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

**Date & Time:** September 20th 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 |  |  |  |  |
| **P** | Darcy Gentle |  |  |  |  |
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**Guests:** Wes Uhlman, Theresa Kennebunk, Atlee Reilly, Patricia Ngara, Chris Quint, Jenn Kimble

**Recorder:** Branden Densmore **Next Meeting:** October 18th 2021 **Minutes Approved: YES**

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| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action**  | **Responsible** |
| **Introductions** | Meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm. Members/guests were welcomed, and introductions were provided. | NA | NA |
| **DOL, ARPA[[3]](#footnote-3)**  | Guest speaker Chris Quint from DOL came to discuss ARPA funded initiatives through the Governors Jobs & Recovery Plan. After reviewing their workforce strategy, it was said that DOL is holding listening session about the current state of affairs and how to approach workforce development differently. DOL needs to capture feedback, ideas, and questions from interested parties.  | *Send email with ARPA slide deck to council members for review.* | Chris Quint |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action**  | **Responsible** |
| **Director Report** | *Disability Innovation*: DVR applied to the Disability Innovation Fund in April but have not heard back yet. However, the response is due by September 30th, so there should be more information by next meeting.*Reallotment*: Put in to receive left over (unspent) monies from other State DVR programs. Maine heard back and received $ 200,000 in extra funds.*DVR Funding*: Been looking at DVR funding in general, making sure things are in order. Looking at how it’s being spent, and moving it around to make sure funding stays here as much as possible. They are in pretty good shape, partly because staffing has been lower due to retirement, reprioritization, and competition from outside agencies. *Staff*: There are many staff resigning/retiring currently which has become a significant issue because VR was already short staffed. However, it’s also an opportunity to streamline and make systems more efficient. | NONE | NONE |
| ***CAP*[[4]](#footnote-4)** | Hired new supervisory attorney who starts end of October.  | NONE | NONE |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action**  | **Responsible** |
| **Acceptance Of Minutes**  | The July draft minutes were discussed; no corrections were identified.A **motion was made & seconded** to accept the minutes as written.**The motion passed** with all in favor, 0 abstentions and 0 opposed. | *Send approved July minutes to webmaster for posting.**Create September draft minutes and send to Kelly & Cheryl.**Distribute September draft minutes to SRC-DVR members for review.* | Branden DensmoreBranden DensmoreKelly Osborn |
| **Budget Report** | The SRC-DVR proposed budget for 2022 was discussed. It was noted that a few line items were reduced because of the COVID situation.  | *Submit the approved SRC-DVR 2022 budget to Libby.* | Cheryl Peabody |
| **How VR Helped Someone** | Story delivered about a Clubhouse member who had an Associate’s Degree in Mental Health. She started working with VR with aim of getting a job quick because she needed the money. She started and finished working at a Transitional Employment (TE) site through Clubhouse, and then started looking into the possibility of being a MHRTC.VR discovered that the client had some criminal conviction in her recent past, and so would likely not be hired as a MHRTC. This was discouraging, but the client continued working with Clubhouse and got a job working as an in-home-support specialist. VR closed her case, and she is still working.  | *Gather more How VR Helped Someone Stories.* | Any DVR Staff Member |
| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action**  | **Responsible** |
| **Announcements**  | SRC-DVR is holding their annual training on **October 18th**; the business meeting is from 9-12, and the SRC 101 training in the afternoon.SRC-DBVI is holding their training **October 20th**; their business meeting is from 9-12, with the work plan and committee formation in the afternoon.Honorariums are being offered to members not otherwise compensated for attendance. | *Send Cheryl nominations for council officers.**Contact Cheryl to receive Honorarium.* | Any Council MemberAny Member Not Compensated |
| **Public Comments** | Time was given for public comment, but none were forthcoming. | NONE | NONE |
| **Adjournment** | The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 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. Department Of Labor, American Rescue Plan Act [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. CAP = Client Assistance Program [↑](#footnote-ref-4)