**ME SILC Monthly Meeting Minutes, April 24, 2019**

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|  | **MEMBERS** | **PUBLIC** |
| **In attendance** | Cheryl Peabody, Stephanie Desrochers, Diane Frigon, Darcy Gentle, Trish Thorsen | Sam Fenderson, Jess Cyr, Blake McCartney, Tom Newman, Jessica Russell  |
| A**bsent** | Lincoln Hunt (tried) | Karen Mason |

**Technical Difficulties** – Again we had technical difficulties with the audio. The confusion came when some dialed into the Zoom phone number when it popped up on screen and others used the audio conference line. To clarify, we should be using the audio conference line listed in the box of the agenda. In previous meetings, we had a lot of feedback when all were using Zoom audio and that is why we decided to use the audio line separately.

**Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone introduced themselves.

**Acceptance of Minutes** – 3/27/19 were accepted with no changes.

**Monthly Activity Table** – Please keep submitting these to Beth. There is an ongoing list posted on One Drive to view. Cheryl explained what types of items are on the Activity Tables, time spent, any collaboration with other councils would be documented here. Even if you are a public person pending application approval, it is good to have that on the Activity Table. We discussed having a brief discussion each meeting to mention what had been working on. This will be a standing agenda item going forward to help identify what is happening throughout the State.

**Financial** – We currently have $12,000 in our 2 bank accounts. Stephanie and Beth will be working on two months of billing to submit to the State for payment. We are in transition.

**SPIL** – Discussion of having an ongoing way to gather information from people with disabilities to be able to add that to our next SPIL when written. Having it ongoing we should be able to write the SPIL with some ease as the information will be continually captured and can be incorporated. In addition, it will be a guide for SILC to judge progress. Cheryl shared that she, Diane, Beth, Sam, and Kelly are working on the Amendment to the SPIL which is due the end of July. Tom would like to join any SPIL committee or group going forward

Talk about membership and keep that ongoing. We are not in compliance and need to be. As people roll off the Council, we should have others join to keep momentum. This is something that SILC have been actively been working on this. The previous Governor denied many applications. Beth submitted applications to the Governor’s office. Our applications will likely be heard in June when Legislative session is over as those who need legislative approval must happen first.

**NCIL** – In the last meeting, we talked about Cheryl going to the NCIL conference. Alpha One has Tom Newman, Jessica Russell, Hailey and maybe Mel going to the conference. We talked about Alpha One going to NCIL with a concentration on consumer driven topics. Then, we talked about benefits of sending Cheryl with another perspective. After discussion, the Council agreed that due to the fund availability, deadline of submission for registering, and the topic areas that can be covered, Cheryl will be going in addition to Beth.

**Budget work in preparation for August 1 submission** – Mentioned to give some thought and consideration about the budget. After Stephanie and Beth have prepared the three-month bills (February, March, and April) to the State, we will have a better picture of what is left in the budget. Budget information will then be sent to the Council to be prepared to work on the budget in May and June with the plan to finalize and send to the State for approval no later than August 1st.

**Annual SILC Meeting** – We need to decide what we want for the Agenda of the Annual Meeting. Some great ideas were shared, presentation about the legislative process, having discussion with other SILCs near us to present on what is working for other states and what isn’t working, suggesting using Zoom for those who are unable to travel to still given the opportunity to join. Due to schedules of the Council, a one-day meeting would work best for everyone. The date was talked about for the end of August or beginning of September. If we are unable to schedule some presenters, we can schedule for future monthly SILC meetings. Check with other SILCs to see when we can coordinate.

**Transportation bills submitted to Legislators** – Diane talked about the Legislative document number 1258. It states that to increase to transportation for workforce and other essential to transportation needs. Requirement Dept. of Transportation will create a pilot program and SILC was mentioned. Discussion around SILC representation at the hearing on April 30 at 1 p.m. Beth stated she would check to see if she could coordinate going. Stephanie stated she can check to see if she could attend. Sam and Diane are not allowed to go. Trish is not able to go as others from her organization is going. Cheryl is not available. Tom will be in Baltimore. The Council feels strongly that SILC be represented. Cheryl will write a draft and share with the Council. Beth asked for a firm deadline so that she has time to print and prepare the material for Tuesday, April 30.

**Marketing Materials** – Outreach materials vs marketing materials. Beth reached out to Tom asking about previous Emergency to go bags, this would support SILC’s goal of Emergency Preparedness. There are 50 bags left, having a toiletry package with SILC logo on it. This would show that SILC and CILs work together. Also, having a checklist of things to do in the event of an emergency. Cheryl was looking into the 20/20 pens and has not heard anything back from them. The thought process was maybe moving away from pens, doing a toiletry bag, lip balm, water bottles, or bags. The Council felt that we do pens, post-its, magnets, note pads, to bring to non-forum type presentations. Beth will bring information to the next meeting, a cost comparison to make decision to the May meeting.

**General Updates** –

Stephanie gave an update regarding Work and Benefits Navigator Training. There are 6 provided each year and is very informative. Stephanie would love to see SILC representation in future meetings. Her organization has webinars as well. Not for employment organizations but more individuals. Financial Freedom, a book created by Alpha One, is used in the Work and Benefits Navigator Training.