**Nb Minutes - January 23, 2019**

**ME SILC Monthly Meeting**

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|  | **MEMBERS** | **PUBLIC** |
| **In attendance** | Cheryl Peabody, Stephanie Desrochers, Diane Frigon, Trish Thorsen | Jessica Russell, Sam Fenderson, Karen Mason, Jess Cyr, Lani Carlson, Blake McCartney, Henry Powell (Presenter) |
| A**bsent** | Darcy Gentle, Lincoln Hunt | Tom Newman |

**Minutes – 1/23/19**

Email attachment was re-sent. Changes needed by end of day 3/1/19. Minutes will then be in acceptance and posted.

**Voting Members, New and Renewal of Membership –**

Cheryl received a list from the Governor’s office with details of the current status of Council Members. Everyone’s term has expired with the exception of Diane. Due to the staggered terms the following have voting privileges – Cheryl, Darcy, Trish, Stephanie, and Lincoln. All others have not yet been approved through the Governor’s office. Beth sent the applications to all. Trish shared a letter that she had received from Governor LePage, however it has expired and must reapply.

Beth spoke with the Deputy Director of Boards and Commissions, who provided her with what needs to be submitted. **ALL applications need to be sent to Beth Mogan, P.O. Box 10542, Portland, ME 04104.** Contact Beth for any questions or need of assistance. Jess Cyr has submitted her application.

Additionally, Beth has reached out to those who were identified as being interested previously of being on SILC. Nancy Cronin would like to have meetings with Beth to share information regarding updates from respective Boards. She will not be joining the Board at this time. Avery Olmstead III, said he would give it some thought and then decide. Brandon Densmore is no longer at the email address we had for him. Lani joined in today’s meeting and has decided to attend meetings as a person of the public. Tracy Smith has had some discussion within her organization to identify if someone else would be a better fit and will convey the decision. Beth contacted Sara Squires, who recommended Blake McCartney.

Introductions were made as we had Jess, Blake and Lani who were participating who are new.

We are always looking for new membership with concentration on people with disabilities.

**Monthly Activity Table**
This information will be submitted to Beth monthly. She will upload them onto the ME SILC Office 365 folder for all to view. The folder will be view only so that edits don’t get lost.

**Financial**

Stephanie gave an update regarding SILC’s financing. She explained to new people joining that our funds are federal, but they are funneled down through the State and we get funds as they are incurred, not up front. We had an original budget of $75,000 and as of January we have approximately $66,000 remaining. Stephanie also reported that she has worked on getting direct deposit set up and will hopefully be able to give a successful report next month.

**Program Progress Report (Formally 704 Report)**

The Report has been submitted on time and no problems have been reported.

**Vote on Bylaw and Treasurer**

With a vote of 3 out of 5 members voting for acceptance of the Bylaw changes and the Executive Director acting as the Treasurer.

**Website** – **member section, resources**

Stephanie notified the group that SILC has a Facebook page and we need to find more information about that and get it closed. We discussed the website briefly that we are not going to use the member section we are going to use Office 365 instead. Beth asked the group comes prepared for the next meeting to get organizations posted. Think about putting them into SILC goal categories – Community Based Living, Transportation, Housing, Economic Self Sufficiency, Emergency Planning and Preparedness, and Youth in Transition.

**Outreaches/Precentors**

Beth asked that the group to come to the next meeting with some suggestions.

**Think About – Brochure, Flyer, Mission Statement**

Beth shared that the Flyer is screen reader friendly, the Brochure will be converted. Asking that the Council check wording and language to make a finalized version. The Mission Statement, look at wording, not changing the content. This will all be sent in an email for consideration.

**Marketing Materials**

Due to time restraints we will table this until our next meeting.

**Adaptive Equipment Loan Program**

Henry Powell from Alpha One gave a presentation about the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program (mPower). FAME used to administer this program, Alpha One has now taken on that role. The loan program is designed so that adaptive equipment can be purchased at an interest rate of 3.75%. A loan can be taken out by family, friends, individuals, as long as it is used for items related to a disability. For example, it cannot be used to repair a roof, heating systems, etc. Many request loans for hearing aids, accessible vehicles, communication equipment, etc. Every situation is different, and AO works with the consumer from start to finish through the loan process. The time frame has been streamlined. Henry will be sharing the slides on his presentation and Beth will post it to the Office 365 SILC folder.

**General Update**

Stephanie shared that there will be Work and Benefit Navigator Training program offered in Portland on 3/28, Waterville in May, Augusta in April. Full day training, $25 fee and will cover work, benefits, myths around various financial situations.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:48 a.m.**