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

**Date & Time:** September 21st 2020, 1pm – 3pm

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

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

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

**Guests:** Richard Langley, Peaches Bass, Foxfire Buck

**Recorder:** Branden Densmore **Next Meeting:** October 19th 2020 **Minutes Approved: Yes**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Introductions** | Meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm. Members and guests were welcomed. Introductions were given. | NA | NA |
| **Acceptance Of Minutes** | SRC discussed the tabled June Minutes, which were then **accepted as corrected**.  The August minutes were discussed and corrections identified, and were then **accepted as corrected**. | *Correct June minutes, and send to webmaster.*  *Correct August minutes and send to webmaster.*  *Create draft September minutes and send to Cheryl.*  *Distribute draft September minutes to DVR council members.* | Branden Densmore  Branden Densmore  Branden Densmore  Cheryl Peabody |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **How VR[[3]](#footnote-3) Helped Someone** | VR helped a self-employed musician who was hard of hearing. They assisted him with getting hearing aids and other assistive technology. He also received training on the technology and the client started working again with no issues.  VR was informed that this client had recently passed away, and it was expressed by a family member that getting back to work helped the man live longer, and to get through a difficult stage in life. | *Gather more How VR Helped Someone Stories.* | Any DVR Staff Member |
| **Directors Report** | ***Budget***: Good news: The 10% curtailment set out by the governor has been reduced to about 3%.  ***Staff***: RC-1[[4]](#footnote-4) grant funded position went to RC-2 position, leaving a grant funded position **vacant**.  2 Augusta counselors gave there notice leaving **two open positions** there.  Lewiston Supervisor **position was filled**. Lots of other **positions are open**, and VR has conducted many interviews but made few offers. | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | ***October Events:*** VR is creating a calendar of events for October as it is Employee Awareness month. There will be a webinar on October 20th with the Maine Parent Federation about supported employment.  ***Handbook:*** The VR Consumer Handbook is almost done.  ***Peer Mentoring:*** Focused on transition age youth moving into employment and education.  ***Diversity***: Working on facilitating more conversations around diversity with the University System.  ***Education***: Putting energy into understanding the school reopening processes, with respect to how these processes will effect transition counselors. Many will be joining class rooms remotely this year.  ***BES[[5]](#footnote-5) Update***: The BES is looking at how they can expand services being offered. Career Centers want to start doing in-person meetings by appointment. BES is still working out the details, but expects to move forward with the appointments in October. | *Send out calendar of events to Cheryl*  *Send email with calendar of events to council members* | Libby Stone-Sterling  Cheryl Peabody |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Directors Report** | ***CAP[[6]](#footnote-6) Update***: There are between 30-35 cases open now, and there are issues around clarity, receiving needed support, timeliness, and communication.  Disability Rights will host a webinar with Maine Parent Federation talking about student feedback from students with disabilities. This will be sent out to transition counselors.  Guidance came back regarding COVID. For a more detailed article about flexibilities around safety, see:  [www.drme.org/resources/face-coverings](http://www.drme.org/resources/face-coverings) | NONE | NONE |
| **New Business** | The Annual Training was discussed:  October 19th  DVR Council Meeting  9am – 12pm  Annual Training One  130pm – 330pm  October 21st  DBVI Council Meeting  9am – 12pm  Annual Training Two  1pm – 2pm  230pm – 330pm | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Announcements** | Honorariums are being offered to members not otherwise compensated for attendance.  Minimum wage will go up to $12.50 on January 1st.  The next Council meeting will be on October 19th via Zoom. | *Contact Cheryl to receive Honorarium.* | Any Member Not Compensated |
| **Public Comments** | Time was given for public comments, and none were made. | NONE | NONE |
| **Adjournment** | The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm. | 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)**

**Richard Langley – Disability Rights Maine, Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

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

**Kelly Osborn – Goodwill Industries**

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

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

**Peaches Bass – Bureau Of Employment Services (BES)**

**Foxfire Buck – Disability Rights Maine (DRM)**

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. Rehabilitation Counselor [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Bureau Of Employment Services [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Client Assistance Program [↑](#footnote-ref-6)