**Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

**MINUTES**

The Statewide Independent Living Council held a meeting on July 12th and 13th, 2018, at @SLIC at 4350 Lake Street, Lake Charles, LA. Chairperson Rosezella Viltz presided.

Present:

Morales, Rosemary (Day 1,2)

Duplechine, Jamie(Day 1,2)

Harrell, Antoinette(Day 1,2)

Cochran, Jay(Day 1,2)

Fuselier, Rocky (Day 1,2)

Geddes, Sharon (Day 1,2)

Morales, Rosemary (Day 1,2)

Nguyen, Steven (Day 1,2)

Taylor, Erick (Day 1,2)

Viltz, Rosezella (Day 1,2)

Egle, Jill(Day 1,2)

Baker, Kandy (Day 1,2)

Granger, Mitch (Day 1,2)

Absent:

Bristo, Rashad (Day 1,2)

Gray, Anita (Day 1,2)

Polotzola, Bambi (Day 1,2)

Beverly, Keiara(Day 1,2)

SILC Staff Present

Lewis, Jessica

**Guest:**

Ken York

Gale Dean

Marc Ferguson

Jennifer Landry

Shamanda Celestine

Jolan Jolivette

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

SILC Chairperson, Rosezella Viltz, called the meeting to order at 1:26PM, and asked everyone to briefly introduce themselves. Viltz asked Jamie Duplechine to call roll to determine if a quorum is present.  A quorum was present.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The members of SILC read the council’s Mission statement. Rosezella Viltz informed members to adhere to the ground rules.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Rosezella Viltz asked members to review the agenda for any corrections. Rosezella said there will be an addition for the Day 1 agenda on part B funding and Ken York will provide the update in place of Kandy Baker. Erick Taylor motioned, and Jamie Duplechine seconded to approve the agenda. There were no objections and the agenda was approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The council reviewed the minutes from May 17th-18th 2018. Members made corrections to the minutes. There was a motion to approve the minutes by Jamie Duplechine and by Antoinette Harrell. There was no opposition and the minutes were approved.

**Director’s Report**

Jessica Lewis provided an update regarding the membership and stated she could not find an individual from the Alexandria area. Jessica stated she will be going to American Disabilities Conference in November to hand out brochures and discussed ordering brochures. She informed members the budget was increased by $10,000 and members will vote to make recommendations to the Governor for who will fill the two vacant seats. Jessica stated she will need 4-5 people to serve on the SPIL committee to come up with goals for the next three years as well as timelines. Erick Taylor will go to the APRIL Conference Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) in October. Jessica asked members about changing the schedule for the January and July Meetings. Jessica reminded members about completing their orientations. Jessica stated she will have legislators at the next meeting. Jessica gave members the process of checks being issued to members from the Fiscal Office.

(56:00 Members discussed the meeting times and changes)

**BUDGET UPDATE**

Jay Cochran went over the budget for SILC including salaries, insurance, benefits, instate and outstate travel. Jessica Lewis then went over the rest of the budget which was given to members in a handout and gave a detailed breakdown of the SILC budget.

**PARTNER UPDATES**

GODA

Jolan Jolivette provided an update for GODA

LRS:

Ken York stated the potential cuts we faced from the past special session were real and if we had to take a cut the offices would probably provide services for a year and shutdown. This year we actually got additional funds  and we can use that extra money as match for federal funds(total increase including federal match of $4 million).We have a new challenge of how we can increase our capacity. Effective Monday we will be opening order of selection group 2. We want to notify members about this change and contact the 474 people that are on the waiting list. Interviews are going on currently for Mark Martin’s position that is currently vacant. Randol Dominque is acting as the LWD in place of Shannon Joseph.

DAY2: Ken stated the order of selection allows them to serve certain people within priorities due to their need and limitations and the level of staff and resources that are present. They look at 8 areas that determines eligibility and assess who goes within which order of selection.

SLIC:

Mitch Granger provided an update on behalf of @SLIC. He stated since their last meeting they are excited about the funding that is coming from our state. Our Leesville office is going through a transition with new hires and three new staff

New Horizons Update:

Gale Dean provided an update on behalf of New Horizons Independent Living Center. She stated she wanted to DOA follow up from the last meeting. Gale said they are in the planning committee to have a Shreveport Bossier advisory commission. We are currently holding a meeting to stakeholders to attend that meeting regarding the meeting which will be held at New Horizon. During the legislative session we did advocacy for the earned income tax credit. They helped advocate with the Louisiana Budget project and United Way. We recently had a summer fun Day. Gale said for fundraising they are doing the following: paypal, the flea market on April 29th, and a you need a Taco which is a partnership with the food truck which they will receive a part of their proceeds. They are also working on disability awareness. Gale indicated they were not able to get the Grant with United Way.

The CILs updates have filled SPIL Goal #1, Objective 1, Activity 1 with the CILs updates.

**Ongoing Orientation**

Rosezella Stated this is one of the ways to help us become autonomous by evaluating Jessica Lewis. Jessica gave the members the link for members for orientation and for ethics.

This presentation relates to SPIL Goal #1, Objective 1, Activity 2.

**Part B Funding**

Rosezella Viltz led the discussion of Part B funding with the members. She said they received from Dept of Health of Human Services that the Independent Living Centers had been awarded some money. She said they received a letter from health and human services stating they must have a budget discussion at their next SILC meeting. Kandy Baker said Louisiana was given over $332,044 and the SILC said they wanted to give all that money to the independent living centers. That money goes to LRS since they are the entity that receives the money and then contract it out to silc. Kandy said we have to send them an email on how that money is going to be used. Kandy said it was stressful on the centers to see if the money was coming down with all the concurrent resolutions coming from Congress. Mitch stated this is the first time we are seeing an increase in funding for independent living. Mitch asked if they put up more dollars can those additional dollars be matched? Ken and Kandy indicated no but that they can check.

Motion by Antoinette Harrell and Second by Erick Taylor of the $26,694 increase be split between SLIC and New Horizons. There were no objections and motioned carried.

**Intro of New Member**

Jill gave a brief introduction of who she was and her life story.

Recess at

3:59

Day 2

The meeting was called back to order at 9:15AM and Jamie Duplechine called roll again to establish if a quorum was present.

**Report on Events**

Mitch Granger said SLIC is hosting a town hall meeting for the deaf community explaining the new rules from LCD on July 26th. Mitch stated they hosted socials and movie nights for consumers as well as bowling and other activities. There was also a trip to the Lafayette zoo. This update relates to SPIL Goal #1, Objective 1, Activity 3.

**Hurricane Preparedness**

Jennifer Landry gave a presentation on Hurricanes and how to prepare for them. She discussed the difference between warnings vs watches. It’s recommended to have food for three days and have 1 gallon of water per person. She indicated to make sure if you have medication that you have a refill prepared. Have a prepared alternate route when traveling. One can’t get flood insurance when a hurricane is in the gulf and make sure you know where your documents are. You should also take pictures and video of your house to well document in case of any damage. They recommended to get the Get a Game Plan app. **SPIL GOAL #2: Objective 2: Activity 3: Emergency Preparedness – Collaborate with emergency preparedness entities by requesting speakers from various entities**

**SILC Website – Jessica Lewis**

Jessica informed council members the website for SILC has been updated, and that the pictures of new members as well as group pictures will be added on the website as well. This update relates to SPIL Goal #1, Objective 1, Activity 4.

**SILC Community Updates**

Rosezella stated there will be the GODA conference in Baton Rouge and one of the focus will be on independent living. Kandy Baker said the LRC will be the same day as the conference. Stephen participated in the endeavor games and overall their team got 38 medals. Antoinette Harrell is working on a documentary for VICE. Jamie and Stephen gave their public testimony in the senate finance committee. Erick Taylor said he speaks to youth and young adults as a mentor and talks about No More Excuses.

This report relates to SPIL Goal#1, Objective 1, Activity 5.

**CIL Annual Meeting**

Jessica went over the meeting times and dates for the October 2018 and informed them that the next center meeting will be in Lake Charles. This relates to SPIL Goal #1, Objective 1 Activity 7.

**LRC Report**

Kandy Baker informed members the LRC has 23 members and 3 vacancies in regard to the membership. There is a vacancy for business and Labor, and one vacancy for the parent and training information center. This relates to SPIL Goal #2, Objective 1 Activity 1.

**VITA**

Jay said they are the only VITA site that stays open year around.

This relates to SPIL Goal #2, Objective 1 Activity 2.

**FACT Sheet**

Jessica asked members she needs to know what facts and stats do they want to include for SILC. @SLIC advocated and sent out letters, as well as New Horizons, advocated for funding for LRS to advocate for funding for employment supports for individuals with disabilities.

Goal 2 objective 1 Activity 3

**REV UP**

Jamie Duplechine talked about REV UP, which helps people with disabilities register to vote. Jamie plans to ask libraries to help register people to vote. Mitch indicated that they help people register to vote. **SPIL GOAL #2: Objective 2: Activity 1: Identify disability issues and organize campaign in favor of individuals with disabilities**

**Educating legislators regarding CILs**

Erick Taylor is currently working on a letter to send to legislators. Antoinette Harrell said she could record a PSA to provide information regarding the SILC.

This relates to SPIL Goal #3, Objective 1 Activity 1.

**CIL Directors**

Gale Dean said they are writing another grant to replace computers. Mitch Granger said they applied for a local grant which allows them to replace their older computers. **SPIL GOAL #3: Objective 1: Activity 3: Sharing information regarding grants and other income sources among the SILC and CILs**

**Recent Training**

Will be emailed

**Policy and Procedure**

Those documents need to be signed and returned to Jessica. **SPIL GOAL #4: Objective 1: Activity 2: Formulate Policy and Procedure manual to comply with federal regulations**

Update Tool

Jessica said the tool is located in their binder as a document. The tool was put together by Kandy Baker

Voting members

Jessica went over the ex officio applications for the SILC.

Sharon nominated Jamie and Erick seconded

Sharon seconded the person from elderly affairs Antoinette seconded

There were no objections.

Jessica read the 7 applications that would be voting members and what areas they would serve.

Sharon Nominated and Antoinette seconded for Darren Broussard

Sharon nominated and Jamie seconded for Sharon Hennessy

Erick Taylor nominated Sharon seconded for Danny Cottonham

Steven Nguyen nominated and Erick Taylor for Kris Hebert

There was a vote taken for Kris Hebert vote yes5 no4

Back up person to be nominated was Nicole by Mitch granger and Jay Cochran

Rosezella informed members when the next meeting will be.

Steven N. motioned to adjourn and Mitch Granger seconded