

STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
November 5 & 6, 2008

Wednesday, November 5th

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by SILC Chairperson-Bill Marsh.

Members in attendance: Bill Marsh, Carol Ann Marsh, Dorothy Cronin, Ann Picot, Blue Picot, John Culhane, Dianne Culhane, Shane Moore, Nora Sullivan, Ken Hoff, Lee Beidleman & Woody Absher.

Members Absent: Pamela Hall & Angela Tuner.

Guests in attendance: Barb Dobberthien, WILR Deputy Director, Kim Gibson, WSIL's IL Program Manager & Ann Bowline, Real Time Transcriptionist.

Agenda Review: All members of the Council agreed that changes were pending on attendance of a WSIL representative who was not present at this time. Discussion took place as to whether we had received any direction in the steps to be taken regarding the communication between Jim McIntosh and the Attorney general.

No advice was given in writing but that another letter was to be sent in order to enforce compliance with SPIL or termination of contract would take place. It was requested at this point in the meeting that we stay in line with the Agenda in order to stay focused and give both the secretary and Anne our Transcriptionist an opportunity to report items discussed in an efficient manner. The Chair agreed and moved the meeting forward.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 12/13, 2008, meeting were reviewed. The name of the person making the motion to approve the 5/22&23/08 meeting minutes be added to the 8/12&13/08 minutes. **Carol Ann Marsh motioned, and John Culhane seconded, to approve the 8/12&13/08 meeting minutes with name addition. Motion approved.**

Budget Report: Ann & Woody reported that there had been two additional payments within the final budget figure;

1. Travel payment to the Vice Chair-Dorothy Cronin
2. Expenses paid to John and Diane Culhane.

All other details of the budget were enclosed in the final package sent to each member of the Council and that our new balance for the year 2009 had started on October 1st.

For the information of all members Dorothy explained that I&E stand's for Innovation and expansion. Request by the Chair that the budget be accepted and **Blue Picot motioned, and Dorothy Cronin seconded, to approve the 7/31/08 budget report. Motion approved.**

At this point the meeting was interrupted by the arrival of Kim Gibson, the Independent living Program Manager for Wyoming Services for Independent Living.

Welcomed by Bill Marsh she was asked to introduce herself to members and the meeting continued.

SILC Meeting Minutes (Continued)

OLD BUSINESS:

WILR: Ken Hoff presented highlights from the full report and narrative, which were included in the SILC packet that was mailed out. Ken highlighted the VIP and emphasized the fact that consumers served in the year 2008 were down by 27 percent, this was a significant number, but due to the fact that there were several vacancies in the VIP program they had been unable to accommodate more consumers. The vacancies have now all been filled and expectation of more consumers to return to the program. Ken then explained the development of an outcome based survey, (contained in the packet of each member), which will outline everything that is provided by CIL including, Independent Living, Visually Impaired Program, Transportation, Consumer Directed Care and any other service provided. This began October 1st. and Ken explained the full process of the program in detail to members so that everyone had full knowledge of the surveys returned by consumers and the breakdown recorded by the secretary and brought to the membership at each quarterly meeting of SILC. This is still in the trial phase but if proven to be successful will be part of the requirement for the Federal Annual Report, the 704 report for Independent Living as well. Further discussion on the surveys took place but the summary was that although this may appear to be extra work within the duties of SILC, it was necessary to demonstrate to those funding the Centers for Independent Living that the funding is being used both effectively, and wisely, proving it to be worthwhile.

WSIL: Kim, WSIL representative, reported ... On the advocacy issues, WSIL and individuals with disabilities, still requests a SILC progress report, its own self-evaluation and project goals so that they can be distributed to consumers and advocates. With regards to the delicate situation pending with WSIL, it was recognized by the membership that Kim Gibson would perhaps not be able to provide all of the answers to questions posed regarding WSIL but she advised about the Councils that members of WSIL sat on and the conferences that they would be attending. Kim reported that on the:

Consumer directed care program 183 consumers were served.
The Rural Transportation program 193 individuals were served
The total number of consumers served by all the programs was 751

Staff work out of Lander, Rock Springs, and Powell with Worland and Afton served as outreach centers. Two new Board members, Linda Roller and Mary Anne Boyle now participate in the Initial Board Training and continue with training as their schedule permits.

Following a short break, the Council discussed the letter sent to WSIL's Board of Director's Chair, Joe Thomas, and was assured by Kim that Joe Thomas had intentions of being a regular participant on the SILC Council and in his absence Kim would attend those meetings, this would ensure that compliance was being met within the Centers for Independent Living throughout the whole of Wyoming.

Kim was thanked for her attendance and for her report. It was suggested that within the next quarter we see some positive action from WSIL in working together as an effective service and be able to feel confidence that we are all working in compliance in accordance with Federal Law.

A determination to with hold action on WSIL required a vote be taken.

Carol Ann Marsh motioned, and Blue Picot seconded, that another letter be sent to the WSIL Board of Directors informing them of our latest discussion. Motion approved.
John Culhane proposed that action on WSIL be tabled until the SILC's next scheduled meeting. Ken Hoff noted that he abstained from voting on the motion.

SILC Meeting Minutes (Continued)

PROGRAM UPDATES:

VIP: Ken stated that the VIP report was included with WILR's report.

Transportation: See Quarterly Report

BIAW: Dorothy gave a list of activities that the BIA had been involved with. The start of the new fiscal year was from October. The members of the council were advised about the different areas of the community on which they served and the difficulties that they faced placing those with brain injuries into employment and in other areas within the community.

Meetings had taken place in Gillette, Sheridan, VA Hospital in Cheyenne and in Riverton. Training and conferences attended were reported upon and the valuable work which continues to grow in the State of Wyoming.

P & A Report: Lee reported ...the fiscal year had just finished and that case numbers were up approximately 25 percent of what they were in the previous year. Lee advised that 23 cases that they actually found merit with as compared with only 13 in the previous year, and 53 requests for help compared to 41 cases in the previous year. A number of those clients served received information and referral only, so the comparison was made with either good or bad, depending on how the council wanted to look at it. There is definitely a greater volume of people asking for direction and help and Lee contributed that to the outreach program. Lee talked about the work, which had been done with County Clerks regarding assistance with the voting system and the help which they were able to give.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SRC Report: Dorothy reported that everyone was present for the last meeting. Their next meeting was to be held the following day. Further details of that meeting to be released at a later date.

CIL Relations: A meeting took place between Shane Moore and Woody Absher on September 10th at DVR in Cheyenne to review several client service records as outlined in the SPIL. Each case service record will be reviewed by the DVR program consultant to assure compliance with standards set fourth in Section 725 of the re-authorized Rehab Act.

Legislative: Ken nothing further to report at this time.

Marketing: The SILC discussed the need and Blue lead the Council in a brainstorming exercise.

Nomination/Membership: Nora/Woody stated that Blue Picot had received his appointment letter, from the Governor; ... also, they reminded members up for re-appointment of the SILC they need to submit a letter requesting re-appointment. The letter should be sent to DVR because it's a SILC requirement. Nora will respond accordingly.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE:

MEGA: Carol Ann/Bill Marsh, Shane Moore along with Dianne/John Culhane stated that attendance was down as the Special Olympics were in town. Legal Advice along with banking, and employment were the main topics covered.

The meeting recessed until 8:30 a.m. Thursday 6th 2008.

STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (Continued):

Thursday, November 6th

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by SILC Chairperson-Bill Marsh.

Members in attendance: Bill Marsh, Carol Ann Marsh, Dorothy Cronin, Ann Picot, Blue Picot, John Culhane, Dianne Culhane, Shane Moore, Nora Sullivan, Ken Hoff & Woody Absher.

Members Absent: Pamela Hall & Angela Tuner.

Guests in attendance: Barb Dobberthien WILR Deputy Director, Kathy Matson, ADRC Program Director, Kim Gibson, WSIL's IL Program Manager, Kevin Kraft & Ann Bowline, Real Time Transcriptionist.

SILC/SRC Meeting: Bill began the meeting by reporting on a phone call he had received. The call came the evening before, on November 5th, and was from WSIL Board Chair Joe Thomas. They discussed the changes in WSIL and he apologized for his absence at the meeting that morning. SRC will organize their calendar for the year 2009 and perhaps we could have our first quarter meeting in Cheyenne as well. This was discussed and all agreed.

IL process at local level: Kathy Matson, program director reported on the ADRC she works in Converse and Natrona counties. Kathy then gave a presentation: the UW 3 years ago gave a grant for \$300,000 and contracted this work to be carried out through WILR. They have provided brochures and worked with the Dept of Family Services and the Social Administration. Two major training areas over the past year have been: Medicare and SS in Denver. Kathy was thanked for the work that they undertaken and praised for the success that they are achieving to date.

New Business:

WILR-DVR Proposal & SILC Assistance: – Discussion took place as to how to support the work that the CIL's carry out in the community. Ken suggested that we contact our Legislatures representatives with the view to high lighting the work that is done and the money that it saves the state. Over the past 10 years IL's have increased their workload by 90% and Federal dollars have increased by 0%. Ken stressed that it is not only about expanding services but by maintaining programs and having the resources to keep staff as they are underpaid compared with the industries around. People fall through the cracks everyday, as they don't know about the services that are sometimes there to help them. Funding was desperately needed to cope so that we need to impress upon the right people that this is money that is needed to make programs work. With just the Project out program we are saving the State over 5.5 million dollars in Medicaid costs. And the work goes on, however Ken emphasized the problem with funds drying up. He would provide information that the SILC members could use when approaching their representatives to ensure uniformity and accuracy.

SILC Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Proposed By-law Changes – Bill requested that Dorothy read each proposed bylaw change and they were voted on, separately;

1) Blue Picot motioned, and Carol Ann Marsh seconded, to approve the bylaw change “A CIL Director may NOT serve as SILC Chairperson or Vice Chair. This may, or appear to, create a possible conflict of interest”. (ARTICLE VI (G)). **Motion approved.**

2) Ann Picot motioned, and Ken Hoff seconded, to approve the bylaw change “Any SILC member completing their first, full 3 year, term may request re-appointment to serve a second term. The Council member must submit a letter requesting re-appointment as SILC member”. (ARTICLE III (B)(4)) **Motion approved.**

3) Carol Ann Marsh motioned, and Nora Sullivan seconded, to approve the bylaw change “A Council member’s spouse, or care giver (The Council tries to gain information on a wide array of IL issues. Therefore, a Council member’s spouse, or other care giver, may apply for SILC membership” (ARTICLE III (2)(d)(v)) **Motion approved.**

4) Shane Moore motioned, and Dorothy Cronin seconded, to approve the bylaw change “Notice of meetings, copies of any reports and other material to be acted on shall be in writing, either hard or electronic copies, and shall be provided to Council members at least 10 days prior to the meeting” (ARTICLE IV (A)) **Motion approved.**

5) Blue Picot motioned, and Carol Ann Marsh seconded, to approve the bylaw change “Notice of special meetings shall be provided, as in (A) above or by phone, to Council members not less than 10 days prior to the meeting date with the purpose of the meeting being stated” (ARTICLE IV (B)) **Motion approved.**

6) Ann Picot motioned, and Nora Sullivan seconded, to approve the bylaw change “Prepare CIL’s consumer satisfaction surveys for review by the SILC Executive Committee and the results are shared with SILC members” (ARTICLE VI (H)(3)(e)) **Motion approved.**

SILC Meeting Dates: Bill reiterated that two SILC meeting dates will be set in the same location/dates as the SRC. However, these will be set after the SRC November meeting.

The SILC’s FFY-08 2nd quarter meeting scheduled for February in Cheyenne: Exact date and location TBA.

SILC meeting adjourned at 10.55am.