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## Meet and Greet

Tuesday, July 18, 2017  
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
Colorado Springs Independence Center  
729 S. Tejon  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

## General Meeting

Wednesday, July 19, 2017  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Hotel Elegante Conference & Event Center  
2886 South Circle Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Online video conferencing: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/485559720>

ASL Interpreters: Amber Roseborough and Jennifer Lizut-Drager

## Minutes for Wednesday, July 19, 2017

**Purpose of the Meeting:** Council members will discuss and take action on committee proposals that advance the mission of the SILC. The goal of the meeting is to review the content of the committee proposals, discuss proposed action items and vote to ratify committee proposals.

Presiding Chair: Chris Roe, Council Chair-Elect

### Members Present:

- Chris Roe, Council Chair-Elect
- Martha Mason, Council Treasurer
- Steve Heidenreich, Council Secretary
- Lana Eggers, Council Member
- Nancy Jackson, Council Member
- Charlotte Morgan, Council Member
- Rick Newell, Council Member
- Matthew Ruggles, Council Member
- James “Joe” Triplett, Council Member
- Adam Mercier, Youth Committee Intern

### Members Absent:

- Joe Anzures, Council Chair
- Melissa Fishburn, Council Member
- Travis Morgan, Council Member
- Jennifer Scilacci, Council Member
- Bill Wood, Council Member, absent

Meeting was called to order by Chris Roe, Chair-Elect at 9:08 a.m.

### Guests Present

- Marsha Unruh, Independence Ctr, CS
- Jaime Harrell, Independence Ctr, CS
- Sarah Stacey, Independence Ctr, CS
- Bill Edwards, Ctr for Disabilities, Pueblo,
- Joan La Belle, CPWD, Boulder
- Ruth Newell, PCA
- Ian Engle, Director NWCCI
- Peter Pike, DVR, OIL Mgr
- Mike Bertram, NWCCI Mentor
- Cameron Bellamy, CDLE Budget

SILC members who were present introduced themselves and responded to today’s question on the goals of SILC.

Responses:

- Improve services to ensure people with disabilities in CO receive services
- Help disabled with independent living, not only with CILs but community as well. Working with communities to provide services is a win-win for everyone
- Improve independent living in Colorado and improve relationship with state agencies
- Establish and monitor SPIL; work closely with CILs
- Enforce and voice goals of independent living for youth throughout Colorado
- Make sure that the state includes the deaf and hard of hearing community with resources, information, and services; build a strong foundation with a plan to maximize the services and capacity for those who are deaf and hard of hearing
- Support SPIL to look at legislative policy; promote and support the budget to provide more services for those with disabilities
- All-inclusive perspective advocates for independent living
- Move forward with SPIL youth goals

SILC meeting ground rules were reviewed and discussed;

- Public comments are at 1:00 p.m. SILC members cannot respond to any public questions/concerns during the open meeting. However, SILC will make note and respond to any issues/concerns the public presents if contact information is provided on sign-in sheet. Chris Roe, the Chair-Elect will assign the comment/concern to a committee.
- Ground Rules – emphasize listening to each other; raise hand and get acknowledged by Chair;
  - Speak concisely and on topic
  - Speak with a purpose
  - There is no baby in the snow (everything isn't urgent)
  - Be positive, non-judgmental and open to new ideas
  - Use I and we statements
  - One speaker at a time
  - Stay out of the weeds and the swamps
  - Listen for understanding – inquire (ask) before you advocate (persuade)
  - Honor time limits
  - State your “headline” first, then the supporting information as necessary
  - Seek common ground and understanding (not problems and conflict)
  - “Yes...and” thinking (not, “Yes...but”)
  - Have fun!

Approval of the May 17, 2017 Minutes- James “Joe” Triplet made a motion to approve minutes as written; Nancy Jackson seconded the motion; minutes were approved as written

Opening remarks- This meeting is dedicated to Joe Anzures, for all of his service and work on and for SILC; Joe took many members under his wing and guided those members; Joe is recognized for his dedication to SILC, talent, ability, and experience.

### **SILC Administration**

- House Keeping –  
Lana Eggers stated that she attended the May meeting via Zoom and she had difficulty hearing; she proposed a different method to get information to people who wish to attend remotely; after discussion it was noted and recognized there is a problem with using Zoom and hearing the discussion; no solutions were available at this time.

- Coordinator's Report – Nancy Werner addressed several areas for SILC action
  - Website/Social Media/Communication – She is currently updating the SILC website and working on a master calendar for the website; she needs input from SILC on updating site and making future changes
  - Any information on training/ workshop/ conference participation by SILC members needs to be given to her for recordkeeping and tracking of this SPIL goal.
  - All agenda items and committee reports are asked to be submitted two weeks prior to a general meeting. She has added an agenda deadline to the calendar and requests information be provided in a timely manner for the Executive Committee to create the agenda and so information can be distributed to members. If a Committee meets after the agenda deadline that meeting report may be added to the following general meeting packet unless the report information is necessary for SILC to make decision at the current meeting.
  - There has been newly developed newsletter created for the distribution of information received in the SILC Coordinator E-mailbox to SILC members; she needs your feedback as to improve or modify the format. The current format is an E-mail subject table of contents with links to articles and/or content.
  
- Action items to SILC –
  - Per Nancy Jackson as the CO CILs Representative, stated that Director Ian Engle of North West Colorado Center for Independence (NWCCI) was nominated to represent the CILs on SILC effective October 1<sup>st</sup> when Nancy Jackson steps down. SILC members will vote by secret ballot to elect Ian Engle to SILC as the CIL Represent effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. Chair-Elect Chris Roe invited Ian Engle to join SILC at the table since he has been proposed as new SILC CIL representative member.

### **Outstanding Issues**

- “Take Charge” through Peak Parent Presentation- everything has been turned into procurement office; in process.
  
- Proposed changes to the CO SILC By-Laws were distributed to members for review with red-lined mark-up. Members were asked to review the proposed changes for discussion and vote at the September meeting. Any additional proposed changes are to be sent to Nancy Werner prior to September agenda meeting deadline.
  
- Annual APRIL Conference in October– SILC may not be able to send anyone due to tight budget for this fiscal year. SILC may need to reduce the number of general meetings for this fiscal year from six (6) to four (4) to stay within the budget. No schedule changes were made at this time.
  
- Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT), Peer Mentorship Program Event – CCT's goal is to move people out of nursing homes into the community; it will be ending soon. The Manager of CCT is working to establish a legacy to incorporate into regular guidelines for Health Care Policy and Finance a peer mentorship program. Peer mentorship is a benefit under Medicaid; CCT is sponsoring a Peer Mentoring Program Event Summit and requesting SILC's participation and sponsorship; CCT is not asking for financial backing; this program fits within SILC's SPIL goal; however SILC may have too much work right now to fully participate; it was suggested and proposed that maybe CIL Directors participate. No timeline for the summit is currently available, but it may be this fall. SILC and CIL Directors will need more information before a decision can

be made or to move forward. Lana Eggers will send a rough draft of the Peer Mentorship Program to Nancy Jackson, CIL Representative who will distribute the information to CILs for consideration. Lana Eggers stated that CCT is collaborating with different organizations but she is not sure which ones or who may be impacted. It was suggested that CILs be at the table where we have the most impact. Nancy Jackson will reach out to Sam on what is involved in the partnership and then follow-up with CIL Directors.

## **Committee Recommendations and Resolutions**

### **Standing Committees**

- Executive-
  - Chris Roe proposed that a new standing Communications and Media Committee be formed based on a need to work on the website and update site with public policy. Also, SILC needs to connect with other partners;
    - Discussion – establishing a committee with a chair to support active and viable changes, updates and distribute information would be beneficial; the Committee could help standardize and elevate all forms of communication. The Committee could be a good way to interact with youth; the SILC Facebook page is out of date and needs a link to the website; and the website needs a link to SILC's Facebook; Facebook needs to be interactive with everyone and all perspectives, each age group and different perspectives; Nancy Jackson noted from the Youth Committee's recently published White Paper has our youth's mode of communication listed; SILC may not be meeting our youth's form of communication.
    - Martha Mason seconded the motion; motion passed
    - Chris requested a SILC member chair the committee. Adam Mercier, Youth Committee Intern, would like to be on the committee; suggestion to include different age groups to serve on the committee.
  - Need nominations for Chair-Elect and Secretary officer positions for the September meeting election;
  - Steve Heidenreich has agreed to be SRC representative; James "Joe" moved to nominate Steve as SILC's SRC Representative; Charlotte Morgan seconded the motion; the motion carried.
  
- Finance –

Martha Mason as Treasurer and Chair of the Committee is planning on turning over her role to a new chair at the end of her term; the new fiscal year budget commencing on July 1<sup>st</sup> has a shortfall based on budgetary projections, current needs, and allocated funds. The budget includes the following:

  - Projected \$15,000 on NCIL Conference this month
  - Projected \$12,000 on Take Charge to commence later this summer
  - Funds dedicated to Strategic Planning and the Retreat

The Committee offers several proposal options to balance the budget:

  - Reduce the number of meetings from six to four for the SFY of 2017-2018 and the shortfall will be around \$2,000.
  - Reduce the current allocated budgetary funds to Committees
  - Delay the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) or seek additional funding;

- Deaf and HOH Committee has a \$4000 annual budget that may need to be discussed for possible changes.

The Committee stated that SILC does not have the funds to send anyone to any additional conferences this fiscal year.

The budget does include \$800 for new member training with online courses such as “Smooth as SILC.”

The budget may need to be revised further if Part B funds (possibly \$69,000) gets cut at the Federal level.

Motion was made by Steve Heidenreich to accept State Fiscal Year 2017-2018, budget with pending changes to the number of meetings from six to four; Nancy Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Public Policy –
  - Allison Dawson from Disabled Resource Services will be joining the committee
  - There are paper reports for the June 9<sup>th</sup> and July 17<sup>th</sup> meetings in SILC Member’s packet; electronic documents will be sent to those not present today and James “Joe” Triplett;
  - The Committee’s current goal is to improve SILC’s website by gathering information to update information and resources.
  - The Council noted that Charlotte Morgan was requested to testify at the State House.
- Membership – Goal is to recruit new members and vote for officers;
  - Committee recently reviewed pre-applications and interviewed two candidates, Hanna DeSalvo and Christopher “David” Delgarn.
  - Committee made a recommendation to approve the appointment of Hanna. She is interested in joining three committees, Youth, Public Policy, and SPIL.
    - Charlotte Morgan moved to accept Hanna DeSalvo. Steve Heidenreich seconded the motion; motion passed.
  - Committee recommends that Christopher “David” Delgarn’s application be held for a future appointment since he is employed by Connections for Independent Living in Greeley and we do not have any openings for CIL employees at present; he is interested in joining two committees, Youth and Public Policy.
  - CIL Directors voted Ian Engle as their new CIL Representative on SILC to replace Nancy Jackson effective October 1<sup>st</sup>; motion was made by James “Joe” Triplett to accept Ian Engle as the SILC CIL Representative; Steve Heidenreich seconded the motion; motion passed.
  - The Committee is interested in Stewart Lundy filling an open seat; an interview was conducted last fall; he is currently not available but the Committee will follow-up to find out his availability.
  - Currently, the Committee is seeking a 121 rep and applicants with a disability to fill vacancies;
  - Nominations for the election of officers – Nancy Jackson nominated Steve Heidenreich as Treasurer; Steve Heidenreich nominated Charlotte Morgan as Secretary for the 2017-2018 FFY; the Committee will accept other nominations in September; the

Committee is seeking nominations for Chair-Elect; and Nancy Jackson nominated Ian Engle when he becomes a SILC member; Ian agreed to join committees before his term in October commences. Officer elections will be held in September.

- SPIL
  - SPIL goal tracking worksheet was included in meeting packet. We are up-to-date on almost all of our goals. We changed our annual retreat from June to August; this effected our timeline on the due date for Strategic Planning.
  - The Committee needs a method for evaluating the effectiveness of CILs permanent placement in CDLE/DVR/OIL Department, Division, and Office and they will be working with CIL Directors to collect data.
  - Charlotte Morgan will be working on the SPIL training goals;
  
- Youth
  - Committee is in the planning phase for the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF); looking for a campus for next summer (August timeframe) where activities can be conducted and possibly dorm housing provided; a suggestion would be a Denver metro campus; Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Members and Youth Committee Members will be doing a lot of the work to coordinate and formulate the YLF. Julia Beems of UCD may be able to assist with organizing the YLF. She assisted the Deaf and HOH Committee with training on assistive technology.
  - White Paper was distributed to SILC members at the meeting, and electronically to SILC members, CILS, State Agencies, local, regional and national organizations; it is not currently published on the SILC website. The research information may be helpful to move disabled youth forward.

#### **Public Comments –**

- Ian Engle - The purpose of SILC...we are not trying to cure people, we are trying to help people reach goals, services; we should take a leading role with government and service providers with an emphasis on person-centered, non-rehabilitation, non-medical model of independent living as a consumer model. SILC should lead on educating people and bringing awareness as an advocate for freedom of isolation and voice of democracy. SILC should be able to engage in discussions.
- Pauline Nelson- Would like to share information on a disability, multiple chemical, rarely spoken about, Reactive Airway Disease; those with this disability have different reactions to chemicals in their environment; she has respiratory sensitivity to perfumes, odors, scents, chemicals, etc. that causes and escalates her disability to function; chemicals affect her asphaltic reaction; her throat starts to swell, and it feels like battery acid going down her throat. A number of times air fresheners have caused reactions; when this happens she cannot process mentally and has a severe physical reaction; she does not have enough oxygen to get through the day. Her disability restricts where she can go; for example using public restrooms; she cannot go to a grocery store aisle with toiletries due to chemical scents; and she cannot go to public places if it is crowded where someone's perfume will affect her. It's an invisible disability and not on many people's radar. She wants to educate others, advocate for facilities without odors.
- Peter Pike - I would like the SILC to think about how the Office of Independent Living Services can be a resource as you problem solve topics such as the issue of Peer mentoring.

## **Committee Recommendations and Resolutions (continued)**

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

- 501 (C) (3) –  
Forty-two other states have SILCs that are 501 (c) 3; no meeting has been held by this Committee that is currently chaired by Chris Roe. Pro/Con list reviewed in May will be electronically shared with all SILC members.
- Retreat –  
Save the date August 8-9<sup>th</sup>; strategic plan; Lorez will facilitate the 1 ½ day Strategic Plan portion of the retreat; there will be ½ day capacity building. Retreat info will be shared with CIL Directors ASAP for buy in; per James “Joe”, the Retreat will be held at DVR, 2211 West Evans; visitors will need a pass; during the retreat SILC and CIL Directors will work on a six-year strategic plan where 90 % will be a three-year SPIL.
- Deaf and HOH –  
Meeting at Atlantis June 13<sup>th</sup>; Committee determined that provided services were not consistent; looked at gaps and how to improve the number of clients visiting CILs and being served; the Committee goal is to increase the number of clients; educate the community; raise peer group events; and all CIL coordinators together. The platform for all nine (9) CILs is to build up capability and do training for all staff members at each CIL. A video will be made available to CILs of the services to Deaf HOH/Blind community members; Committee will meet quarterly to organize and develop their goals; the Committee’s next meeting is scheduled for all day on October 19<sup>th</sup>; the meeting will focus on assistance planning; some members of Committee have strong feels about different things. ACE members must provide direct services. Grant due end of July that Ian is writing with Stacy Nichols for funding; Ian can include all centers in their grant proposal. Chris Roe wanted to know if NWCCI needed a letter of support from SILC to include with the grant application; Ian will reach out to SILC if he wants a letter; there was discussion on obtaining additional funding from other sources such as the Lions Clubs; per Matthew Ruggles, the Helen Keller Foundation became divided with more services going to blind communities. ASL and Vision Task Force combined on with Deaf/HOH/Blind, so the Colorado Commission is a combination of Deaf, HOH and Blind. SILC requested an electronic version of flier that the Committee distributed at CRID Conference.
- SILC Coordinator workgroup  
Workgroup has not met and they do not expect to meet until there are contract applications to review. Chris Roe met with Steve Anton and Peter Pike, DVR/OIL about the DQ for the contract employee. A major barrier for applicants is the liability insurance that a contractor is required to carry. State rules prohibit SILC from covering contractor insurance. A question was posed on whether a CIL could provide insurance to the contractor. An additional question was whether procurement can offer a workshop on how to apply and Karen Prince stated that this would violate State rules and regulations. A comment was made that the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) has a mission to find employment for people with disabilities. No DQ will be added until barriers are cleared up and SILC has a potential candidate who can apply.

### **Coordinating Activities with Other State Entities**

- SRC Report – nothing to report at this time

- DVR Report – nothing to report at this time
- 121 Report – nothing to report at this time
- Guest Organization: In the future Chris Roe will be coordinating other state agencies to collaborate; Lana Eggers is part of this partnership;

Proposed inviting a representative from the following organizations to future meetings:

- State Advisory Council (SAC) requesting that they come to the SILC September meeting;
- Colorado AgraAbility;
- Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition (CCDC)
- SILC Member, Matthew Ruggles -Colorado Deaf and Hard and Hearing Commission
- Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF), Health First Colorado (Medicaid) add to agenda on a regular basis and SILC Member, Lana Eggers will speak on behalf of this organization;
- Martha requests that organizations invited have an impact throughout the state, not just Denver metro area;
- SILC Member, Lana Eggers -21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures that was passed last year and will impact centers, program integrity, and client protection requires electronic visit information for personal care of services that are requested and provided. Stakeholder meeting in September.
- Employment First Advisory Partnership and DVR – employment for all that includes Department of Education.

Thank you to the Office of Independent Living (OIL) for providing lunch.

### **Center Director's Report**

- Center for People with Disabilities, Boulder – Maria Stepanyan is the new Executive Director and Lisa Nelson is the new Director of Core Services;
- Disabled Resource Service, Fort Collins is now recertified as an IL Center by OIL; looking for Executive Director Nancy Jackson's replacement for when she retires at the end of the year; currently full staffed at main office and satellite office.
- Southwest Center for Independence, Durango, has an annual financial audit, technical assistance audit, and recertification visit in August; and OIB in September; transportation is now up and running and they have hired the management position.
- North West Colorado Center for Independence, Steamboat Springs, is updating their website, working on making it accessible, and doing social media upgrades; Northwest Rural Philanthropy Days will be September 27-29, in Craig; Ian Engle is on the steering committee and Patch Adams will be there; registration is open to event and they are hoping to bring front range funders/foundations to their NW rural area to build an infrastructure for economic development into the region; transportation program has been two-years in-process; they are shifting the program from providing services to assisting clients on getting their own transportation services by helping them figure out how to obtain their own transportation; youth transition services was given a \$25K grant to provide training once per week in the local school district. Inconclusive communities are healthy communities.

Independence Center Show Case – Sarah Stacy and Dixie Herring presented their current programs and achievements of Center’s 30 year history. A few highlights include:

- Home Health Services, Peer Mentor Team, Advocacy Team, Outreach Team
- In 2016, 794 were served from the center
- Special event on anniversary of ADA Act signing will be on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, which is also the center’s 30-year anniversary as a CIL.
- One achievement has been making voting accessible to all and providing disability advocacy class to judges
- The center also has a service animal education program

**Member Feedback Loop** - What can we do differently or better to further the mission of SILC?

- Better coordination with partner agencies in their communities
- Collaboration with communities throughout the state and especially rural area; communication and services in different state regions
- Expand connections through regions of CO; social media makes us a better SILC
- Continue to focus better connections individually and as SILC; advocacy
- So important that community knows services are available; we have got to get the word out there; we as a SILC need to work on this.
- Thanks for formatting today’s meeting and allowing time for philosophy.
- Public Service Announcements (PSA) around the state; have a video to share throughout the state of CILs
- Improvement over the last three years but we have more room for expansion to publicizing SILC; looking for more growth in the upcoming years
- Building exciting things on others suggestions; when we go to a catchment area have an organization/unique partnership do a presentation with their IL Center to learn more about the community that can be used somewhere else. We are missing an opportunity in two-way learning
- Marketing area, get more people to come to SILC meetings; PSA, to encourage people to come to meetings and learn about CILs/SILC. If we do not have a CIL, do more outreach in that area. Talk about the five cores of SILC at each meeting. Get to rural areas.
- Remember partners in the room that SILC is not utilizing. Interested in getting their opinion

### **Closing Remarks**

Thank you all for coming and participating in SILC and the meeting. SILC does a great service to the State. To summarize the feedback, coordination with other organizations and communication seem to be key points shared.

### **Adjournment**

James “Joe” Triplett motioned to adjourn the meeting; Steve Heidenreich seconded the motion; motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.