Maine Statewide Independent Living Council

**Minutes**

March 26, 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** | **A** | **Yes** |
| **Samantha Fenderson** | **P** | **No** | **Brendan Williams** | **P** | **Yes** |
| **Tom Newman** | **E** | **Yes** | **Megan Marquis** | **E** | **Yes** |
| **Mary LeBlanc** | **P** | **Yes** | **Marita Leach** | **P** | **Yes** |

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

**Public Attendees:** Peter Nye, Julie Hovey, Crystal Burke, Mel Clarrage, Jill Johanning, John Shattuck

**Zoom Recorder:** Samantha Fenderson **Minutes Recorder:** JessicaCyr **Status: Approved**

**Welcome & Introductions**

**Discussion:** Meeting was called to order at 10:30am due to technical issues and brief introductions were made.

**Acceptance of Minutes- October 2024, January 2025 and February 2025 Vote Needed**

**Discussion:** Voting is tabled until the next meeting due to absences. Jessica resent the email with the meeting documents for all to review and explained that this file and contents should be accessible to all since it’s now on Google instead of the OneDrive which had been inaccessible in the past. Asked all to review the documents and let us know if you cannot access items.

**Financial Expenditure Report**

**Discussion:** Shared the budget on screen for fiscal year 2025. No discussion.

**Activity Tables**

**Discussion:** Reminder that this document should be easy to use and asked all to look it over and add any advocacy work to the table. Example given of Mary attending meeting at Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council (ABIAC).

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

Diane led a lengthy review and discussion of SPIL goals. She asked Peter Nye if anyone present at the meeting can contribute to SPIL progress. Peter isn’t sure. He will investigate this and get back to us.

**Alpha One (CIL) Update- Julie Hovey**

Alpha one website has been updated with a new section, Explanation of independent living evaluations and service plans.

**Committee Updates**

**Standing Committees:**

* **Membership Committee (Jessica and Diane):** Have had a few possible new members. Explained that we have a few applications ready to send to Boards and Commissions, but waiting for another. Brendan will contact the department to introduce himself.
* **Executive Committee**

Jessica explained that our voting should take place in September, but with the recent resignation from Jennifer Williams, between meetings, we needed an email vote for a new treasurer to remove Cheryl Peabody and Jennifer Williams from bank account and add the new treasurer. The vote to fill the vacant treasurer position, via email, was confirmed for Jessica Cyr. Discussed member at large position vacancy and possibly voting Andrew in that position since he is interested and eligible. He is not present at this so we will discuss and vote to fill this position at the next meeting.

* **MORE Committee- Maine Outdoor Recreation Education (Diane, Mary, Jill Johanning):**

MORE committee has met and discussed plans for outreach.

**Collaboration Updates**

* **Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council:** Mary has agreed to fill the vacant seat. Attended first meeting on 3/24. There was a ABIAC event on 3/21 which was attended by Alpha One, Division of Blind and Visually Impaired and Vocational Rehab. ABIAC will soon have a representative attend a SILC meeting as well.
* **Moving Maine Network (Jessica):** Moving Maine has 2 bills that we might be interested in supporting. Jessica will email the Moving Maine info since they are looking for people to give testimony when the bills are discussed.
* **State Rehab Councils:**

Goodwill is looking into outsourcing their brain injury support services to an outside organization. More information to come.

**Announcements**

**Upcoming Meetings:** April 30, 2025

**Public Comment & Other Topics** none

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:03pm