***Maine SILC Minutes***

***Date & Time: January 25, 2023 @ 10:00am – 12:00pm***

***Location: Remote Zoom Meetings***

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

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|  ***Council Members:*** |
| ***E*** | ***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; Rachel Dyer; Keenan Weischedel; Leah Farrell.***

***Recorder: Cheryl Peabody Next Meeting: February 22nd, 2023 Minutes Approved3/22/23***

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| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Introductions*** | ***The meeting was called to order at 10:05am. Members and guests were introduced & welcomed.***  | ***N/A*** | ***N/A*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Guest Presentation*** | ***Developmental Disabilities Council – Health Focus Groups Rachel Dyer: The DD Council and their partners are holding focus groups regarding health screenings for woman. More specifically, they are looking to help women who don’t qualify for MediCaid. The DD Council and their partners want to decrease the health disparities and increase access so women can get critical screenings. Rachel asked if Maine SILC would like to host a focus group. After a brief discussion, it was decided Rachel will send out a little more information before the council decides. Diane suggested that if Maine SILC were to host a focus group that we invite SRC members.*** | ***Provide Maine SILC with more information about health screening project.*** | ***Rachel Dyer*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Acceptance of Minutes*** | ***There was an access issue with the OneDrive. Therefore, the acceptance of the October and December minutes was tabled until the February meeting.*** | ***Send to Council members.******Create draft minutes for January and send to Council members.*** | ***Cheryl Peabody******Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Financial Report*** | ***The financial report was not given. Cheryl has not yet done the invoices for December and January.*** | ***Send to Council members when complete.*** | ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***SPIL Updates*** | ***The Council went through the SPIL goals and objectives and made updates on the work the council has been doing.******Cheryl asked for volunteers to work with her on the 2024 SPIL. This is not a full-blown SPIL due to ACL’s work on a new Portal. Diane volunteered.*** | ***See OneDrive******Anyone interested in working on the SPIL, contact Cheryl*** | ***N/A******All members*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***General Updates*** | ***Membership Committee: No report was given.******Designated State Entity Exploration Committee: This committee is on pause until further notice.******Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council: No report was given.******Driver Evaluations: No report was given.*** | ***None******None******None******None*** | ***None******None******None******None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Announcements*** | ***LR1762: An Act to Require Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Station. This is a request for a bill about accessibility around electronic vehicle charging stations.*** ***Sam reported that Portland Metro has navigators. The navigators help people unfamiliar with the bus schedule. The navigators help them to learn how to ride the busses independently. This was a suggestion of a group Maine SILC may want to present the organization’s mission and work.******A bylaw proposal was sent out but not in time to vote on at the January meeting. Cheryl will resend the bylaw proposal and the council will vote via email.******Stephanie reported a change to ABLE Accounts is coming up. They seek to raise the age limit for being able to open an ABLE Account. This change would not go into effect until 2026.******Stephanie also reported that the public health emergency provisions put in place during the pandemic are coming to a close. Effective 4/1/23, MaineCare policy rules will go back in place. MaineCare has 12 months to get policies back to pre-pandemic rules. MaineCare will have to do 17,000 reviews per month to do so.******Council members expressed sadness over the passing of Stephanie Crystal, a member awaiting gubernatorial approve.******The council discussed the delay in getting approval/movement on pending applications.*** ***Cheryl reported that she has been asked to give a presentation on SILC in front of the HHS Committee in the Maine Legislature. This will be February 1st or 2nd.*** | ***Monitor LR1762******F/U with Portland Metro******Vote in proposed bylaw change******N/A******N/A******N/A******N/A*** | ***Any Council Member******Cheryl Peabody******All voting members******N/A******N/A******N/A******N/A*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Public Comment*** | ***Time was given for public comments, but none were made.*** | ***NA*** | ***NA*** |
| ***Topic*** |  ***Discussionind*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Adjournment*** | ***The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.*** | ***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)***

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

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

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

***Leah Farrell – interested party with CIL and SILC experience in other states***