

Statewide Independent Living Council
Full Council -Quarterly meeting
Minutes of June 21, 2007

Council Members Present

Donna Powers, Chairperson
Edward L. Myers, III, Vice Chair
Gene Heppard, Treasurer
Kim March-Force, Vice Treasurer
Fernando Cruz
Ken Edwards
Ted Garland
Ken Jacuzzi
Lavern Lizer
Naomi Ortiz
Katharine Levandowsky, Ex-Officio

Council Members Absent

Randy Collins, Secretary
Marquita Beene
Sherri Collins
Kathryn Robins (absent with regrets)

Staff

Tony DiRienzi
Sharon Engelhardt

Guests

Mike Blatchford, Ez Bachand, Jay Dashefsky and Liz Toone

Welcome/ Introductions:

- Donna Powers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM at the Wingate Hotel 2520 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, Arizona. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes: *Ken Jacuzzi motioned to approve the minutes of March 1, 2007.*

Seconded by Gene Heppard. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Consent List: *Edward Myers III motioned to approve the June 21, 2007 Consent*

List. Seconded by Lavern Lizer. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Current Financials

- Gene Heppard, Treasurer, presented the month ending May 31, 2007 financial statements (See statements).
- Tony DiRienzi mentioned that SILC met with the accountant. SILC will be revising our accounting software (Peach Tree) to include an accounts receivables item into our chart of accounts and financial reports. The financial statements and the balance sheet currently do not indicate funds we are allocated but not yet received from RSA. This procedure will present a more accurate record of our financial well being. Our accounts payable will by in large be offset with accounts receivables. The impetus for this adjustment was a concern from one of our council members about the negative amounts of our changes in net assets on our balance sheet.

- It was noted that included with the CIL development and expansion funding spreadsheet budget there is a line item of \$20,000 allocated to SILC for capacity building. The funds are intended to be applied to acquire new computer hardware and software, as well as some pieces of AT. The focus of the acquisitions is to enhance and expand SILC outreach activities.

Ken Jacuzzi motioned to approve the May 31, 2007 financials. Seconded by Edward Myers III. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Budget FY 2007-08

- The Council went over the FY 2007-08 budget (see handout).
- Tony DiRienzi stated that the budget reflects about a 12% increase which reflects the change in the Part B allocations for Arizona. The amount of our previous budgets for each of the last three year was contingent upon a base amount established in 2004.

Edward Myers III motioned to approve the FY Budget 2007-08 as presented. Seconded by Kim March-Force. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Audit

- Tony DiRienzi reported that the DES/RSA audit report arrived on June 7th. The audit of SILC occurred in January 2007. The report included a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). There were three findings in the audit report as stated in the Consent List. The report and CAP are available at the SILC office.

RSA Contract:

- A copy of the RSA/SILC contract was reviewed (see handout). The contract is performance based. The deliverables in the contract are directly related to the goals and objectives in the proposed SPIL.
- The contract will be sent to the D.E.S. Procurement office for their review. RSA and SILC are ready to sign and enter into the contract contingent upon the approval of D.E.S. Procurement office.

Edward Myers III motioned to approve the RSA/SILC contract. Seconded by Gene Heppard. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Executive Committee Report:

NCIL:

- Donna Powers stated the NCIL (National Council on Independent Living) Conference will be July 9-12, 2007 in Washington DC. 800-1000 attendees are expected. Donna noted she has found past conferences to be informative and empowering.
- SILC staff and 2 Executive members will be attending.
- As part of the conference, the Arizona contingency will go on Capitol Hill to visit with our state's senators and representatives.

ED Performance Evaluation:

- Donna Powers requested a motion to go into Executive Session. To review and discuss the executive director's performance evaluation.

Ken Jacuzzi motioned to go in to Executive Session. Seconded by Gene Heppard. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

- Meeting was closed to the public during the session. The session started at 10:15 AM and ended at 10:25 AM.

Edward Myers III motioned to approve the Executive Director's evaluation. Seconded by Ken Jacuzzi. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Break (There was a break from 10:25 to 10:45 AM)

IL SUMMIT:

- There was a request to adjust the agenda in order to have the Reports section go before the IL Summit agenda item.

REPORTS:

RSA Report & ILRS Report:

- Katharine Levandowsky reported RSA is working on a legislative proposal for the Industry for the Blind to move to a safer location.
- RSA is also working on a legislative proposal so they can be exempt of procurement protocols to improve productivity.
- Work is being done on putting budget proposals together for IL services and for youth transition services.
- Meetings are being held with the Federal Veterans Administration to start up programs for soldiers coming home from the current hostilities to provide service right away in Arizona.

ILRS Report:

- Paul Wilson had prepared an ILRS report which was sent to all prior to the Quarterly meeting (see report).
- Tony DiRienzi reported that he, Paul and Sharon Engelhardt recently traveled across the state to conduct various SPIL public forums. Tony thanked Paul, RSA and the CILs for their collaboration on holding the public forums.

121 Report:

- Lavern Lizer reported that the Navajo Nation will be having their mid year CANAR conference August 6-8 in Savannah, GA.
- On July 27th Navajo and Hopi representatives will meet with the Governor's Head and Spinal Council to work together to get funds to provide VR services on their respective reservations.

SRC Report:

- Ken Jacuzzi prepared a SRC report which was sent to all prior to the Quarterly meeting (see report).

Community Collaboration Committee:

- Gene Heppard reported the Committee has moved on from their PAS (Personal Assistant Services) tool kit project and are working on a community multi organization disability events calendar.
- The calendar project will be rolled out in the next couple months.

CIL Networking & Resources Committee:

- No report

Outreach Committee.

- Lavern Lizer reported that SILC participated in the disability expo in Phoenix. There was an outreach activity in Parker in May that was not very well attended. The Committee is looking to have outreach workshops in South Phoenix and in Ft. Mohave.
- Tony DiRienzi added that SILC will meet with the MCS (Multiple Chemical Sensitivity) Community on June 29th in Snowflake to have discussions on how the disability community can better serve the MCS community. A second meeting will be held later in Tucson.

Public Policy Committee/Emergency Preparedness Committee:

- Ez Bachand reported on the Emergency Preparedness Sub Committee. The Committee is meeting regularly and looking at issues related to transportation, sheltering and identification.
- There is a pilot project in Glendale and Sierra Vista for identification which was started in DES/APS (Adult Protective Services) working collaboratively with first responders.
- Tony DiRienzi added that a SILC survey is being conducted to assess how other states deal with identifying and registering people with disabilities.

Nominating & Membership Committee:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- Edward Myers III stated the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are up for nominations. Donna Powers agreed to run for Chair and Edward Myers III agreed to run for Vice Chair.
- Gene Heppard called for nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were given.

Ken Edwards motioned to accept the nominations as presented with Donna Powers as Chair and Edward Myers III as Vice Chair. Seconded by Kim March-Force. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE ORDER:

- The SILC Executive Order has been revised and sent to the Boards and Commissions office for approval. Council members will be notified when it is approved.

MEMBERSHIP Update:

- Candidates recommended for appointments to SILC have been submitted to the Boards and Commissions office for the Governor's consideration. Appointments are scheduled to begin in July.

EMERITUS STATUS:

- It was brought up as a suggestion and there was discussion regarding establishing a board emeritus status for some past board members.

IL SUMMIT:

- Tony DiRienzi reported that the upcoming IL Summit will be August 16 & 17, 2007. A brochure of the Summit was distributed (See brochure). Council members were encouraged to attend.
- Tony noted that RSA is providing \$80K to help underwrite the Summit. The funds will be allocated to support 267 scholarships. There will be four Summit Sessions and numerous

workshops. Key note speakers will be Judy Huemann and John Kemp. 350-400 registrants is the goal of the planning committee.

SPIL (STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING):

- The new 2008-2010 SPIL is at the DES Director's office for her review and approval. Once the director signs the document it will be sent onto the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in Washington D.C. for final approval.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

- ED activity/responsibility profile matrix for the period of March 2, through June 21, 2007 was distributed prior to meeting (See Report).
- Tony stated that lately the SILC responsibilities related to allocating and subsequent monitoring of the expenditures associated with the RSA CIL development and expansion funds have preoccupied the staff. He has been reviewing CIL purchase orders, invoices and proposals that the CILS must expend or encumber by the end of June.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/ MAY CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

- Ez Bachand mentioned that insurance restrictions on the ordering and servicing of Assistive Technology and durable medical equipment is beginning to be a big problem. Ez hopes to see the NCIL agenda work on the problems.
- Fernando Cruz announced the Gila River Urban Assistance Center is now open at 4520 N. Central Ave. 6th floor.

ADJOURNMENT: *Fernando Cruz motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kim March-Force. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM*

Prepared by: Sharon Engelhardt _____ SILC Staff

Reviewed by: Randy Collins _____ SILC Secretary