She reported she has already visited five of the eleven centers since coming to the SILC and is looking for opportunities to visit the remaining centers throughout the year

She is working on understanding the operations in the SILC office and will be reaching out to all appointees who are currently not members of committees seeking their participation as defined in the SILC's bylaws.

She is in the process of updating the descriptions, definitions, and roles & responsibilities of each committee/subcommittee.

During the quarter Sadie attended the Smooth as SILC training offered by ILRU as well as a SILC membership and nominations training offered by ILNet.

Sadie reported that different from years in the past, the Sept Annual SILC meeting will be held one week after this year's Statewide Independent Living Conference at the library in Natick.

Sadie will be manning a table at the annual Joint Consumer conference with MRC, MCB, MCDHH in Norwood. Asked members attending to join her throughout the day.

Motion to accept as presented Betty King, Second Judy Roger
Motion Carried

Other

Bill Allan from DPC inviter everyone to Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown June 26 for the opportunity to meet with the candidates for Governor.

Joe Bellil mentioned it is a good way to ask the questions that need to be asked and raise the issues of disability to the forefront in these campaigns.

Rachel Tannenhouse talked about the DPH survey on the health needs of persons with disabilities in Massachusetts conducted by DPH this past year. The report and executive summary have been posted on the DPH web site. The hope is people will be able to use the data in the report to assist in any education efforts taking place this year.

Old Business

None presented at this meeting

New Business

Motion presented by Steven Higgins "The SILC allow for remote participation in the quarterly meetings, committee meetings and special task forces of the SILC as an accommodation under the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Open Meeting Law”, Second by
Lisa Franklin
MSC Carried

Motion to Adjourn

2:02 pm Betty J. King

Respectfully Submitted;

Steven Higgins, Secretary

Attachments presented;

Agenda

Minutes of Mach 12, 2014 Quarterly Meeting

SILC Budget

Draft SILC Brochure

SILC 2014 Important Dates

Flyer Annual Statewide ADA Day Celebration