Maine Statewide Independent Living Council

**Minutes**

June 25, 2025, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Zoom

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| **COUNCIL ATTENDANCE** |
| **Member Name** | **Attendance** | **Voting Member?** | **Member Name** | **Attendance** | **Voting Member?** |
| **Darcy Gentle** | **A** | **Yes** | **Diane Frigon** | **P** | **No** |
| **Jessica Cyr** | **P** | **Yes** | **Andrew Smith** | **P** | **Yes** |
| **Samantha Fenderson** | **A** | **No** | **Brendan Williams** | **P** | **Yes** |
| **Tom Newman** | **E** | **Yes** | **Megan Marquis** | **E** | **Yes** |
| **Mary LeBlanc** | **P** | **Yes** | **Karen Mason** | **P** | **No** |

Attendance Key: P = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent without excuse.

**Public Attendees:** Molly Thompson**,** Julie Hovey, Mel Clarrage, Rebecca Ball-Curry, Crystal Burke, John Shattuck, Brian Gallipeau, Jason Angel

 **Minutes Recorder:** JessicaCyr **Approved**

**Welcome & Introductions**

**Discussion:** Meeting was called to order at 10:05

**Acceptance of Minutes-**

**Discussion:** May 2025 minutes vote to be revisited due to no quorum

**Financial Expenditure Report**

**Discussion:** Reviewed current budget. Discussed how the state deposits money into our account periodically, not one lump sum at start or the year like the budget spreadsheet that shows the full budget amount for the year. Jess and Brendan need to meet with Sam Fenderson, who is on vacation, for training on this since we haven’t gotten a deposit in a while. The big expenses coming up are NCIL. The conference is going to be around $6000 with hotel and food and about $800 for mileage reimbursement to Mary since she is driving her and Brendan.

**Program Progress Report**: Brendan recently had to correct a few items on it. Due soon. Reminder that SILC Activities Table, located in the meeting folder, lists the activities we all do in the community and work and this is used to report back to federal council so they see our IL related activities over the year. I need everyone who regularly attends meetings, even pending members to list their activities. The document should auto save.

**Activity Tables:**

Portland’s Pride Day-6/21/2025 brief recap on Portland PD’s lack of prep for disabled community if there’s an emergency. Brendan tried educating.

Disability Pride Day-hosted by Disability Rights Maine, July 18- Mary, Jess will attend and hand out brochures and have attendees add to poster “What does pride mean to you?”. Mary and Brendan will bring the poster to DC for the march. Crystal might go to Augusta too.

Medicaid support rally-NCIL and Alpha One along with Boston CIL had a rally in Portland 6/17 near Susan Collins office. Brendan and Mary helped and spoke. Cindy Leach spoke. News Center filmed and was able to get a response from Susan Collins stating her support for preserving Medicaid for the disabled community.

**Alpha One (CIL) Update-**

Julie Hovey said that vehicle modification on Alpha One’s accessible van is almost done. The goal is to expand diver education to Bangor area not just Portland where it is currently. Mobility Works and Sure Grip have donated some equipment and time for this modification. Julie shared a message from Tom Newman that he was happy with recent Medicaid support rally. Susan Collins representatives were very responsive to rally.

**State Plan (SPIL) Review-Diane Frigon**

Diane led discussion from the beginning of document since we’ve gone through all. SILC brochures were given out at Portland Pride Day with info about IL services in Maine. DRM received funding for developmental disabilities advocates. DRM advocated for the new law for patient advocates in hospital. Molly will reach out to Tommy (police officer who provides training on working with disabled in an emergency) again to ask to attend a SILC mtg. Molly said Disability Rights Maine has summer interns who might be able to help update our marketing materials, SILC brochure. Jess will touch base with Molly later.

**Committee Updates**

**Standing Committees:**

* **Membership Committee (Jessica and Diane):** No communication when Jess has emailed Boards and Commissions. Joshua refuses to attend a meeting until he’s an approved member. Cindy Leach withdrew her application since it was taking so long. Problem for filling future board seats.
* **Executive Committee-**no updates
* **MORE Committee- Maine Outdoor Recreation Education (Diane, Mary, Jill Johanning, Jason Angel):** Mel offered to preview the draft letter on a screen reader before committee sends it to the commissioners.

**Collaboration Updates**

* **Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council:** no updates
* **Moving Maine Network (Jessica):** Email with updates was sent out.
* **State Rehab Councils:** Andrew said they are updating bylaws and need to work on recruitment.

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**Announcements**

**Upcoming Meetings:** Brief discussion of options for meeting location for September’s annual meeting/training in Augusta.

**Public Comment & Other Topics** none

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:00