

General Meet 10-3PM

May 20, 2020



Council Members

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| * Joan LaBelle, Chair | * | |
| Jennifer Scilacci, Vice-Chair | | * Olivia Tonti, Council Member |
| * Chris Roe, Treasurer | | * Sam Jarris, Council Member |
| * Jessie Lorenz, Secretary | | Louise Wilson, Council Member |
| * Steve Heidenreich, Council Member | | * Ty Smith, Council Member |
| * Bill Wood, Council Member | | * Martha Mason, Council Member |
| * Joe Triplett, Council Member | | * Staci Nichols, Council Member |
| * Ms. Morgan Morgan, Council
Member | | |

*** Signifies a voting member**

All members were present except for Ms. Tonti who was excused



Meeting Minutes

10:06AM

Call to Order

Welcome

Introduction to virtual 101

Mr. Pike welcomed everyone to the virtual world of the SILC!

Mr. Pike introduced Zoom and went over ground rules for texting questions and prioritizing video feeds from the sign language interpreters rather than participants.

Agenda Item: Statewide Independent Living Plan

Ms. Labelle introduced Ms. Hansen who explained the outreach process and went over the SPIL draft goals with the group.

The group discussed the SILC resource plan, services provided by the CO Centers and people served. SILC member Mr. Smith requested clarification regarding the requirement that centers serve people with mental health disabilities.

Mr. Wood asked the chair if the group needed to vote on the SPIL today. Ms. Labelle indicated a need to finish the discussion first.

Ms. Lorenz asked about CDLE budget cuts. Mr. Pike and Ms. Mason indicated that only \$600,000 grant for the Mile-High center has been cut from the Independent Living budget.

Ms. Nichols indicated that several public programs have been cut that impact people with disabilities.

We will have to continue to follow the budget process to see how things shake out within CDLE.

Ms. Taylor indicated Housing was a higher need in the survey, yet the SPIL prioritizes employment. Why? Ms. Labelle indicated that employment was more readily achievable within the IL Network. Ms. Taylor indicated that housing is fundamental to employment. Overlooking housing does not provide security needed to get a job.

Mr. Wood supported Ms. Taylor's position and indicated that housing is always at the top of his center's survey.

ACTION: Mr. Wood made motion to accept draft SPIL and recommend it moves forward. Ms. Mason Seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Mr. Wood made motion to form SPIL Evaluation committee. Mr. Roe seconded.

Ms. Labelle wants to form a SPIL evaluation committee that she will chair. Ms. Labelle asked for volunteers to join the committee.

There will be a meeting on May 27 to receive further public comment on the state plan through Zoom.

Agenda Item: SILC UPDATES (Executive Director, SILC Contract with DSE, 501c3, Conflict of Interest update to by-laws)

The SILC Executive Director will primarily be responsible for fiscal oversight and this is reflected in the Scope of work.

Mr. Jarris expressed a concern about the new director having a strong IT background.

Ms. Labelle stated that she would modify the job requirements to include Mr. Jarris's language provided he would email it to her.

ACTION: Mr. Jarris moved to accept the job description. Mr. Wood moved to second.

Motion passed unanimously

As the SILC transitions to a non-profit rather than the Office of Independent Living being a fiscal sponsor, we will change to a cost reimbursement contract. Centers can access a working capital advance to draw down.

The group reviewed the draft scope of work between SILC and CDLE.

Mr. Triplett was concerned about the reimbursement time for SILC expenses to be paid.

Ms. Mason and Ms. Labelle indicated reimbursement processes are better right now than they ever have been.

Mr. Pike explained that within the final budget packet the SILC would have to provide documentation of insurance, board approved budget, invoice template and other items required by nonprofit contractors.

Ms. Labelle is in negotiations with the state to help the SILC re-incumber a \$15,000 donation that initially went to the state.

Mr. Pike indicated that while the contract is being negotiated the issue regarding donated funds held by the state should be able to be resolved.

The \$15,000 is imperative to the SILC budget.

**501C3

NOTE: All SILC members must sign a conflict of interest policy to move forward with 501C3 status.

ACTION: Mr. Wood made a motion to adopt conflict of interest policy. Mr. Roe seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Labelle indicated she would send out the docu-sign link to SILC members.

Members had a discussion regarding nonprofit board members versus council members and things we will need to consider regarding mandatory give/get donations for board members.

Though foundations like to see that all board members of a nonprofit personally donate to the organization, individual SILC members economic status may need to be considered and support provided to members regarding the adoption of a mandatory give/get policy.

12:00PM

BREAK

Agenda Item: CIL Updates

Fort Collins: Ms. Labelle has a new benefits manager and employment specialist on staff.

Ms. Labelle's center is doing nursing home transition, social security, and Medicaid applications remotely. Her center has developed policies for *No Contact* technology loans and returns.

Pueblo: remained open because the center was an essential service. Mr. Wood's center has helped provide 5200 pounds of food. Group support is happening over zoom or phone. Increase of consumer calls because of anxiety. Nursing home transition work continues, and one consumer was able to be relocated outside of the nursing home.

Durango: All staff is working from home. Not planning to return to the office until they can find a reliable supply of cleaning supplies and protective equipment.

It's a difficult time of year because of grant deadlines, but productivity is high. Durango received a grant to do Disability justice and mutual aid. Center staff has helped people in Durango access FEMA housing during the pandemic. Ms. Mason is trying to provide her staff with social and team building activities via Zoom.

Denver: Work has not slowed down; in fact, it is quite the opposite. Atlantis is planning a move in July. Atlantis is monitoring the governor and mayor's stay at home orders to coordinate their re-opening as well as the upcoming move.

Atlantis is part of a pilot program regarding nursing home transition and homelessness that will enroll five people this year.

Colorado Springs: CNA training program grant will fund training for new providers in the field.

Grant for providing talking technologies such as the Echo and Google Home to consumers.

The Independence Center is planning to re-open at 50% staffing but are monitoring trends to ensure safety and best timing.

Greeley: 3,159 phone calls to consumers since the governor's stay at home orders. People's greatest concerns are access to medication and doctors. As time goes on elective surgeries and healthcare maintenance is becoming more of a concern. Mental health related calls have increased. Greeley is partnering with local behavior Health services to better support clients and staff. Support groups are meeting on-line and the independent living intake is now 100% on-line.

Ms. Labelle stated that CDLE has been holding regular conference calls with the independent living center directors to discuss best practices during the pandemic.

She noted that The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) conference has been moved on-line.

Agenda Item: Public Comment

Mr. Pike of the Office of Independent Living Services

Thanked the SILC for continuing their work during the time of Covid-19. "Thank you for your work and your service."

Mr. Smith indicated it is great the centers have adapted virtually but is concerned with how quickly telemedicine is evolving.

“Speaking as a mental health advocate, a lot of our strength comes from being in person and being face to face.”

Agenda Item: Financial Report

SILC needs to spend down \$8700 before June 30.

Conferences moving on-line and less travel means we will have budget savings.

i.e. SILC has \$30,000 left in budget for meetings.

SILC spent 92% of operations budget.

There is still money in the budget for a retreat, but safety concerns are still high for holding an in-person retreat and so it continues to be on-hold.

Ms. Taylor asked if unspent SILC funds were going to be redistributed to the centers per the agreed upon formula.

Ms. Mason and Mr. Ingle stated that this was their understanding as well.

When centers agreed to fund SILC with chapter B funds, the agreement stated that unspent B funds would be distributed back to the centers.

Ms. Mason expressed concern that without the SILC and CDLE providing proper notice centers are at risk of leaving money for IL services on the table.

Mr. Ingle indicated he would need notice to spend funds and suggested 45 days' notice.

Mr. Pike stated that the spend down date will be contingent if we are talking 2019 Part B funds (spent by sept 30, 2020) versus 2020 Part B funds (spent by sept 30 2021)

ACTION: Ms. Mason moved to accept the budget summary. Mr. Smith seconded

Passed.

Mr. Wood Abstained.

Mr. Roe proposed next year's budget

\$48,000 from CDLE

\$65,000 roll-over.

Mr. Wood asked about the \$2400 benefit number. Ms. Labelle stated it was for a \$200 cafeteria plan for the new director.

Mr. Wood asked about liabilities including vacation and paid time off. Ms. Labelle reminded us that the ED position is slated to be a contract job rather than staff for the first year.

Action: Mr. Jarris moved to accept next year's budget and Ms. Mason seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item: Youth Committee; Youth Leadership Forum

The DD Council and CDLE entered into an inter-agency agreement for Youth Leadership Forum.

Pre employment transition services funds were allocated to the YLF.

8 planning meetings were held between Dec. and April.

Ms. Labelle and Ms. Scilacci decided not to hold the YLF this year.

Ms. Lorenz, Mr. Ingle, Mr. Wood, and Mr. Jarris were supportive of the decision to cancel.

Mr. Ingle framed the situation like this: postponed not canceled.

This is an opportunity to develop the youth advocates.

Mr. Roe indicated we ought not lose our momentum. Ms. Nichols indicated that Colorado Western Slope University could host a YLF.

Agenda Item: Membership, Public Policy and Communication Committees

Outreach committee has a new member.

Public Policy Committee will begin to meet in July. The committee will begin to find people with disabilities to participate in boards and commissions throughout Colorado.

Ms. Morgan is trying to interview a candidate that is not following up with the membership committee. She is having a hard time getting called back. Mr. Pike said he could help.

Agenda Item: Partner Updates (SRC/DVR/DSE)

State Rehab Council

Ms. Scilacci updated the group about a survey that will be sent out from the Rehab Council, watch your inbox!

Applications are down since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Rate of pay has increased.

CDLE

Federal Seeking Employment and Keys to Economic Self-sufficiency.

Reduce social isolation, increase income, target 18-60, likely eligible for Social Security.

Individuals will work with an employment specialist to get a job.

July is when recruitment will start.

Mr. Smith is chairing the consumer committee and is interested in talking to folks who want to learn more.

3:00PM

Adjourn