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

**Date & Time:** November 15th 2021, 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** | Kelly Osborn, *Chair* |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Cheryl Peabody, *Treas* |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Libby Stone-Sterling\* |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Allison Wiest |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Mary Adley |  |  |  |  |
| **E** | Darcy Gentle |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Guests:** Wes Uhlman, Rhea Smith, Jessica Cyr, Julia Endicott, Peaches Bass

**Recorder:** Branden Densmore **Next Meeting:** January 24th 2022 **Minutes Approved: YES**

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| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Introductions** | Meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm. Members/guests were welcomed, and introductions were provided. | NA | NA |
| **Acceptance Of Minutes** | The September draft minutes were discussed, and corrections were identified.  After establishing a quorum, a **motion was made and seconded** to accept the minutes as corrected.  **The motion passed** with 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. | *Send approved September minutes to webmaster for posting.*  *Create November draft minutes and send to Kelly & Cheryl.*  *Distribute November draft minutes to SRC-DVR members for review.* | Branden Densmore  Branden Densmore  Kelly Osborn |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **How VR Helped Someone** | Story shared about a Clubhouse member getting back to work with the help of VR.[[3]](#footnote-3)  This member was running the snack bar at the Clubhouse independently, and got a job through Clubhouse working a salad bar at Kennebec Behavioral Health. After this job ended VR connected her with a job developer who helped her explore various jobs in retail.  She got assistance creating a resume and submitting multiple applications. A while passed and she heard nothing back which was discouraging. The member pressed on and submitted more applications to supermarkets. She didn’t hear anything back so started following up herself by calling the employers. VR helped this client hone her interviewing skills, and she got hired as a cashier at Hannaford, which she is super excited about. | *Get more “How VR Helped Someone” Stories* | Any VR Staff Member |
| **Director’s Report** | *Staff*: Staffing continues to be an issue in a tight COVID labor market. Multiple staff have retired and been recruited by outside agencies. However, a new supervisor and two counselors were recently hired. | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **Director’s Report** | *OADS[[4]](#footnote-4)*: DVR working with OADS to get some temporary staff. They are looking at bringing on 3 or 4 part time positions.  *Vertical Harvest*: DVR networking with Vertical Harvest, an organization opening in Westbrook, focusing on growing micro-greens. They are very interested in hiring people with disabilities, and their “Ground Breaking” is in January.  *Apprenticeship*: Town Hall meeting to be held November 19th to discuss Apprenticeship. Now DVR is working with BRS to expand the program.  *SRC-DVR Membership*: Creating an updated list of SRC-DVR members to see who is on, off, and awaiting approval.  *Monthly Meetings*: DVR is holding monthly stakeholder meeting on the second Monday of the month starting in December, and all interested persons are welcome.  *Diversity*: Put together staff training series, and examining hiring processes. Also celebrating Native American Heritage month and putting an information packet together. | *Finish SRC-DVR membership list and send to appropriate parties.* | Kelly Osborn |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| **CAP[[5]](#footnote-5)** | Hired new attorney to work in CAP – he and others have been visiting VR state offices to get the word out and network. They have been focusing on delivering employment 1st with group and discussing next steps. | NONE | NONE |
| **Election Of Officers** | There was discussion of outreach and an orientation video being created.  Kelly Osborn was nominated for Chair. A **motion was made and seconded** to elect Kelly, and it **passed** with 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.  Cheryl Peabody was nominated for Vice-chair. A **motion was made and seconded** to elect Cheryl, and it **passed** with 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.  There were no nominations for Treasurer. | NONE | NONE |
| **Announcements** | The next SRC-DVR meeting will be held January 24th via Zoom. Honorariums are being offered to members not otherwise compensated for attendance. | *Contact Cheryl to receive Honorarium.* | Any Member Not Compensated |
| **Public Comments** | A member of the public talked difficulties and how Zoom is helpful. | NONE | NONE |
| **Adjournment** | The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm. | NA | NA |

**People & Organizations Represented**

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

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

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

**Kelly Osborn – Goodwill Industries**

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

**Julia Endicott – Disability Rights Maine (DRM), Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

**Allison Wiest – Maine Parent Federation (MPF)**

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. There are various “Clubhouses” around the State. They focus on helping people with mental health challenges get jobs and competitive skills. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. OADS = Office Of Aging & Disability Services [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. CAP = Client Assistance Program [↑](#footnote-ref-5)