***Maine SILC Minutes***

***Date & Time: December 7, 2022 @ 10:00am – 12:00pm***

***Location: Remote Zoom Meetings***

***Attendance Key: P = Present, E = Absent (Excused), A = Absent (Unexcused),***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Council Members:*** | | | | | |
| ***P*** | ***Darcy Gentle*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Diane Frigon*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Jessica Cyr*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***E*** | ***Lee Glynn*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Samantha Fenderson*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Stephanie Desrochers*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Tom Newman*** |  |  |  |  |

***Members of the Public: Julie Hovey; Stephanie Crystal; Rachel Dyer; Keenan Weischedel; Libby Stone-Sterling; Jill Johanning.***

***Recorder: Cheryl Peabody Next Meeting: January 25, 2023 Minutes Approved: 3/22/233***

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| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Introductions*** | ***The meeting was called to order. Members and guests were introduced & welcomed.*** | ***NA*** | ***NA*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Guest Presentation*** | ***DSE – I & E Funds: Libby Stone-Sterling, The Director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) who is the Designated State Entity (DSE) in Maine, spoke about a change in the reporting on the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). While the Administration on Community Living (ACL) has not provided the specifics, or parameters, the DSE’s I & E Funds used MUST be identified on the Resource Page of the SPIL. More information will be shared when available.*** | ***N/A*** | ***N/A*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Minutes*** | ***There was an access issue with the OneDrive. Therefore, the acceptance of the October minutes was tabled until the January meeting.*** | ***Send to Council members***  ***Create draft minutes for December and send to Council members.*** | ***Cheryl Peabody***  ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Financial Report*** | ***The financial budget spreadsheet was available on OneDrive. There was an access issue, so the finance report was not discussed.*** | ***Found on the OneDriver in the Agendas & Meeting Materials Folder (December)*** | ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Program Progress Report*** | ***Cheryl presented the PPR for members so go over and edit. Due to time constraints, the PPR will be sent to Council members for their individual review. Comments and edits need to be submitted to Cheryl no later than DECEMBER 20TH. This report is due December 31sr.*** | ***Send PPR to Council members*** | ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***General Updates*** | ***Membership Committee: No report.***  ***Designated State Entity Exploration Committee: This committee is on pause until further notice.***  ***Moving Maine Network: A report was given on the recent Moving Maine Learning Community webinar which focused on electronic vehicle recharging stations.***  ***Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council: No report was given.***  ***Driver Evaluations: No report was given.*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***How the CIL Helped Someone*** | ***Tom talked about how the pandemic put in place emergency public health provisions that may be coming to an end soon. He said some clients cannot get the COVID vaccines due to medical issues. They have been given a reprieve to get caregiver services more than*** ***40 hours per week. As the pandemic draws to a close, these individuals may soon need to go through a lot to maintain caregiver services. Alpha One has advocated with and for people with disabilities in these situations.*** | ***Stories on How CIL Helped Someone*** | ***Julie Hovey/Tom Newman*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Guest Speaker*** | ***Legislative Ideas: Jill Johanning, an architect and accessibility expert from Alpha One, presented. She is working with some individuals on legislative issues. They have found a legislator who is willing to introduce legislative titles this month. What should be the focus? Does Eric Dibner, Maine’s ADA Coordinator, need assistance? One thought was to take advantage of this unique position and advocate for accessible electronic vehicle recharging stations. Another thought was to introduce a title in the legislature that could lead to a resolve to have a task force look at reinstating the Office on Disability. Jill will go back to her group with these suggestions.*** | ***None*** | ***None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Announcements*** | ***Samantha reported that the DVR Consumer Handbook is now available in Spanish. DVR works with translators for other languages.***  ***Diane reported the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired will hold it’s first in-person (since the pandemic) All Staff Day this Friday.***  ***Stephanie D reported that public health provisions of public benefits will be ending in*** ***60 days. During the pandemic, public health benefits were handled differently.*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Public Comment*** | ***Time was given for public comments, but none were made.*** | ***NA*** | ***NA*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Adjournment*** | ***The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.*** | ***NA*** | ***NA*** |

***People & Organizations Represented***

***Darcy Gentle – Wabanaki Vocational Rehabilitation Program Director***

***Diane Frigon - Regional Director, Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired***

***Jessica Cyr – Disability Advocate***

***Lee Glynn – Disability Advocate, Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council***

***Samantha Fenderson – Assistant Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation***

***Stephanie Desrochers – Program Manager, BCS, Maine Health***

***Tom Newman – Executive Director, Alpha One (CIL)***

***Stephanie Crystal – Disability Advocate (application pending)***

***Julie Hovey – Independent Living Specialist, Alpha One (CIL)***

***Rachel Dyer – Developmental Disabilities Council***

***Keenan Weischedel – Disability Rights Maine (application pending)***