**SRC-DVR[[1]](#footnote-1) Minutes**

**Date & Time:** October 19th 2020, 9am – 12pm

**Location:** Department Of Labor, 45 Commerce Dr., Augusta Maine, Francis Perkins Room

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Council Members[[2]](#footnote-2)** | | | | | |
| **P** | Cheryl Peabody, *Chair* | **P** | Mary Adley |  |  |
| **P** | Jodie Hall | **P** | Suzanne Primiano\* |  |  |
| **P** | Wes Uhlman\* |  |  |  |  |
| **E** | Josh Howe |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Libby Stone-Sterling\* |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Darcy Gentle |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Kelly Osborn |  |  |  |  |

**Guests:** Richard Langley, Foxfire Buck, Samantha Fenderson

**Recorder:** Branden Densmore **Next Meeting:** November 16th 2020 **Minutes Approved: Yes**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Introductions** | Meeting was called to order at 9:01 am. Members and guests were welcomed. Introductions were given. | NA | NA |
| **Election Of Officers** | There were 3 nominations, and each nominated member accepted the nomination:  *Kelly Osborn -> Chair*  *Jodie Hall -> Vice Chair*  *Treasurer -> Cheryl Peabody*  A **motion** was made to vote on the nominations. | NA | NA |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Election Of Officers** | **Kelly Osborn was elected to Chair** of the SRC-DVR, with **ALL** in favor.  **Jodie Hall was elected to Vice-Chair**, with **ALL** in favor.  **Cheryl Peabody was elected to Treasurer**, with **ALL** in favor. | NA | NA |
| **Acceptance Of Minutes** | DVR discussed the draft September minutes, and corrections were identified.  The draft September minutes were then **accepted as corrected.** | *Correct September draft minutes and send to webmaster.*  *Create draft October minutes and send to Cheryl.*  *Distribute draft October minutes to SRC members.* | Branden Densmore  Branden Densmore  Cheryl Peabody |
| **How VR[[3]](#footnote-3) Helped Someone** | VR has worked with a client in recovery from opiates who also struggled with depression and anxiety.  VR helped him get a job in retail, but for the client it was not good physically, and it was just a way to bring in some extra money. This client wanted more of a career. He started doing VR career exploration activities around social services, and is now on a path toward educational success. | *Gather more How VR Helped Someone Stories.* | Any DVR Staff Member |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | **Disability Employment Awareness Month**: VR had event last week with 300+ in attendance around supported employment. Holding a Webinar tomorrow with Maine Parent Federation about pre-employment, self-advocacy, and transition services. A list of National Events can be found on the Department Of Labor Website.  ***BES[[4]](#footnote-4) Update***: Career centers are now having some in person appointments, but this is still not ideal. They have installed plexy glass, spacing requirements, etc.  ***Budget***: Got 10% curtailment for THIS FISCAL YEAR down to 3%, or around 50K from the general fund. However, the 10% curtailment will apply to the upcoming biannual budget, which is around 900K in savings. This has VR nervous over an uncertain future, and they have been looking at what they can save through virtual work and technology.  ***Staff***: There are many vacancies, around 25 positions are unfilled. VR wants to hire great staff, but COVID has made it awkward. The situation is unusual. (…) | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | (…) Hired RC-2[[5]](#footnote-5) who started last Monday. Casework Supervisor position *filled* in Lewiston.  **Corrections**: BES & VR did a career exploration workshop pilot program in the jail system. When COVID happened they hit the pause button. However, they continue to hold quarterly meetings with stakeholders.  The Juvenile Justice Taskforce is looking at what other states are doing to get ideas, and they hold monthly regional care team meetings to look at cases & how to best provide support.  **VA[[6]](#footnote-6) Program**: VR involved with the Veteran Readiness & Employment Program. Holding quarterly meetings with VR liaisons to coordinate VA activates. The Hire A Vet campaign is hosted online this year.  **Apprenticeship**: VR is educating Counselors about Apprenticeship and to see it as a viable option. Did pilot program in hospitality industry. This was chance to see how the system works; they developed a procedural directive around the passport concept. Apprenticeship is now open to all industries. (…) | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | (…) Perter Diplock educates staff about apprenticeship in detail. VR wants to do an Employer Spotlight LIVE video on November 19th with an apprenticeship employer.  **CSNA[[7]](#footnote-7)**: Working with Market Decisions with this project, which needs to be done once every 3 years. This will measure how VR is doing, utilizing data from 700 clients over the last year.  **Grant Meeting**: Held meeting about Transition Work-Based Learning grant, which is in the beginning of its 5th year. VR received early findings that showed how the grant has made an impact in lives of participants.  Department Of Labor awarded a TA grant for a disability Employment Boot camp that kicked off last week.  4 more rounds of a Training grant, and they are now looking at how to proceed over the next year.  **Order Of Selections**: VR may need to add another category to their Order Of Selection process, which would mean a rule change, public hearings, etc. | *Have Market Decisions come in to present on assessment results.*  *Invite grant manager to speak in more detail about* transitional work-based learning grant*.* | Libby Stone-Sterling  Libby Stone-Sterling |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | **Diversity**: Staff recently attended a diversity training. VR continues to work with a professor from University. Unfortunately, they did not receive grant to fund master program.  There is now a diversity section included as part of VR staff training materials. | NONE | NONE |
| **DRM/CAP[[8]](#footnote-8) Update** | Foxfire Buck from DRM is taking over all CAP responsibilities from Richard Langley who is moving into another position outside of DRM. | *Connect with Cheryl to discuss meeting updates.* | Foxfire Buck |
| **Work Plan** | The council discussed each section of the work plan, and updated it as necessary. Members assumed responsibility for the work committees within the plan. | *Update plan, and then send out to members.* | Cheryl Peabody |
| **New Business** | Meeting frequency was discussed, and there was consensus to changed meeting times to bi-monthly, odd numbered months. | *Send out list of new 2020 & 2021 meeting dates.*  *Send list of new meeting dates to webmaster.* | Cheryl Peabody  Branden Densmore |
| **Announcements** | Honorariums are being offered to members not otherwise compensated for attendance.  The next Council meeting will be on ***November 16th*** via Zoom. | *Contact Cheryl to receive Honorarium.* | Any Member Not Compensated |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Public Comments** | Time was given for public comments.  The council’s fiscal agent has changed from CARES to the Maine Parent Federation. | NONE | NONE |
| **Adjournment** | The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am. | NA | NA |

**People & Organizations Represented**

**Cheryl Peabody – Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

**Jodie Hall – Maine Parent Federation (MPF)**

**Josh Howe – State Workforce Board**

**Libby Stone-Sterling – Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**

**Mary Adley – Department Of Education (DOE)**

**Kelly Osborn – Goodwill Industries**

**Suzanne Primiano – Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**

**Wes Uhlman – Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**

**Foxfire Buck – Disability Rights Maine (DRM), Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

1. State Rehabilitation Council, Division Of Vocational Rehabilitation. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. \*Indicates an Ex Officio non-voting member. See last page for list of organizations represented. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Vocational Rehabilitation [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Bureau Of Employment Services [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Rehabilitation Counselor [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Veteran Assistance [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Disability Rights Maine & Client Assistance Program [↑](#footnote-ref-8)