***Maine SILC Minutes***

***Date & Time: October 26, 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*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Lee Glynn*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Samantha Fenderson*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***E*** | ***Stephanie Desrochers*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***E*** | ***Tom Newman*** |  |  |  |  |

***Members of the Public: Julie Hovey; Ken Shapiro; Karen Mason; Jennifer Battis; Stephanie Crystal.***

***Recorder: Cheryl Peabody Next Meeting: December 7, 2022 Minutes Approved: 3/22/23***

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| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Introductions*** | ***The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am. Members and guests were introduced & welcomed.*** | ***NA*** | ***NA*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Guest Presentation*** | ***Health Care Equity Project Presentation by Jennifer Battis from Disability Rights Maine:***  ***The project is to identify the barriers that PWD face in health care. A survey will go out and they are hoping to get 500 responses. The survey will go live on November 17th and will be available for a month. They will also be hosting focus groups. They are hoping to gather data to support that changes are needed in health care with the idea of bringing this data to the attention of policymakers. Policymakers can secure funding to make necessary changes in health care. They will wrap up the project by the end of March.*** | ***Get Survey Out to Council Members and Stakeholders*** | ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Minutes*** | ***Discussed the August draft minutes. No corrections were identified. The minutes were accepted as distributed.*** | ***Send to webmaster***  ***Create draft minutes for October and send them to the council.*** | ***Cheryl Peabody***  ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Financial Report*** | ***The financial budget spreadsheet is available on OneDrive. No questions were asked.*** | ***None*** | ***None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***State Plan for Independent Living FY2024*** | ***Cheryl listened to an ILRU SPIL discussion. The 3-year SPIL for FY2024-2026 has been deferred a year so ACL can work with Q90 to develop a new portal and new SPIL instructions. For FY2024, SILCs will either submit a technical amendment to the 2021-2023 SPIL, or a substantive amendment. Maine SILC discussed whether modifying language would be a technical or substantive amendment. Cheryl will check with the Project Officer, Peter Nye.***  ***Council members decided to review and modify survey questions. A small group was formed and*** ***consists of: Julie, Samantha, and Jessica.*** | ***What Type of SPIL Amendment Does Maine SILC Need***  ***To Do***  ***Get Survey Questions to Review Group*** | ***Cheryl Peabody***  ***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: Jessica reported on the recent Moving Maine Learning Community webinar. Discussion on the Travel Volunteer Project which is a model of training for those who help patients get transportation. Talk of the need to improve information on transportation needs.***  ***Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council: Lee reported they have submitted their annual report to DHHS and the Maine Legislature. They are also working on member recruitment. They are working on a manual to help new members know the laws in Maine (i.e. when one must report to DMV whether to suspend a license).***  ***Driver Evaluations: No progress has been made. The van for driver evaluations is still being repaired. Mobility Works van will stay in Maine. There are rules around who can perform driver evaluations and how to keep up certification. This is difficult as there are not enough driver evaluations to meet the necessary hours required to keep evaluation. Rule changes should help with this. There are only two Alpha One employees who do driver evaluations so people across the state have to get to Portland to have their evaluation. The question was raised about driver evaluation for ABI people. Alpha One evaluations include cognitive and physical abilities of the individual.*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** | ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None***  ***None*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***How the CIL Helped Someone*** | ***A high school student suffered a spinal cord injury. Through DVR, the student was connected to Alpha One. A driver evaluation was done. The student will get their license soon.*** | ***Stories on How CIL Helped Someone*** | ***Julie Hovey*** |
| ***Topic*** | ***Discussion*** | ***Action*** | ***Responsible*** |
| ***Announcements*** | ***Diane was contacted by a gentleman by the name of Dr. Schultz from the University of Miami. He is doing research on disaster preparedness and relief, and event planning so programs will be in place for PWD when disasters strike. Diane referred Dr. Schultz to the Florida SILC.***  ***Samantha reported that the DVR director listened to the ILRU meeting on October 19th. There is some information on Innovation & Expansion funds that has been provided. The DVR director will attend the next SILC meeting to go over this information.***  ***There was also some language on bylaw requirements on quorums. This language is not in the Rehab Act and should not be in bylaws. This should make it easier to conduct SILC business.*** | ***Send the Message Diane Received to Council Members***  ***Get the December Meeting Link to the DVR Director***  ***Get The Bylaws Language on Quorums Updated*** | ***Cheryl Peabody***  ***Samantha Fenderson***  ***Cheryl Peabody*** |
| ***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 11:40am.*** | ***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)***

***Ken Shapiro – Disability Rights Maine, CAP administrator***

***Karen Mason – Associate Director, Office on Again and Disability Services***

***Jennifer Battis – Disability Rights Maine, Health Care Equity Project Coordinator***