

**Statewide Independent Living Council
(SILC) MINUTES
July 30th, 2013
AmericInn, Ft. Pierre**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Margot Burton, Dave Miller, Isabel Trobaugh, Patrick Czerny, Steve Stewart, Sarah Rush, Bernie Grimme, Sandy Neyhart, Tammy Kabris, Matt Cain, Lyle Cook, Shelly Schock, Monte Tschetter, Vona Johnson, Annette Gamber, Kathleen McOwen and Clarke Christianson.
OTHERS PRESENT: Gaye Mattke, DRS and DSBVI; Shelly Pfaff, SILC staff; Francine McOwen, Mandy Richter; Julie Paluch and David Thomson, interpreters.

OPENING ACTIONS: WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS – Margot, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:35, welcomed everyone and introductions were made. **Meeting Protocol** – Margot mentioned the meeting protocol attached to the agenda, and reminded members to follow protocol. Staff also reviewed motion making, seconding and voting protocol. **Approval of Agenda** – Margot confirmed members had copies and called for changes or additions. Lyle asked to add 'Catch the Wave in Eagle Butte'. It was added under 'Other Business'. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA – MADE (M), SECONDED (S) AND CARRIED (C).**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – After confirming everyone received and reviewed a copy of the April 30th minutes; Margot called for changes/additions. Hearing none, **MOTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 30TH, 2013 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN – MSC.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Margot called for any public comments. No one asked for an opportunity to provide comments at this time.

PRESENTATION ON NEW TECHNOLOGY: Patrick Czerny, DakotaLink staff, provided this presentation starting with some history of DakotaLink, the Assistive Technology Act and an overview of the structure and design of DakotaLink. He spoke to the former neuro-muscular program, the CCTV program, SD AT4ALL recycling program, the education technology program, the computer access training program and the national deaf/blind equipment distribution program. He also spoke of possible future initiatives

relating to Medicaid durable medical equipment recycling program and the return of the Agribility project to SD through partnership with SD State University. In addition, Patrick spoke to their work with businesses, employers and individuals. He went on to demonstrate some examples of technology i.e., SD lift, iPad – iPhone based apps that are being used by people with disabilities and are much more cost effective than many previous communication devices. Patrick did state that Medicaid presently doesn't pay for iPad, iPhone, iPod technology because it can be used for other purposes; the hope is that policies will change to allow this expenditure as it has the potential to save public dollars and make assistive technology readily accessible to more people. Following the presentation there was a time for questions and comments. Questions were raised about the annual federal grant that cannot be used to provide direct services and how those funds have been and are being used, specifically how they are assisting in getting needed technology into the hands of the consumers. Patrick shared some information, and he indicated additional information is available in the format of annual reports, etc. submitted to the federal funding source.

The SILC took a fifteen minute break at this time.

SPIL SUBMISSION: Margot explained how a workgroup had worked on the SPIL goals, objectives and activities; the SPIL had been prepared and submitted to the Rehabilitation Services Administration; and now we await approval of the SPIL. In the meantime, the Executive Committee met to begin conversation on how to develop a work plan based on the content of the SPIL, and Dave had drafted a document that the committee shared with the SILC in preparation for this dialogue. She then turned the conversation over to Dave. Dave explained his approach to the design of the draft "Timelines SILC Work Plan" (see attached), and then he worked through each identified 'service area' one at a time. TECHNOLOGY SERVICES – This was started today with the presentation by DakotaLink staff; it was agreed that a work group will be needed to carry out these activities. These activities are slated for the entire three-year period. DEAF SERVICES – These activities are slated to be completed in year one. They will be carried out by the full SILC. Next meeting DRS staff will be invited to present on available IL services to the deaf and hard of hearing in SD, as well as an opportunity for members of the deaf community i.e., SD Association of the Deaf, to address their IL needs, and an opportunity for CIL directors to

speak to the barriers they face in meeting the needs of this population. NATIVE AMERICAN SERVICES – These activities will be carried out by the full SILC, and they are slated to be carried out over the entire three years, starting mid-year of year one. EXPANDING CULTURAL DIVERSITY – This is seen as an emerging problem in several of the larger communities. The SILC will carry out these activities with some initial activity planned in year one and additional activities in year three. HOUSING INITIATIVE – This is a large issue, raised statewide, and thus a workgroup will be established to work on these activities. Significant activities are planned for all three years. NETWORK DEVELOPMENT – The SILC has identified a need to increase public and policymaker awareness of the IL philosophy and IL services, as well as a need to promote collaboration between state initiatives impacting people with disabilities. A workgroup will be established and activities are planned for all three years. QUALIFIED STAFF – Currently CILs train their staff independent of each other, and it is believed there is value in ensuring that all CIL independent living specialists have core competencies in specific areas. A work group will be established to work on these activities over the three years. YOUTH INITIATIVE – There is a goal to increase the number of transition-age youth served through the IL system. The SILC will work on these activities with the majority of the work occurring in years two and three. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – Recognizing the role community organizations play in meeting the IL needs of people with significant disabilities statewide, these activities are designed to recognize organizations that are effective working with CILs and to identify new organizations that have the potential to do so. A workgroup will work on these activities and the major activities will occur in year two. PROGRESS MONITORING – The SILC will establish a work group to carry out these activities with the work to be completed in year one. Consensus was that the work plan is fluid and may change based upon what is accomplished and changing realities. No suggested changes to the proposed timelines were made at this time.

The meeting broke for a working lunch.

SPIL SUBMISSION CONTINUED: The conversation continued at this time with dialogue on the establishment of workgroups. Four workgroups were identified – (1) technology services; (2) housing; (3) public awareness; and (4) consumer services. Technology services and housing will focus specifically on the work plan items names the same. Public awareness will

focus on work plan items under “network development” and “community engagement”, and consumer services will focus on work plan items under “qualified staff” and “progress monitoring”. Volunteers were sought, and following is the workgroup make-up as of this meeting:

Technology Services – Patrick, Dave, Steve, Monte, Clarke
Housing – Vona, Kathleen, Matt, Annette
Public Awareness – Lyle, Sandy, Tammy, Isabel
Consumer Services – Bernie, Margot, Shelly, Sarah

Staff will work with each group to set up a date and time for their initial conference call in the coming weeks.

SILC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: Shelly indicated that she had sent out most of this information prior to the meeting in hopes of limiting the time needed to discuss items at the meeting so the SILC would have ample time for their SPIL conversation. FY13 YEAR-END BUDGET REPORT – The total budget was not expended. Shelly asked Bernie to explain what happens to unexpended funds, and he explained that they are not reverted, but are redirected to other service areas. One example is they may be used to purchase needed assistive devices and ramp modules. FY14 BUDGET REPORT – Shelly explained that the decreases noted were due to the federal sequestration. She also explained that the one expenditure was due to a vendor being late in submitting its billing prior to the close of the state fiscal year. A SILC member raised a concern that with the level of SILC activity called for in the SPIL, there most likely will be a need for increased funds in support of the SILC i.e., staff, meeting costs. DRS Interim Director Gaye Mattke indicated that she did not see this as a problem, as long as they are kept abreast of expenditure patterns and funding needs on a timely basis. 2013 CIL STAFF TRAINING EVALUATIONS/EXPENDITURES REPORT – Shelly reviewed the expenditures and participants information. Others, either who attended or had staff attend, spoke to the value of the training and how staff has made use of the information, as well as the resources provided after the training. ELECTION OF MEMBER AT LARGE – Shelly explained that at the last meeting a chair and vice-chair had been elected. The member at large position had not been acted on since the person currently filling that position was not at the meeting and had not been contacted as to their interest in continuing to serve, if re-elected. Monte is the current member at large, and he has indicated a willingness to serve, if re-elected. Margot

asked for nominations. **MOTION TO NOMINATE MONTE AS MEMBER AT LARGE – MS.** No further nominations were received. **MOTION THAT NOMINATION CEASE – MSC. MOTION TO ELECT MONTE TSCHETTER AS THE MEMBER AT LARGE – MSC.**

CIL REPORTS: Margot explained that WRDI had provided a written report that had been sent out to SILC members. There was no report from NAAP. ILC would be the only CIL to have a director's report. ILC DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Matt referenced several items in their written report, which had been sent out to SILC members. He referenced ILC has 21 peer support groups across the counties they serve; 39 trained peer visitors; have served 1880 thus far this year – 342 received IL skills training, 1521 received advocacy services, 1429 received peer support and 2670 received information and referral. They have made changes to their consumer satisfaction survey per SILC recommendations. ILC held summer transition classes in Sioux Falls, Huron, Watertown and Madison. They had a booth at the Youth Leadership Forum, and they held a Parent Night in Sioux Falls for the parents of the Summer Transition students. ILC received a \$100,000 grant for home modifications from SF Community Development for modifications for people with disabilities who are home owners. They have sold most of their Harley raffle tickets. Margot thanked Matt for his report.

DRS REPORT: Bernie Grimme provided this report. BOARD OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION – He provided a brief explanation of the Board and identified some of the key topics from their last meeting, which was held June 6 & 7 in Aberdeen in conjunction with the Youth Leadership Forum. Bernie also addressed the Fall Conference coming up in October, and he invited SILC members to be in touch with staff if they were interested in participating in the conference. The Fall Conference will focus on serving veterans. STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT – Bernie explained that the two state vocational rehabilitation programs must do a statewide needs assessment every three years. They have contracted with Bob Jahner to do this year's assessment. Bob was involved in the most recently completed assessment. In the past the SILC has participated in this process. Bernie mentioned that he and Shelly are aware of a process used in Wyoming, and they feel it might be something the SILC would like to explore as a model for future use. IL SERVICES REPORT – He reported that Denise left her employment with the Division. Various portions of the duties Denise had carried out are now being handled by Bernie, Ronda, Steve,

Janet and Julie. Gaye commented on how staff has truly stepped up to meet the need, and she thanked them. Some news was shared that conversations are underway which may lead to the National Guard being able to help deliver needed ramps to people served by NAAP. It was also noted that both ILC and WRDI have incorporated the SILC questions into their consumer satisfaction surveys. No word from NAAP yet. Bernie also referenced the IL Services data report that SILC members, staff and others have been working on for several months. He has made some changes, and he invited SILC members to contact him with any additional changes they might like to see incorporated into the report. Dave commented that he sees this document as a good starting point of providing data the SILC can use to assess the effectiveness of services in meeting consumer needs statewide.

DSBVI REPORT: Sandy Neyhart provided this report. IL OLDER BLIND REPORT – Sandy reported that Mike Webb began working as a Rehabilitation Teacher as of June 24th. He will be working in the NE area of the state. She went on to report that they have 190 CCTV units in their CCTV program – 74 are leased, 103 are loaned, 8 are unavailable and 5 are demo units. Sandy also reported that she has sent out their third quarter consumer satisfaction survey. They've received 64 (approximately a 50% response), and of those responding 10 indicated that without the provided services, they could have considered moving into a more restricted facility i.e., nursing facility, assisted living. BOARD OF SERVICE TO THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED – Their last meeting was June 21st, and their next meeting is September 27th. New Board members have been appointed; they are Patrick Czerny, Teresa Nold and Linda O'Connor-Ohayon. Ken Rollman's name was also submitted for reappointment. The elected Executive Committee is comprised of: Marilyn Steffen, Chair; Eric Rippentrop, Vice Chair; and Karla Bucknall, Member at Large. Sandy shared that SD Association of the Blind's Annual Convention is September 27 and 28 in Sioux Falls. The division will not be holding a public meeting in conjunction with the SDAB convention this year. She also reported that the Rapid City office will be relocating to 2330 North Maple, Suite 2. They expect the move to be completed in early fall. Margot thanked Sandy for her report.

OTHER BUSINESS: CATCH THE WAVE IN EAGLE BUTTE – Lyle explained that he has been working with Dan Rounds and Dave Halverson to schedule this event for transition-age youth. They will be targeting youth from tribal schools, as well as from schools in neighboring communities. They are

hoping they may have 50 students participate. He asked if the SILC might be able to provide some financial support for this event. **MOTION TO PROVIDE \$250 TO HELP SPONSOR THE CATCH THE WAVE EVENT IN EAGLE BUTTE – MSC.** Lyle thanked the SILC for their support. He is also seeking support from the BVR, BSBVI and others. Lyle also spoke to his work in trying to educate tribal leaders to the value of VR and IL services for American Indians and build relationships with nations that do not presently have American Indian VR programs. He spoke to a Tribal Health event coming up next week, where he hopes to begin building some of those relationships. Vona shared that the Annual Housing Conference will be coming up in Pierre in November. Consensus was that it is important the SILC have representation at this event. Matt volunteered to participate. Vona also shared information about the "Housing Opportunity Fund" and upcoming meetings related to this program. Shelly (S) mentioned she is on the board of Housing for the Disabled, and this might be a group that the SILC would want to consult with as it works on housing issues. Margot announced that the 2013 Disability Policy Summit is set for October 1st in Chamberlain. She also shared that the COALITION's annual meeting is scheduled for September 11th in Oacoma.

CLOSING ACTIONS: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – The next meeting will include a report from DRS staff on deaf services, input from the deaf community on IL service needs and input from CIL directors on the issues they face in working to effectively serve people who are deaf and/or hard of hearing. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING – Consensus was to try for a meeting in Pierre/Ft. Pierre on October 24th, with lodging the night before. If that is not possible, a second date is the meeting on October 29th, with lodging the night before. Staff will get to work on making needed arrangements and be in touch as soon as something is known. ADJOURNMENT – Margot thanked everyone for their participation. **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 3 p.m.