

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
Executive Committee
Minutes of April 2, 2010

Committee Members Present

Rudy Buchanan, Secretary

Guests:

Bob Michaels
Phil Pangrazio

Teleconferencing:

Ed Myers, Chair
Randy Collins, Vice Chair
Gene Heppard, Treasurer
E. Mari Herrera-Daniels, Vice Treasurer

Staff

Tony DiRienzi – Executive Director
Linda Jane Austen – Director of Administration

Ed Myers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:38am in the SILC conference room at 5025 East Washington #214, Phoenix, Arizona. Invited guests, Bob Michaels and Phil Pangrazio were introduced.

RSA Contract/Budget:

- Tony DiRienzi reviewed AZRSA's email that presented an outline of their intent to handle SILC funding differently in the upcoming SPIL, including proposed budget cuts and how they as the DSU intend to disburse Part B monies through a competitive bidding process.
- Bob Michaels clarified that the law gives the state responsibility for administering Part B funds, but that they must follow the guidelines as set forth in the SPIL and that the SILC contract with AZRSA is contingent on the SPIL.
- Tony reminded the Committee that both AZRSA and SILC must jointly agree in the SPIL how Part B monies will be allocated; committee members asked whether AZRSA thoroughly understands this relationship.
- Ensuing questions by members of the Executive Committee included whether the proposed changes are taking place across the board with other AZRSA contracts or if they apply only to SILC, are other organizations being held to the same standards or are people with disabilities and is SILC being singled out, does AZRSA have the

authority to cut money designated for the SILC, and why are we doing this with just Part B? Additionally, the CFRs indicate Part B monies can go directly to the SILC but that it seems AZRSA does not agree with that interpretation.

- In recognition of the State budget crisis and SILC's interest in abiding by the rules, it was agreed that SILC's action plan would be as follows:
 - Committee members will contact colleagues at other organizations to assess if these proposed contractual changes are across the board or targeting SILC and people with disabilities specifically, as well as, if their organizations are subject to the same standards with AZRSA. SILC will base its actions/reactions on the outcome of these conversations.
 - The Executive Committee will draft a letter addressed to AZRSA, with copies distributed to other interested parties, outlining SILC's negotiating position.
 - That position will include:
 - Concern over the outcome of the AZRSA's CyberCil and Cochise contract experience which were subject to the procurement and bidding process with a less than desirable conclusion to date
 - Because AZRSA is proposing to bid out Part B funds, SILC needs to oversee and provide editorial comment on the specifications and terminology in RFP's/RFB's to assure that bidders are qualified to proceed
 - Careful construction of the 2011-13 SPIL
 - Clarification of terminology and its implications
 - Summary and justification of what SILC needs

SPIL: Tony reminded the Committee that time is of the essence due to the fact that a signed SPIL must be submitted by June 30, 2010 and ramifications of not doing so extend statewide to each of the five CILs. The committee asked SILC staff to schedule a special full council meeting sometime in May to review and discuss the SPIL.

State Vendor's List: In light of the possibility that SILC may be required to bid for programs and services,

Randy Collins moved that SILC have the authority to apply to the State to be added to the State Vendors List. E. Mari Herrera-Daniels seconded and motion carried.

Next Meeting: April 27, 2010 at 1:00pm in the SILC Conference Room

Announcements: Tony reported that the grant submitted to the Phoenix Transit Authority by Donna Powers has successfully gone through the first round and SILC is being called in for the interview process. Accolades go to Donna for a well-written proposal.

Motion: Gene Heppard moved to adjourn the meeting; Rudy Buchanan seconded and meeting ended at 12:55pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Linda Jane Austen