**ME SILC Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**December 2, 2020**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **MEMBERS** | **PUBLIC** |
| **IN ATTENDANCE** **Beth Mogan**, Executive Director | **Cheryl Peabody**- (Chair) Person with a Disability; **Darcy Gentle** (Vice Chair)-AIVR Program Director**; Trish Thorsen**-Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (Member at Large); **Stephanie Desrochers**-Program Coordinator Benefits Services MMC; **Diane Frigon**-Regional Director, Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBVI);  | **Samantha Fenderson**-Assistant Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; **Jessica Cyr**-Person with a Disability; **Leland Glynn**-Person with a Disability; **Julie Hovey**-Alpha One; **Foxfire Buck**-Disability Rights Maine; **Julia Endicott-**Disability Rights Maine |
| **ABSENT** |  | **Karen Mason**-Office on Aging and Disability; **Tom Newman**-Executive Director, Alpha One; |

**Welcome & Introductions**

Council introduced themselves. Julia Endicott introduced herself as working for Disability Rights Maine.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

June Minutes were accepted as correctioned. October Minutes were accepted as distributed.

**Financial Report**

Cheryl shared with the Council that Maine Statewide Independent Living Council’s Fiscal Year 2021 Contract had not yet been encumbered. She did share that until it is signed the Financial Spreadsheet that Beth uses to keep track of expenses will not be shared with the Council. Beth did share that there is enough money in the Primary account to support cash flow and that the Secondary account can be utilized if necessary.

**Committee Updates**

Cheryl started the discussion with news that after Cheryl and Beth submitted a Request for Assistance to the Governor’s Office, Beth was contacted by Joe Boucher from Boards and Commissions, both via email and phone. This happened very close to the last Council meeting, so Cheryl and Beth were hoping to share a positive outcome, that was not the case. The Council then discussed various ways we could keep the momentum moving forward to reach a favorable outcome. Stephanie mentioned perhaps it was time to seek legal representation. It was agreed that perhaps in the future, but right now other options should be pursued first. Sam offered to take our concerns and all information that has been given to the Governor’s office to Karen Fraser. All agreed this would be a good next step. The discussion brought up other steps such as getting a meeting with the Governor and having a representative from the Administration of Community Living join in the meeting.

The Membership and Outreach Committee met. The group consists of Stephanie, Lee, Foxfire, Darcy, Diane, Jess, Trish and Julie. Originally, the committee was going to create a subcommittee, but feel they can make more progress as a whole group. A chair for the committee has not been appointed yet. Stephanie shared some talking points. The group is going to update the PowerPoint presentation to recruit new members and they are going to put a list together of organizations members work with or have worked with to identify those who could be contacted for recruiting purposes. Discussion of Governor application process continued. Cheryl explained that she and Beth will handle discussions with the Governor’s Office so as not to cause any confusion.

**SPIL Updates**

Cheryl shared that Sam, Julie, Beth, and herself worked on revisions to the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) that ACL requested. This was re-submitted. Cheryl explained to the group that ACL has until December 31 to accept or reject the changes. If the Council does not hear from ACL, the SPIL is automatically approved.

**Activity Tables – Need ASAP**

Cheryl explained that Activity Tables and names of other organizations that Council members are involved with are needed. Cheryl and Beth need this information to create and submit the Program Performance Report (PPR) to ACL.

**General Updates**

Stephanie shared that two Community Work Incentives Counselors who were hired and have gone through training are now ready to receive a limited caseload. Also, new referral packets are almost ready for distribution. She will send these documents to the Council through email when complete.

**Adjournment: 11:04 a.m.**