

**Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council
(MSILC)
Full Council Meeting Minutes
199 E. Montgomery Ave, Rockville, MD 20850
Glenview Conference Room**

June 12th, 2017

Attendance:

Present: Tony Lawson-Chair, Denise Thomas- SILC ED, Laurie Elinoff, Richard Moore-Treasurer, Emma Byrnes (phone), Ray Smith (phone), Joyce Brooks (phone), Jennifer Eastman, Katie Collins- Ihrke, Tom Laverty, Wilberto Flores, Magtanggol (Bong) Delrosario (phone).

Absent: None

Guest: Pamela Ford (SMCIL), Lidiya Ford (SMCIL), Sarah Sorensen (INNOW), Dr. Katherine Jones (BACIL), Jamey George (Freedom Center). Karen Anderson- Scott.

Welcome Remarks: Meeting began at 11:01am. Tony Lawson, Council Chair led the meeting with welcome remarks and introduction. Both members and guests introduced themselves.

Executive Committee Report:

Attendance Log; Roll Call was taken and recorded.

Review and Approval of 03/13/17 and 04/19/17 Full Council Meeting Minutes; Both members and guests reviewed Full Council Meeting Minutes from 03/13/17 and 04/19/17. Tony made a motion to approve the minutes with the inclusion of correcting the spelling of Katie's last name and listing Pam as present during the March meeting, Laurie seconded, motion was carried and both meeting minutes were approved.

Chair Report:

- **Trump Budget Report for IL;** Tony reviewed the impact of the President's proposed budget regarding Independent Living services. According to the budget, if the proposal is approved, it could mean possibility of losing most of the Part B funding. This funding covers both the SILC and most of the Centers operational cost. The SILC members were provided a copy of projected figures of the Trump budget proposal. It was further stated, that if this budget is approved, that would mean that the structure of SILCs will change. The idea is to merge SILCs with the Traumatic Brain Injury Network and the Developmental Disabilities Council.

- **Newly Appointed Members:** The Chair welcomed three newly appointed members, Joyce Brooks, Wilberto Flores and Magtanggol (Bong) Delrosario to the Council. Each new member was given time to introduce themselves and say a few words.
- **NCIL Conference:** According to record, eight MSILC members were registered for the 2017 NCIL Conference. The Conference will take place in Washington DC during the month of July.
- **International Guest:** The Chair happily announced that MSILC would have the honor of hosting international guests from both Japan and South Africa. Tony thanks Dr. Katherine Jones (BACIL) and Lidiya (SMCIL) for graciously allowing us to visit their Centers. It was decided that MSILC would host the guests for two days, just after the NCIL Conference. It was explained that the SILC has volunteered to provide the guests a view of American culture and how individuals with disabilities are treated.

Center for Independent Living Report (Katie Collins-Ihrke): Katie stated that she thought that it was a good time to discuss a possible change in our DSE. During April, a letter was circulated among the Centers and the SILC Chair. This letter was created as a Letter of Intent to further the process of making a transition. The majority of the CILs had already signed on to the letter. Katie had made a motion to vote to have the Chair of the Council also sign the letter. Tony asked how many members of the Council gave input into the letter before when it was created? The Councilmembers were asked how much time they would need to review the letter and make edits, so that we may vote to sign it? Richard asked if language could be added to the document to show that we are open to considering the possibility of transitioning. It was suggested to move the vote to be an agenda item at the next IL Partner meeting on June 26th, this would give individuals time to review and comment on the draft letter. It was agreed to forward the draft letter to the IL Partners to get feedback and to make edits. The motion was tabled til the Partners meeting. Tony stated that he first he wanted meet with John Brennan, Carol Beatty and DORS to discuss the possible transition. Dr. Katherine Jones suggested that both the SILC and Center Directors join the meeting with MDOD and DORS.

Public Engagement Committee (Tony Lawson):

- **DAV Conference:** Tony thanked Dr. Katherine Jones for providing a very informative presentation on behalf of all the Maryland CILs. MSILC had received a good turnout at their exhibit table from the disable veterans. Most of the veterans within the community have no ideal of about the IL Network and the services that we provide. Overall, this was an excellent outreach experience; we will connect with the DAV again to take part in the convention next year. Tony

recognized Laurie for making the initial contact to make this outreach event possible. Denise seconded Tony's statement, then thanked Laurie, Dr. Katherine Jones and Tony for doing a fabulous job. Special acknowledgement was given to Dr. Katherine Jones and Tony for their presentation during the conference, which covered all areas of the Independent Living.

- **Sight's Vision Disability & Senior Talk Radio:** Both Denise and Ray were invited to be guests on a national radio show. Both discussed topics ranging from the independent living (IL) philosophy, the structure of the IL Network, and the duties of both the SILC and the Centers. This was another wonderful outreach experience arranged by Mr. Smith.
- **Prince Georges Disabilities Expo:** This event was hosted by Maryland Capital Park and Planning Commission. Ray had attended on behalf of the Council. Participation in this event afforded the Council the opportunity to network with other organizations and discuss services being made available to the disabled community.

Break: 11:35am to 11:50am.

Outcomes Committee Report (Laurie Elinoff & Emma Byrnes):

- Laurie provided an overview on the Youth Transition training, which was hosted by the SILC on June 8th. Many individuals attending the training expressed that it was wonderful and brought more ideas for fundraising and resources for youth services. Tony went over a brief survey report, which was included in handouts for review. According to the report, there was a high percentage of favorable comments given regarding the facilitation provided by the presenters.

Staff Report (Denise Thomas- ED):

- Due to a conflict in scheduling, Tony will be filling in as the SILC representative on the Council on the SRC (State Rehabilitation Council). His application is in under process for approval.
- Good news is the MSILC members are actively attending trainings and conferences. All the newly appointed members applied to participate in the "Smooth as SILC" training offered by ILRU. It was mentioned that when a member attends a training on behalf of the SILC, they are to provide an oral or written report summarizing what information they've garnered from attending the training.

Public Comments:

- Sarah, ED of INNOW, stated that the presentations during the full Council meetings were very informative and highlighted some services within the community that she was not familiar with. She went further to suggest that the SILC members consider having the individual CILs to present during a full Council meeting about their services they provide and new developments within each CIL. She also asked the Council to consider rotating the meetings among the Centers.
- A suggestion coming by Pamela, Deputy ED of SMCIL, since both BACIL and SMCIL have new Executive Directors, it may be of interest to learn more about the SILC. The CIL Directors were invited to attend the SILC Orientation for new members.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.

APPROVED 09/11/17