**ME SILC Monthly Meeting, February 26, 2020**

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|  | **MEMBERS** | **PUBLIC** |
| **In attendance –** Beth Mogan | Cheryl Peabody Darcy Gentle, Stephanie Desrochers, Diane Frigon | Sam Fenderson, Jess Cyr, Karen Mason |
| **Absent** | Trish Thorsen | Tom Newman |

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Council members introduced themselves.

**Minutes**

December Minutes did not get sent via email. January Minutes have not been completed yet. Beth will finish them, send them to Cheryl, then send them to the Council via email.

**Listening Sessions**

South Portland had 1 participant in person, 2 on the phone (1 using closed captioning), Machia had 2 participants, Bangor had 1 participant, Augusta had 1 participant, Presque Isle and Farmington there were no participants. Zoom Listening Sessions are next week.

Stephanie talked about the low attendance of the Listening Sessions and that those few participants should not solely drive the writing of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

Jess mentioned that one of the Listening Sessions for Zoom is on a voting day. Beth shared she realized that last week, but we are unable to move the meeting.

Beth will be documenting all the information around the SPIL, so that next time the SPIL is written, they will have background and numbers to look back upon.

The Council discussed going to approach groups directly. Stephanie asked if we could reach out to contacts to see if we could attend monthly meetings. Sam will create a list of organizations and send out by email for the group to review. Beth will combine the lists and resend to the Council and choose the top 4 or 5.

**Survey**

Beth shared that 55 people had completed the survey. The Council should shift their focus on to do a push for the survey.

**Acquired Brain Injury Council**

Cheryl discussed an email from Sara Gaffney about having a table at a resource fair. Beth confirmed with Sam that she is going to represent SILC and she has been registered for the event. Cheryl has provided Sam with Brochures, Postcards and printed surveys to hand out.

**Resource for Website**

SILC received a request from Sara Garcia about posting information under Resource section on our web page. Beth will send the email out to the group asking for their opinion if this would be appropriate.

**Financial Update**

Beth did a screen share of our accounts. Beth has submitted December and January invoices to Eric Dibner. Beth will be rolling out the information to share with the Council each month. Beth continues to create invoices for the State, in the future we will have a new accountant that has the invoices as part of their expected duties.

Beth shared that Cheryl checked with Eric Dibner about increasing my mileage reimbursement by $.10 due to having an accessible vehicle.

**SILC Administration Assistant Update**

Cheryl shared that we are in the process of interviewing. We talked about having to provide a laptop to the new employee. Consensus was that we wait until the person is hired and if they need the laptop.

Cheryl, Diane and Beth interviewed 4 people and are still making our selection.

**DSE Discussion**

Sam talked about a conversation with Libby Stone-Sterling about DVR being the Designated State Entity. Raising the question to see if it still makes sense to have DVR as the DSE for SILC. Cheryl shared that she has reached out to Ann McDaniel, an expert in all things SILC, and what other states are doing. Are there benefits to change DSEs and then look at the pros and cons? Funding might be better come from DHHS.

**Monthly Activity Table – See attachment - Please submit to Beth**

Currently the only person Beth received one from is Cheryl. Wanted to remind people to put time from Listening Sessions, SILC monthly meetings should be captured, interview time, etc.

**General Updates**

Stephanie shared that she attended the Residential Care meeting. She said it went well, but that there should be another representative that works directly with people with disabilities.

Stephanie shared that her agency is hiring a new CWIC. Posted on ME Med website. And reminded everyone about Benefit Navigator Trainings coming up. Beth shared that she is attending the April session.

Sam shared the Client Assistant Program (used to be CARES), is looking to move these services through the Governor’s Office and has selected Disability Rights Maine. Open discussion from the public was very low. It closes on March 11. DVR had a public forum for their State Plan, comments on this is on March 4.

Diane shared BRS will be holding an event at the University of Maine – Farmington. There will be workshops, has been well attended. Business Enterprise has an opening for food prep part-time it is in Kittery at the Naval Shipyard.

**Adjourned** - 11:34 a.m.