

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
Executive Committee
Minutes of August 21, 2009

Committee Members Present

Edward Myers, Chair
Randy Collins, Vice Chair
Gene Heppard, Treasurer
E. Mari Herrera-Daniels, Vice Treasurer
Rudy Buchanan, Secretary

Members Absent:

Staff

Tony DiRienzi – Executive Director
Donna Powers – Program Coordinator

Edward Myers Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM in the SILC conference room at 5025 East Washington #214, Phoenix, Arizona.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Rudy Buchanan motioned to approve the minutes of 06-10-09. Seconded by E. Mari Herrera-Daniels. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.*

FINANCIALS:

The financial reports for the year ending June 30, 2009 and the month ending July 31, 2009, were reviewed. (See handouts – Financials).

Year End-June 30, 2009

- Gene Heppard reviewed the June 30, 2009 year ending reports.
- Tony DiRienzi explained the difference in revenue columns "budget," "actual," and "balance." The original revenue amount of \$367,190 in the budget column was a projection. The \$323,109 in the actual year-to-date column represents what we received. The amount of \$44,081 is the difference between the original projection and what we received. It reflects an amount that SILC did not received – it is a shortfall.
- Tony also noted SILC did not need \$1500 of the in kind interpreter services that the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of hearing made available to us.

Current Financials – July 31, 2009:

- Gene Heppard reviewed the current reports for the period ending July 31, 2009.
- An independent audit of the SILC financial records is scheduled for the last week in October.

Revised budget line item Unrestricted funds:

- Tony DiRienzi reported the SILC accountant recommended that we not insert a footnote for the SILC carry over funds on our reports. The accountant said a footnote for carry over funds is not a usual accounting format.
- Tony requested a line item revision on the original budget for FY 2010. He asked for a motion to move \$2,500 of Unrestricted Expenses from Programs to Operating. He inadvertently placed that amount in the wrong budget category when he submitted the original budget.

Gene Heppard motioned to approve the financial report for the year ending June 30, 2009, and the current financial report ending July 31, 2009, as well as revising the unrestricted budget for FY 2010 to move \$2,500 from Programs to Operating. Seconded by Rudy Buchanan. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER POSITION:

- Tony DiRienzi introduced Daniella Yaloz, the Community Organizer for the Just Vote Arizona Disability Coalition. Daniella provided a summary outline of her previous professional experience with particular attention to special projects. She also presented her preliminary plans and vision for JVA.
- Tony discussed several of the JVA activities Daniella will be responsible to coordinate. They included messaging, revising the website and listserv, and publishing a quarterly newsletter. The listserv will focus on advocacy alerts, E blasts, and voting activities.
- Tony is seeking to increase coalition funding to support her position full time. It is currently a ½ time position.
- One of the goals of JVA is to identify and recruit people in each county and establish a statewide advocacy network. The focus of the network will be to promote voter registration and Get out the Vote strategies.
- CIL Directors will be meeting next month to discuss an IL Summit. The two primary Summit tracks will be on voting and employment/financial stability.

SILC EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TRANSITION:

- Sharon Engelhardt's last day is scheduled to be October 31, 2009.
- Linda Jane Austen was hired as the new Executive Assistant. She has considerable experience working in the nonprofit arena. In addition to strong organizational skills, her experiences include, grant writing, creating newsletters and promotional materials, event planning among other things. Edward Myers and Randy Collins both met Linda and concurred that she is a great choice.
- Linda starts on October 1, 2009 and will work along side Sharon until October 31.
- To honor and recognize Sharon's service to SILC, Tony scheduled a reception for her on Friday, October 23.

ALTERNATIVE REVENUE STREAMS:

- Tony DiRienzi discussed some his ideas for new SILC revenue streams. They included;
 - A Disability Awareness and Etiquette training contract with Veolia transportation in Tempe that Donna Powers developed and will administer. The contract payment to SILC will be approximately \$6800 in FY 2010. SILC will explore contracting with other statewide transit agencies to provide a similar training.
 - Tony is developing a business plan to market products that will present disability related messaging. The messages are intended to be humorous and "in your face." He is exploring reactivating the SILC for profit Subsidiary Corporation. The Subsidiary Corporation has been in abeyance since 2004. A business plan along with a corresponding budget for the project will be presented to Executive Committee as soon as it is completed.

IL SUMMIT AND OTHER EVENTS:

- Tony DiRienzi stated that an Independent Living Summit is planned for September 2010 in Phoenix.
 - Possible locations are being researched.
 - The goal is to have 350 attendees at the event.
 - The IL Summit projected budget is \$120K.
 - The CIL Directors plan to contribute a portion of their ARRA to support the event. Their individual contributions are based on a formula related to their respective ARRA allocations.
 - SILC will focus on the voting track.

- SILC is collaborating with AZTAP to coordinate a Symposium that will focus on the design and lifestyle aspects of assistive technologies (AT) and DME.
 - The desired outcome of the symposium is to enhance self esteem issues and expand the cultural image of people with disabilities.
 - Linda Jane Austen was hired as the project consultant until she officially becomes a staff of SILC. Her consultant fee is expected to be approximately \$3000. AzTAP and SILC have agreed to split that cost 50/50. Tony asked the committee to approve up to \$1500 to pay the consultant's fee.

Gene Heppard motioned to spend up to \$1500 for the consultant fee. Rudy Buchanan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

AURORA:

- Tony DiRienzi presented an overview of the Aurora Foundation and their Leadership Training program. He offered Aurora space and other logistical support in the SILC office so they could establish a presence in the Phoenix area. The Aurora Foundation is currently based in Tucson. He stated that his offer is contingent upon the review and approval of the council.
- Tony stated he supports the idea of providing transition leadership training to young women with disabilities. He told the committee that Aurora intends to market its training program. There are three tracks involved in the Leadership Training which can be presented singularly or in combination. Aurora has not yet established a pricing structure for its program.
- The Executive Committee wants a representative from the Aurora foundation to present its programs to the full SILC Council at the next quarterly meeting. They want to get feedback, especially from the women on the council.
- Based on the success of the Women's Outreach Forum, Donna Powers may be good person to get involved in assessing Aurora's program.
- Donna was asked to discuss the plans for women's outreach during FY 2010.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

- Tony DiRienzi stated that SILC purchased new computers using funds that were encumbered in the last fiscal year but were not expended until this

past month. Two laptops and a new computer were acquired. The new computer is for the Executive Assistant work station.

- Preparations are underway for staff transitions.
- Tony has been involved in many meetings especially with the CILs in the development of their application for ARRA funds.
- Tony will attend the National Organization on Disability and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (NOD/FEM) Conference in Philadelphia in September 2009.
- All Council reappointments and two new appointments were approved by the Governor. Jamie Snyder and Sonya Perduta-Fulginiti are the new appointments.

QUARTERLY MEETING AGENDA ITEMS (SEPT. 17, 2009):

- SILC Staff Transition
- New board members
- Aurora
- JVADC

NEXT MEETING/AGENDA:

- The next Executive Committee meeting will be 1:30 PM October 16, 2009
- Agenda items to include:
 - A presentation from ALTCS by Alan Schafer
 - SILC Committee reports
 - Financials
 - An introduction of Linda to the council
 - Update on the IL Summit
 - Update on the ADA Coordinators meeting
 - The audit and anything relating to other reports

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Congressman Ed Pastor's recommended to President Obama's office that Fernando Cruz be appointed to National Council on Disability.
- Ed Myers submitted his application to participate National Council on Disability Summit

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: None

ADJOURNMENT: Rudy Buchanan motioned to adjourn. Gene Heppard seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm.

Prepared by: Donna Powers_____SILC staff

Reviewed by: Tony DiRienzi/Edward Myers III_____SILC ED/SILC Chair