

## September 15, 2021, SILC Council Annual Business Meeting CART Transcript

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[ Captioner on standby ]

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: We have a quorum so we're going to get started.

Thank you all and for the sake of time and being 5:30 we're not going to do a fun little ice breaker.

We're going to jump right in.

Hopefully, our next meeting will be in person and there will be final for networking and all of those things.

Is there anyone on the call who needs an accommodation to fully participate in the meeting? Okay.

Hearing none and seeing none in the chat, we'll keep going.

Tracy, could you do a roll call?

>> TRACY BROWN: Sure.

Frank Ainimikwam?

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Present.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Here.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis?

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Present.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible?

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Present.

>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison?

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Here.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa?

>> MINDY KULASA: Present.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Here.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce?

>> MARK PIERCE: Here.

>> TRACY BROWN: Yvonne Fleener?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Present. And I know Theresa -- sorry about that.

Go ahead.

>> TRACY BROWN: Theresa Metzmaker?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Right. There we go. She has family medical things going on and she wasn't able to be here tonight and hopefully Glen will on here soon.

We do have a quorum.

I know that, Tracy, gives you and Steve a lot of materials, the Consent Agenda.

If you have quick questions that don't change the content at all, like I found the typo or this date was wrong, we can talk about those.

If it's content changing, we will have to pull it out of the Consent Agenda and move it down.

Are there any line item that's people need to have a discussion about that are part of our Consent Agenda items? Okay.

If you don't mind, I'm going to add a word to that that says accept the consent -- the items of the Consent Agenda.

Accept the items of the Consent Agenda.

>> Thank you.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: If someone could make that motion.

You can just say so moved.

>> JAMIA DAVIS: This is Jamia Davis.

So moved.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And a second.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: This is Jan Lampman, so moved.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Just because we are a big group, let's go ahead and do the roll call.

You're approving the Consent Agenda which approves the agenda for today and the draft meeting minutes and the -- go ahead Tracy.

>> TRACY BROWN: Frank Animikwam?

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Aye.

Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis.

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison.

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa.

>> MINDY KULASA: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce.

>> MARK PIERCE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Yvonne Fleener.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Aye.

I am not supposed to vote unless there's a tie.

That's what I was going to say.

>> TRACY BROWN: Motion carries.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Moving on, although we approved the report in whole I think it's important to have time to talk to.

>> STEVE LOCKE: And have him be able to give us the highlights and diagnose with him and let us know the highlights of your report.

>> STEVE LOCKE: The bulk of my report includes a SPIL Monitoring report that we'll go over in the meeting later.

The first report is the Blue Water CIL federal state grant terminations for cause of -- nonprofit status June 22nd SILC was informed -- on July 16th SILC was informed the MRS terminated the Blue Water CIL state -- the IRS terminated the Blue Water CIL's nonprofit status for failure to file form 990 for three years in a row.

I think it was at the end of June two Members of the executive committee and I met with ACL at their request and we discussed the Blue Water CIL termination.

They sent the letter to them on June 22nd by electric mail notifying them that their core grant, part C grant and cares act funding was terminated for cause.

We discussed next steps and immediate needer for Michigan SILC in a timeline.

Blue Water CIL was given 30 days to appeal ACL's decision.

They did not meet the deadline and they did not end up appealing that decision.

It was determined the part C funds could not be redistributed until after September 19th.

During the first 30 days both CIL and the SILC network got together to identify the strategy for filling the gap.

Splitting up the five counties would have been a temporary solution and a note of competition was send out by ACL.

There have been about five CILs that have gone belly up in Michigan's history.

All of those centers were Part B funded centers which means it stays within the jurisdiction of the state.

Because Blue Water was a part C funded independent center for living it took it out of the hands of the state and put it into ACL's lap and by federal regulation they were require today publicly bid this part C award out to the general public.

SILC's role was to broadcast this notice of funding opportunity to community partners in the Blue Water service area, including nonprofits and other entities that could potentially take over this area and create a new center for independent living.

On August 12th SILC leadership met with MRS and the CIL network leadership for temporary services to the Blue Water CIL service area.

Disability network McComb -- through a contract with MRS.

When ACL issued that notice of funding opportunity and after we broadcast that opportunity, the deadline to respond with applications for that part C award was September 7th.

About an hour and a half ago I received an email from Sean Bennet from ACL after I inquired today on the number of applications they received and whether or not ACL believes they can issue a part C award by September 30th of this year.

Sean did indicate that they are poised to actually make an award prior to the end of this fiscal year.

In our initial discussions of ACL they cannot award a part C grant in the middle of a fiscal year.

It has to be at the beginning.

We were up against a time crunch to get a permanent CIL restored in that area.

It sounds to me they will be awarding that grant by October 1st of this year.

They did not respond on how many applications they received so that's still an unknown at this point.

The part that our state had control over was the restoration of those temporary services and I really want to commend MRS for being a partner at the table and the CIL network for being a partner at the table for getting these temporary services restored there.

Our initial conversations with the CIL network indicated they were not interested in having one of the surrounding CILs absorb that area like southwest Michigan had done when they had lost their Part B award.

In our second meeting with the CIL network it appeared they changed their mind and decided to put in an application.

I think there was confusion on their part on their process.

They think the CIL put in the application that the part C award would automatically go to them.

We explained to them that this was the first time that a part C funded CIL has gone under here in Michigan and that triggered a whole federal requirement for this RFP process that ACL has gone through.

So as soon as I know and we hear from ACL on their discussion on who they're going to award this part C grant to, the Council and the CIL Directors will be the first to know.

Once I get that notification.

And then SILC will of course rally around whichever entity is chosen for that because it's going to be a slow growing period.

It's probably going to take a couple of years to get a fully functioning CIL up and operating in that area.

But I want to say how grateful I am to the CIL network and disability network for stepping forward and providing these temporary services.

It is no easy task to take on an additional service area and I'm grateful also to them and to MRS for being the best partners at the table for getting the services temporarily restored back into the area.

Are there any questions from the Council on what's happened? The other thing I want to say before we take questions is that once a new entity is selected, this will require a substantial SPIL amendment.

So we will revise the SPIL because there is going to be a new entity that is not currently listed in the SPIL in our funding tables and that's going to require substantial amendment which will require Public Hearings and a 30 day posting requirement.

So we'll make sure that we follow that process to the T and go from there.

So I'll open the floor to any questions around the Blue Water center's termination of their nonprofit status and their federal and state core grants.

>> MINDY KULASA: Steve this is Mindy Kulasa.

Does this major amendment that we are making to this SPIL, does this also give us the opportunity to make some other changes that we might like to see made to this SPIL that weren't contemplated when the SPIL was written or is it just going to focus on the Blue Water related changes?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yes, Mindy.

It would allow us to make any changes we wanted to in the SPIL.

That includes goals and objectives and any part of the SPIL that we want to modify, because we are still going to hold Public Hearings and we will hold any aspects that we modify to the state plan and it would be subject to a Public Comment period and a public hearing on the modifications.

And the modifications will still require the signatures of at least 51% of the CIL Directors and the CIL Chair and Bureau Director for MRS.

>> MINDY KULASA: Thank you, Steve.

I just wanted to clarify that.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Great question.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That is a great question and that's a great opportunity for us to make those changes.

Is there still discussion about switching -- I'm going to mess this all up but how CIL gets their funding and the solution to all the money that's not being spent that we had talked about or is that not in the works anymore?

>> STEVE LOCKE: That could be part of the substantial modification.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Can you put that into words that others can understand?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Part B money flows through the CIL and currently -- funded by three sources Part B money and innovation funds and GFCP and right now the CIL centers get money from the state in their state core contract which is made up of social security funds and general funds and Part B funds.

The way the state spends those funds, they spend Part B money last.

It can be carried forward for one fiscal year and the other if you finds can be.

Right now the CILs are not expending all of the state core contracts which ends up leaving Part B money on the table.

That has given ACL a little bit of heartburn and we've had conversations with them about why they're not spending all the money.

We've explained the method in which it uses and order of operations in which they push that money out the door.

One solution has been for SILC to retain more of the Part B money and spend that quicker throughout the year and be third in line for the CIL to expend toward the end of the year and they don't fully realize the drawdown of their state grant.

On what different arrangements we might be able to make in terms of moving these pools of money around because SILC is in a position to spend it quicker if the majority of our budget was made up of more Part B rather than these smaller buckets.

That's a potential strategy that ACL was in line with and I don't know Bill if you want to make any comment on that.

>> BILL ADDISON: We're kind of kicking the can down the road with Part B funding and there are several years in a row we have carry overs and the amounts are getting larger and larger and really the answer to the question to ensure we spend all the money is for the CILs to expend all of their budget and that hasn't been happening and I don't know if your proposed about of going to the CIL first would work because the amounts of money they're leaving on the table may end up in the same position that we carry over funds.

I'm not sure that's a remedy.

Because the second bucket we pull forth is SSA and that money if not used is lost by the CILs.

So it's kind of just -- it's kind of a shell game of where do you do it again? The answer is if everybody were to spend their budget which they did years ago this wouldn't be an issue.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Right.

SILC's budget is about \$365,000.

There's the option or consideration for the Council to think about where SILC's budget is 100% funded by Part B and welcome take a bigger bite out of that apple during the fiscal year to ensure the majority of those Part B monies are spent and not in this psyching of kicking the can down the road.

>> BILL ADDISON: What's also related to that -- say your organization spends all the federal dollars and the CIL still leaves money on the table for their contracts, that means they lose SSA money.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Right.

>> BILL ADDISON: There's an answer to this.

>> STEVE LOCKE: There's three masters here with different buckets and ACLs for SILC's purposes want to see Part B spent.

That would address only ACL's ask so you're right Bill.

>> BILL ADDISON: Yen.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Any other questions about the Blue Water CIL and the process, including Ex-Officio Members if any comments, try to jump in here.

>> BILL ADDISON: The only comment I have is that I'm glad we have a new CIL.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah, so Steve did they say when they would let you know what their choice has been?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Between now and September 30th because Sean is pretty confident they're going to make the award prior to October 1st and that's great we're not going to have to wait another fiscal year for that part C to be granted.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah that's fast for Federal Government.

>> STEVE LOCKE: It really is.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's good.

I'm glad they were motivated.

>> LISA KISIEL: I have a quick question and a long time ago I was a Chairperson of CIL and what comes to my mind is who is managing these conversations while this is being managed?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Disability network of McComb.

The CILs got together and divvied up.

She's going to take -- and there's a couple of other CILs that are going to be negotiating with MRS on that which is outside of SILC's purview.

>> LISA KISIEL: Gotcha.

Thank you.

>> STEVE LOCKE: You're welcome.

Thanks for the question.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Anything else you want to highlight? I know it's taking a lot of your time.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Strategic planning and statewide outreach.

Nonprofit network and created a strategic planning team and we've met multi-times and have met over the months.

Our strategic plan is done and we're still assessing the values and I'm going to operationalize the goals and objectives of that plan and once that's done it will be sent out to the full Council .

Later in the meeting Stephanie is going to review the revised mission statements which you sent for us to do.

On September 10th I issued a request for proposals for a comprehensive statewide outreach for underserved populations in Michigan.

Due by Sept 24th.

We pushed out to companies who do those services and we had that on [inaudible] website and they pushed it out to Members who verified those types of services.



The last thing in mind and we'll get to that during the budget but on August 27th Yvonne and I met with MRS and BS BP -- budget -- elimination of SILC's office space and elimination of database licensing support as we have moved to a new database --

Line item over all SILC's budget is approximately \$15,000 more than our current year's budget so we're kind of in a very similar situation to where we are now and we're able to take the savings from getting away from a physical office and putting it back into actual SPIL support and that's all I have

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: We're actually going to approve that budget, right?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yes.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Is that under Financial Reports or do we have a line item? I missed that.

We need to approve a budget.

>> STEVE LOCKE: It's under there.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: It's a bullet underneath the Finance report.

It's a little hash tag.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's not on the one I fingerprinted so I panicked a little bit.

I did want to say while I did attend that meeting with Steve I was filling in for Mindy and Mindy is the one who did all the hard work on this budget and all the research and numbers and that's all Mindy and Steve and kudos to you for having such a solid budget.

Thank you for all your work.

I know you did a lot on it.

>> MINDY KULASA: You're very welcome.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Moving onto finance and the budget -- we approved the reports but any highlights you want to share before moving into the actual budget or are you prepared to move into the budget?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I'll entertain questions. Did everybody have the opportunity to look at the Financial Reports for the last quarter?

I know you did Mindy because you labored over them.

You did them?

So before I even answer any questions, I would like to say that I'm just filling in for Mindy.

She did, like Yvonne said, she did all the work with Steve on creating that budget and getting the numbers and she just, as you all know, she has done such a magnificent job as our Treasurer and you're not going to get as beautiful a report as Mindy would give, but I can answer some questions.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I can pull up any of those reports if there's any questions on the reports from the budget to the year to date, check register, statement of financial position.

Any of those reports, if you want me to pull them up, I have them at the ready.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: You can pull up the Financial Report and we can talk about the money that you've got the RFP -- you know the money that's in for the SPIL report that's there that you're hoping to be able to --

>> STEVE LOCKE: Here we go.

Okay.

I'm still learning how to use Zoom.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: That's okay.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Did you want the budget to actual or next year's budget?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: To show where we are this year.

If you can scroll down and I wanted to point out a couple of things.

The one thing I wanted to point out is that large amount of money that we haven't spent yet that you put the RFPs out for.

>> STEVE LOCKE: That would be SPIL support right here.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Highlight that line.

There we go.

So as you can see, our actual expenditure on that budget line is much significantly less than what we budgeted for the year and we're almost to the end of the fiscal year.

So hopefully, we'll be able to use some of that funds, assuming we get a good RFP back that we want to accept and that we can prepay or paying for some of that service before the end of the fiscal year.

Otherwise we are going to leave -- there will be some money left on the table on that budget line so I wanted to make sure folks noticed that and if you have any questions about that, why that is.

>> STEVE LOCKE: And just to be clear on this line item -- we contracted with nonprofit network for our strategic planning for \$15,000 as a prelude to our outreach that we have the RFP out on now.

The RFP is due September 24th.

If we make an award of contract prior to the end of the year there is a potential we can draw down a little bit more of this money if they require a 10%, 15% down payment.

But when we say we leave money on the table, these are actually upset limits against our expenses and we don't want to do a fast and furious year end expenditure of money.

We're doing slow walking through this and we have an increase in this line.

>> ANNIE URASKY: Line item as you'll see in our next budget -- we actually have \$75,000 in there.

We're on a reimbursement basis.

Because we don't spend it doesn't mean the money will be wasted.

MRS about take it back and put it back into the buckets.

Simply because it wasn't spent doesn't mean that it was not needed.

We slow walked outreach because we wanted to do strategic planning prior to outreach and we may be able to tap this bucket before September 30th and don't feel we didn't do what we were supposed to.

We're doing exactly what we're supposed to and next year we have a bigger bucket for that outreach and other SPIL items.

I'll turn it over to Jan.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: That was excellent.

Thank you, Steve.

Steve and Tracy do an excellent job of maintaining expenses in a way that is fiscally responsible and so we don't really have any line items where they've blown a bunch of money or gone over budget.

They've done an excellent job of keeping this budget in line.

I think we all agree we all agreed that we wanted to get the strategic planning done before we move forward with the outreach and we have done what we intended to do and we have a good looking set of financials.

If nobody has any questions I would like to move onto the upcoming budget.

And while Steve is pulling that up, he already let you know we're not going to have -- we have some reduced expenses as a result of no longer having physical office space that we'll be paying for into the future year.

But did -- we also sent this out in advance, right, Steve?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yes.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I thought everyone got this but let me start by asking if everyone had a chance to look at this budget ask what questions popped out at you right at first? I can't tell if people are raising their hands.

How do you do that when you're -- will it tell me?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I haven't really been able to figure that out either but we just want people to speak up and we're pretty casual about this.

Informal about people speaking.

So.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Just state your name ahead of time for the record.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Right.

So Steve do you -- I mean, there's a few line items that we wanted to probably point out, one of them being -- do we want to -- go ahead move to what you want me to talk about first and then I will.

Let's go down -- to the SPIL support? Yeah.

Right there.

So as you can see, this injury we budgeted \$75,000 for SPIL support because next -- in the upcoming budget year we have this strategic plan done and we have the RFP done for the outreach and at this point we feel like we can hit the ground running and do a lot of great things and that's why we were able to get \$75,000 in that budget line and I think that's a good amount.

Steve you feel comfortable with that number?

>> STEVE LOCKE: I do and I really don't think that we're going to expend that amount and we explained that to MRS and BSBP that this was an upset limit because it's an unknown for us based on the requirements for the SPIL and what we need to do but in the RFP we budgeted \$45,000 for the comprehensive statewide outreach plan.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: And there may be other things like the merge we want to be able to do and flexibility and funds for that.

Council meetings -- we are going to have in person Council meetings again.

We have faith so we kept money in the budget for that.

>> STEVE LOCKE: The statewide database licensing,-- we're going to change this line item name.

In our negotiations we left \$17,000 in there that's what they had and they're no longer using that database and they switched over to a new one but the new system for aggregate statewide data and for their new vendor it's \$120 to create custom reports and we don't know if we're going to have to have custom reports made and most of our -- not reliant on database data.

But we left it in there.

More than likely this will end up at zero expenditure or \$500.

\$365,971 -- our budget will come in way lower than that in actual by the end of the fiscal year.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: There are other associated expenses because of not having an office.

You tend to need less office supplies if you don't have an office.

>> STEVE LOCKE: This line item here with communications -- internet and phone cost are going to go away.

We have been paying \$3,000 a year for telephones and we have been able to pull it over to a cloud based system and we have an automated attendant to redirect calls and Tracy has got that set up and we're going to have quite a bit of savings for internet and phone and other things that are office related so we're going to see a definite savings in this budget.

>> MARK PIERCE: Steve, this is Mark with the network and I appreciate you being so frugal with the budget. And by the way, the Council is always invited to come to my office and use the facility.

I'm not upset over that and I'm glad you counted at that.

One of the things I have a little bit of concern about is without an actual physical office, what are we going to do if a person did want to meet in person or do you want the CILs to take on that piece? Even with the virtual piece we do struggle sometimes with people that don't have the technology to log in and to do those things from home.

So have y'all came up with a way to engage consumers and things and if they needed that.

>> STEVE LOCKE: You mean Mark as far as their ability to participate in Council meetings?

>> MARK PIERCE: Council or Public Comment if they struggle with that.

I'm willing to open up the CIL for that.

I just thought was that a thought of that? I know in the past we did have consumers that came to the actual meeting.

>> STEVE LOCKE: When we start meeting in person, Mark, we're going to be satelliting around to the different centers in Michigan.

We'll have in person meetings and we'll have capacity for people to dial in by Zoom because we'll have webcams going and also to be able to dial in by phone.

>> MARK PIERCE: Depending on what the disability is and where they're at, just something written out that they can contact their local CIL if it's close enough for an accommodation.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: If someone called you Steve and said I want to come and meet with you and talk about something, there's not a location for them to go to, Mark is saying would you refer them to the local CIL?

>> STEVE LOCKE: That is exactly what we would do.

SILC is not a service provider.

We do I&Rs in referring them to the CIL in the area in which they live.

We're usually only contacted by email or voice mail and make the appropriate referral to that CIL so there's really not a need for us to meet face-to-face with consumers because that is the realm of the centers for independent living and not SILC because we're federally prohibited --

>> MARK PIERCE: I follow you but I've been working with people with disabilities for many years and sometimes they don't understand and I'm trying to think of accommodations options.

I follow you.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Great question, Mark.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Any other questions or comments about the budget as presented?

>> MINDY KULASA: This is Mindy Kulasa, Steve, can you go up to the salaries line item, please? In the budget if you look at total of category \$5,000 wage expense.

You'll notice in the assumptions that for the first time in years we actually have some projected salary increases for Steve and for Tracy.

And when I cited about our budget, our personnel costs are the most important and expensive resource we have and they're also the best resource we have.

And so we really wanted to make sure that we were taking care of our human resources and that's why you see wage increases built in to keep up with the rise in inflation and then you see a forecasted 4% increase available for merit increases.

So investing in our human resources is critical and for me, this was the most important line item in the whole budget this year.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Yeah you're right Mindy and thank you by the way for all of the calculate and going that was a lot for Mindy to come up with what would be a fair amount to increase the wages with regard to inflation and the fact that they haven't received an increase in I don't know how many years it's been.

Mindy, do you remember how many years it's been?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Three and a half.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Yeah Steve probably knows that.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Three years 22 days and five-minutes.

>> MARK PIERCE: Wow.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Just kidding.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: We'll talk a little bit later and I think the executive committee or someone is going to speak about Steve's review and things and we forecasted up to 4% for the Staff merit increases moving forward so thank you for all the work on that, Mindy.

That is critically important that we be able to do that for our employees.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah.

>> STEVE LOCKE: And Mindy, you did an incredible job with all of that and I want the Council to know the 2% on 10/1 and 1% on 4/1 were cost of living increases the state employees earned and after freeze we had a flat wage.

Mindy went and researched what the state got.

They've pushed the state is on a wage freeze and you shouldn't get anything anyway because of that.

After the budget was improved and we get into the fiscal year and the state gave increases to state employ Tracy and I didn't get anything and Mindy backtracked and that is where that is from.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: It's a very modest increase and so -- plan to I have to say this every time, not to be confused that Steve and Tracy are state employees because they are not.

They are employees of a nonprofit 501(c)(3) but it's a baseline that was used for that which I agree with but they are not state employees and we don't want to lose sight of that.

Any other questions for Jan or any other comments between Mindy, Jan, and Steve? No?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right well hearing done if we can get a motion to accept the proposed 2022 SILC budget you can say so by saying so moved.

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: So moved.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And a second, please.

>> GLEN ASHLOCK: Second.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you, Glen.

Tracy, can you please do a Roll call vote for this.

>> TRACY BROWN: Sure.

>> TRACY BROWN: Frank Animikwam?

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Glen Ashlock.

>> GLEN ASHLOCK: Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis.

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison.

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa.

>> MINDY KULASA: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce.

>> MARK PIERCE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Motion carries.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right we have our new budget.

Yay.

All right without further ado we're going to stay on schedule.

Stephanie all of you at some way shape or form have been part of our strategic planning which then started with the vision in Michigan.

We brought that to you with kind of where we were at.

There were some recommendations that you had us take back and we did that and Stephanie is going to present that to you.

Drum roll.

Waiting for it to arrive.

I can see Steve pulling it up.

>> STEVE LOCKE: And I pulled up the wrong one.

There we go.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: All right as Steve already mentioned earlier in our meeting, we kind of took some feedback that we got from the full Council and Ex-Officio Members at our last meeting and took this back to working with Regina from nonprofit network and made some adjustments to our mission and vision based on the feedback that we got.

So as it stands right now our mission is people with disabilities advocating for inclusion, equity, and accessibility in all communities.

And our vision is people with disabilities are valued; their rights are undeniable and inherent in all aspects of life.

I would like to open the floor to any thoughts or feedback on those two statements.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Just as a tickler, there was some hang ups on our vision statement when we had the word inalienable that we pulled out of the constitution and that created some dialogue during our last meeting and you sent us back to the drawing table.

On that in some of the discussion that evolved from that and this is what the team came up with and there was a lot of excitement around this revision.

So just wanted to offer that.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And then the mission we didn't have people with disabilities in the mission and so we took that need back and kind of rearranged that sentence to make sure that was in there and I kind of like where it lands where it's people with disabilities are advocating.



Not that we're advocating for them but they're advocating themselves.

We would like to vote on this and make it more final.

The values, Regina and others have been working on that and Steve is going to put some more finesse in that.

Take 30 seconds and read through those and see if anything else comes to mind.

Otherwise, Stephanie, we'll go ahead and call for a motion.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thirty seconds can feel like a very long time, can't it? Stephanie, did you have anything else to add or anyone else have thoughts or comments before we move to accept these as our new mission and vision?

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: I did not, other than, um, I'm speaking for those that were in the Strategic Planning Committee.

It was wonderful to work with Regina.

She was very easy to work with, brought out some great discussion and then also the feedback that everyone gave on the retreats was phenomenal, so thank you for participating.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah.

Thank you.

All right.

Can I get a motion to accept our new mission and vision statements?

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: I'll make a motion.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you and a second?

>> JAMIA DAVIS: This is Jamia Davis. I second the motion.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right you got me nervous.

I was going to be able to not have to move forward.

Tracy Roll call?

>> TRACY BROWN: Sure.

Frank Animikwam?

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Aye, Aye, and Aye each for mission and vision.

>> TRACY BROWN: Glen Ashlock?

>> GLEN ASHLOCK: Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis.  
>> JAMIA DAVIS: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible.  
>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison.  
>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa.  
>> MINDY KULASA: Aye, Aye captain.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman.  
>> JAN LAMPMAN: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce.  
>> MARK PIERCE: Aye.  
>> TRACY BROWN: Motion carries.  
>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right.

That's exciting you guys.

I think it's great.

And I'm excited to see what comes next from that.

So all right just to keep us on track we celebrated that for thirty seconds and now it's time to move on.

Ex-Officio Reports, I moved you up in the agenda tonight so you don't have to do your reports at 8:00 o'clock at night so you're welcome.

Bill Addison starting with you.

What's going on?

>> BILL ADDISON: I'm wondering why I've been moved up here is this a plot?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: No.

>> BILL ADDISON: All right.

A couple of things to go over.

MRS wide information to drill did down here.

As you probably know MRS has extended the back to work.

It's now extended to October 4th and from October 4th and we have a different model of how many days a week a person will be in the office and it will vary from anywhere from zero to three days out of the office working at home, depending on the type of position that you have.

Good news is MRS budget is going through the process and it looks like we're going to get the same amount as we did last year which is good news for us.

It appears the CIL budget is still alive and well and it has a couple more steps to go through.

It will increase the budget, the contract amounts by \$3 million also want to go over our numbers for MRS -- I'm getting some -- hold on -- I'm getting some feedback here.

So what these numbers are -- I don't know if you can still see them.

I have the chart up.

Is each month we track the number of individuals who apply to MRS for services and this is an important number because it not only impacts MRS and our workloads.

It will also in the future impact CILs because the CILs are the ones that we use to provide services for our customers and kind of really good news here on the last couple of months.

I'm looking now at April, May, June, and July. And all three of those months have had huge increases from the prior year at the same time.

Of course it's not quite up to what it was in 2019.

It certainly -- making huge improvements from the COVID years that we experienced.

So all of that is good news.

It's kind of coming back to normal then.

We're seeing some trend that's make us believe we're going to be at the same numbers we were pre-Covid.

I think that's about all I was.

I want to make one other comment.

I think your vision statement that you just voted on, to me is the strongest and most motivating vision statement I've ever read and we have to do these constant leonine that's awesome.

Thank you so much for that.

>> BILL ADDISON: [inaudible].

>> MARK PIERCE: Thank you Bill.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: You helped with it, so it's yours too.

>> MARK PIERCE: [ Laughter ]

>> BILL ADDISON: That's all I have, Steve.

>> MINDY KULASA: Bill this is Mindy Kulasa.

So you're still feeling fairly confident about that incremental budget increase of this \$3 million that the state has been dragging their feet on until the very end here?

>> BILL ADDISON: Well it's like -- a budget if you've been around them for a long time, especially if you're talking about budgets established by the State Legislature.

It's like a 15 round fight.

Every round so far the CIL has answered and they're ready to go.

Probably 12 or 13, Mark? No knockouts yet but we're getting close.

>> MINDY KULASA: Okay.

Good.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And Bill we will keep moving you earlier in the agenda if you're going to bring good news and say nice things.

When you don't say nice things you get moved lower in the agenda.

>> BILL ADDISON: It's all work.

I have to be nice sometimes, right?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you and thank you for attending all of those meetings and being a part of that.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Thank you, Bill.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Lisa, you are up next.

>> BILL ADDISON: [inaudible].

>> What I want to say is do not convict me for the sins of my partner over there.

I usually say nice things.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That is true.

>> LISA KISIEL: Yeah, so since we met last, BSBP has fully engaged with our customers in the field.

We do have some hybrid schedules we call them remote work schedules where individuals like Bill said are working between zero and three days out of the office.

Most of those folks -- and our administrative support Staff team are in the office up to three days a week and remote working two days a week.

Our field Staff, we have reassigned their official workstations to be their home.

So they leave from their home and return to their home to serve customers and I think, they think so we are itinerant and so we see our customers in our environment.

We don't have a huge office present for our customers and we sort of, as Bill was saying there was encourage and expect and our Director would write to expect.

When we were given the goal to reengage we have done that.

We have a state of start plan and our Staff wear masks and obviously observe social distancing when possible and all the PPE is provided and we are also seeing an uptick in our independent living programs.

I spoke with our [inaudible] office this morning and they've got over 30 referrals which is huge and I only have one teacher up there.

So we have a lot of individuals who especially our Black population who are interested in reengaging and needing the services.

We also find technology of being one of the biggest services that folks are requesting.

So we are -- we hit the ground running when July 12th came.

We continued to do that.

We continued to navigate concerns or questions folks and although I think folks are excited for the most part to be able to be out and reengaged.

>> ANNIE URASKY: Engaging.

We are going to be celebrating our Excellence awards on October 14th so we'll make sure as a Council get an invitation to that event and that's where we celebrate the successes of our customers, our community partners, and our business partners and this year we actually nominated independent living Part B customer which is usually, you know, a different customer base than our independent living blind -- this individual because of the services provided utilizing the independent Part B program moved over to DR because we were able to demonstrate their ability.

They were able to use our services to gain skills and demonstrate their skills and interest in wanting to work.

That was a great story every day dedicated to that program and that folks work towards -- their economic position in a positive way.

We finished -- we completed the survey -- satisfaction survey with some of Mark's Staff.

Which was great.

We had great appearance with them and we nominated them for a Community Partner award.

They know already.

So they will be receiving that on October 14th, not only the work they've done in helping us to complete that satisfaction survey but also with the -- oh my gosh.

We have a -- camp that they help with us and I'm blanking on the name and that's horrible.

We are excited to support our partnership, always. We are in the middle of as is MRS in the middle cycle review of our state plan.

Although we have a four-year state plan, every two years we have to revisit that explain like you're saying with the SPIL, we have to reopen that plan and reevaluate and look for changes and that's happening as we speak and getting underway and I know Bill is a part of that and there are common elements that MRS BSBP puts together.

We're busy and tired and there's a lot going on and there's a lot of need and we've been over 18 months with a full role on some of these things and it's all hands on deck at this point.

So we appreciate our partners because we can't do it without you guys.

Any questions?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you, Lisa.

Are there any questions for her? You have the most vibrant background of -- I don't know if that's the Chicago skyline? I can't quite tell.

It's nice.

And then you have the beautiful colored shirt on.

You just win the award for the most vibrant screen.

But thank you to you too for being part of our strategic planning meeting and taking the time to do.

Having you involved makes us better so thank you.

>> LISA KISIEL: I really enjoyed it and some of you got to see me doing some sidebar cooking while we worked together and I enjoy that and I mean that and I do agree with Bill about your Mission Statement.

I really do think it's a solid piece of work and I think that Regina did a really nice job.

And I've been involved as probably most of you in a lot of strategic planning experiences.

Plan to that's good feedback.

>> LISA KISIEL: This was really good.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Good.

Jan just let us know that she's got to leave her meeting to pick up her son, because he was in a bicycle accident so she'll be taking off and hopefully Jan that works out okay.

>>LISA KISIEL: If I can add a little technical assistance, if you want to raise your hand or leave an emoticon or smile, down at the bottom where it says reaction.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's helpful.

I didn't know where it was.

Nice.

Okay.

>> LISA KISIEL: There you go.

I don't know what that face is but whatever.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's good.

That's a wow face it looks like.

Okay.

Thank you for that.

Annie, you are next from the Department of Civil Rights.

>> Hello this is Annie signing thank you for having me here.

Just a few updates from our end.

I want to say September is an exciting month for us because it is Deaf Awareness month and the department has been posting different facts about deaf culture and different historical facts related to our community and that's really a way to help elevate awareness.

So I'll send you some of that in the chat, so you can find our post on the Facebook page and also our Twitter account.

>> ANNIE URASKY: So and I just wanted to share that with you so you can share it with anyone in your network you know you can share those posts and there are a lot of interesting facts that many people aren't aware of.

For example, with name signs, if ever you notice when I introduce myself, I say my name is Annie and my name sign is the letter A right here by my cheek, by my smile so it shares facts about name signs and so for me, for the Deaf community, I can't make up my own name sign.

You have to be given your name sign by another Member of the community, by another Deaf person.

It might be a personal quirk or a certain characteristic that you have and your name sign can change over time.

If you are an ally within the community, maybe you're Deaf, blind or hard of hearing, but you are given a name sign by the community and that's just a sign of respect.

So I just want to share that little anecdote there and yesterday the house, the legislative floor they did a proclamation recognizing that it was Deaf Awareness month and they also planned an ASL tour of the capital and so any individuals who were interested in going were able to join.

Every year we try to do something related to the Deaf awareness month like that.

And then later this month we'll be hosting an internal discussion like a lunch and learn for the state employees.

About Deaf Awareness month and we'll have a panel discussion, some people from our advisory Council will be there and we're going to bring in representatives from MD LEG so definite representatives from there and it's going to be an hour discussion and we want to have different Members of the community represents and a lot of people are not aware of that, especially Members of the hearing community.

I want to give you a brief reminder: Don't get about the month of October.

I don't know if you're aware, but it's National Disability Employment Awareness month and I know I'm going to be involved with other panel discussions for personal partners that we work with in the community.

What disability employment means to you.

So there's going to be different information and I'm going to send that out to the network so that if you are able to join those events or different agencies within Michigan will be involved and also at the national level as well.

And two last things -- I just want to wrap up with.

Starting with our new fiscal year, we'll be having a new training division.

So that means that the new training division is going to focus on two things -- internal and external training so that means partners.

We'll be looking for partners that we would like to do different trainings with, things related to civil rights resources and trainings and different presentations.

So we're kind of revamping how we connect with different agencies.

How we connect with organizations who are looking for specific trainings.

So if you're interested or anything down the road, I'll be happy to send you any information regarding that because it will definitely be worth it for anyone needing professional development and want to go collaborate and work with other partners being able to network with other communities and organizations that work within the disability community.

We're going to be scheduling interviews -- house experts.

So in regards to the Fair Housing Act so we're interviewing different agencies based on their experience and their awareness about the impact of COVID in relation to housing and housing issues for people with disabilities.

So anyone in your organizations or people that you know directly that are directly impacted by COVID and their services for fair housing and so we want to -- in addition we want them to contact us and contact me and we can schedule a time that I can meet with them and interview them so that we can get information and get some data collected in regards to that for that grant and I'll send you some of that.

And I think that's it for me.

I'm happy -- I'm here to answer any questions if anybody has anything.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Annie, you guys are always doing so much and I always look forward to hearing what you have to say and getting your links.

Thank you so much for what you're doing.



>> ANNIE URASKY: Absolutely.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I know you also have participated strategic planning and I appreciate your time.

Hearing no questions, please do share those links with us.

Appreciate that.

I do not believe Janis and Vendella are on, but let me give a shout out to make sure I didn't miss them.

Now we are to Mark Pierce with the CIL update.

>> MARK PIERCE: Thank you, Yvonne.

I have a few things I would like to update you on.

I think some of them have already been shared.

One of them is the situation with Blue Water -- we lost the CIL there and we're looking forward to getting a new one in that area, the thumb area, to move forward.

I think Bill brought up that piece about \$3 million increase for core funding for the network.blue

We're anxiously waiting for that and we'll see how it plays out.

It would be nice if we got it right in October, but we know that usually in the past we have to wait a little while to stand everything up and that attributes to the ability to use all of the funds but I believe we'll be fine with that.

One of the big things that's going on and I don't know if you've heard anything, the no wrong door got extended with the AAAs to March 2022 for many of the CILs which was good.

We did have a real big influx of COVID dollars this year that just made it difficult to engage on all of the projects.

One of the other things that with the -- the AAAs or TCOA, they're asking us to make calls to some other group homes and things and it's a pretty big extensive lists and we just got the Intel on Fridays and we're going to make call to see group homes to see how the COVID has affected consumers there.

July was a big month for us.

All of the CIL selected from form of the ADA 31st anniversary celebration.

I don't know if you have been able to have a chance to be a part of it but it was a big thing for uh-uhs.

CILs -- due back Thursday this week -- isn't that right, Bill.

>> BILL ADDISON: That is correct.

>> MARK PIERCE: The MOUs.

>> BILL ADDISON: Maybe the definition of what an MOU is, Mark?

>> MARK PIERCE: The MOU is the agreement between the CILs and MRS concerning their fee for service services.

And so they have this long list of different services that a CIL will perform for MRS as a partner and they also have the schedule of which we will charge for each of them services and so each CIL might get so much every year.

I don't know if you remember like for years we had -- we still have it -- the employment navigator money.

Last year there was a little bit of a discussion about that and some of the CILs took a little bit of a cut and that's more to adult services and so usually a CIL received a hundred thousand dollars for that and one of the situations where many of us were having trouble trying to spend the hundred thousand dollars and last year we were able to talk about that a little bit and get that money reduced.

I know in my particular CIL we reduced down \$7,300.

It's a history thing.

You look over years and how you spent that money and you give that type of report back and we appreciate MRS taking the time to go over with that.

What they do with the MOU is send it out to us.

One of the neat things about this year is with each CIL.

So the language is individual and you know it's not just blanket thing for the whole state.

Each CIL picks the services they're able to do with MRS and it's predicated on what your geographical location is.

Where was I at? Okay.

Any questions on that part? So all that does is makes CILs get ready for their budget and so that's always a big thing.

Diane from the network, our Board Chair, shed a few things she wanted to share with you today and that is, I think in our last meeting in July I did tell you about Terry Langley of the network.

She is our new Director of Community Relations and there's a press release that talks about her background.

That's why I sent that to you, Steve, so that you can get it out to the Members about Terry.

She's a fantastic person and she spent about 22 years at the Capitol as a Lobbyist and we're happy to have her on Board.

Not a lobbyist.

She was a -- come on Mark think about it.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Actually, Mark I had that hour long meeting with her and she's working with State Senators and State Representatives for about twenty years in the State Legislature and she's on a first name basis with the Governor and she's very well connected in the State Capital.

>> MARK PIERCE: What do you call it?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Legislative Staff.

>> MARK PIERCE: She's been doing that for over twenty years and she's really good.

Make one time check can you tell me on our meetings and tell us about the climate in Michigan.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That would be good.

>> MARK PIERCE: We talked about the CIL First database and the CILs are uploading that as we speak and implementing it.

It's a real intuitive type of data base and we're feeling good about it.

It was a little shaky at first but we believe it's going to be very comprehensive for us and that was what Steve was referring to what do we do in terms of getting a query from the SILC about information we need from the CILs and it's just automated like a poll is and make it as easy for everybody and you wouldn't believe what I go through to get people to report here.

The Directors continue to meet weekly on Zoom.

I just want to share with you about a person that's getting ready to leave the CIL.

Mindy would know a lot about him.

Joel Cooper and he's getting ready to retire from a CIL in Southwest Michigan after 24 years of service.

And so this Friday the Directors are going to take out some time to celebrate the leadership and his interaction in the network.

He's going to be missed and I hope I can hook onto him and get some more mentorship out of him.

If you don't know Joel Cooper -- wow.

I think all of you did because you went to see him --

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: He did a training for us on Board Governance.

>> MARK PIERCE: Yes, he's the man and we really hate his going.

Okay.

So, I think I've already talked about the network.

>> LISA KISIEL: This is Lisa if I can interrupt you real quick.

This is going to date me and age me, but I was on the recruiting committee that hired Joe back in the day.

>> MARK PIERCE: Get out of here.

Are we telling our age there?

>> LISA KISIEL: Yep, yep, I was part of this --

>> MARK PIERCE: So you were on the recruiting committee for that?

>> LISA KISIEL: Uh-huh.

>> STEVE LOCKE: That's incredible Lisa.

I've known him and had the pleasure of knowing him for 16 years as a colleague and a friend and his retirement is tomorrow down at Western Michigan University and I'm going to be there as a SILC Representative but also as a person and personal friend of Joel's and just appreciative of his 40 plus years and he worked in [inaudible] prior to becoming a CIL Director and I'm incredibly grateful to him and be a colleague of him.

Representing the Council and myself. Last I heard they weren't having it.

>> MARK PIERCE: That's what I heard too, Steve..

>> MINDY KULASA: We had to cancel it or postpone it?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Really? I guess I wasn't on the invite list then.

>> LISA KISIEL: Don't go.

>> MINDY KULASA: You are, but it's been postponed because of COVID.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Really? Okay.

>> MARK PIERCE: I'm glad you said it Mindy.

I didn't want to bust his bubble.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Good to know.

>> LISA KISIEL: If they were holding it, I would be there.

>> MARK PIERCE: Yeah, I would too.

>> LISA KISIEL: And so interestingly enough -- sorry I know I digress and I was expecting my first baby or second I guess when we hired him and my husband had volunteered at Disability Network for oh my gosh -- 25 years? It's been a long time.

So um yeah.

Huge relationship and Joel came from Alpina and when he worked with mental health and then his wife is actually -- she worked with my ophthalmologists office and I saw her awhile back and she's, Joel's wife.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Given that there seems to be a number of connections to him for Council Members, could you write something that we formally kind of say we would like to on behalf of the Council acknowledging his work.

On behalf of SILC.

>> STEVE LOCKE: We'll get a plaque.

I'll have Tracy get a plaque from SILC to honor his years of service.

>> LISA KISIEL: Don't go to the center tomorrow.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I'm so glad I missed this meeting because I would get up there and think I offended everybody and nobody showed up.

>> MARK PIERCE: Don't feel bad, Steve.

>> LISA KISIEL: You come up here Steve I'll call you and go to dinner with you no problem.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I like that.

I think that would be really nice.

Thank you for coordinating that for us.

Sorry Mark, we got off track a little bit.

>> MARK PIERCE: That's okay.

That was a real nice rabbit hole.

That was a great one.

So Joel will be leaving and we want to celebrate him on Friday.

If you're going to get him a plaque that would be great.

I know he would love it.

So this is a piece here that came at the last-minute.

From the accessibility inclusion project for the SPIL.

And so this came from and I'm going to send these notes to you, Steve.

We're gaining statewide recognition for DNM utilizing the new Absolute Accessibility Michigan cobrand.

So you're going to get a chance to see some new programming for the network with a nice logo.

Provide a great number of ADA accessibility reviews and DEI training to customers and then growing to overall customer base of Disability Network Michigan and individual CILs.

So for the accessibility inclusion, this is a piece that we want to go out and let the communities know that we're able to do not just our sector but some of the private sector and things too.

That's a new one rolling out.

Hopefully, at our next meeting in January I'll be able to talk about that brand.

Any questions?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: We have a lot going on coming out of the pandemic.

Thank you.

>> MARK PIERCE: I'm going to send this to you now Steve.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: If you have to be back a few minutes late because you need a longer break I understand.

I'm going to be back at 7:00 to keep us on track.

There are six bullet points but of those, there are three that we'll be talking about.

So don't panic.

I think we're going to do okay timewise.

So if you could come back.

Let's say 7:05 so we don't lose our entire break and then we'll get started as 7:05.

See you then.

[ Break ]

>>CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Let's go ahead and jump back in so SPIL Monitoring.

I know Steve you were working hard to facilitate these discussions groups and so are you prepared to speak on behalf of Theresa Metzmaker and John Hart? Any updates on advocate and leadership? Steve we can't hear you.

Advocacy and Leadership?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Okay.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: There you are.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Hold on just a moment and I will give you a quick update on that time.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Okay.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Since our last meeting John has started an advocate group that Lisa and I have joined.

John and SILC will be collaborating with MDRS with their YELL program and we're looking at the aspects of the -- we're going to research potential costs and funding sources with the goal of holding the Summit in 2023 John has contacted all Directors five CILs replied and a meeting was held in February and MDRC was contacted on several observations and a virtual drive was set up for materials and several of the --

SILC and MDRC is in progress and an outreach for YELL curriculum has been confirmed and that's the update that John gave me about a week or so ago

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's great.

>> STEVE LOCKE: It's moving forward definite leonine my own caveat was we were going to try a leadership forum in the UP if that could be kept on the table as a possibility.

I think that's important.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Sure.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Great and the next one is the personal care attendants.

And Jan I know you've been busy with this and Lori Sanders.

Tell us what's going on.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I can tell you that having talked about Jim Stamas the Chair of the Appropriations Committee for the Senate -- the -- the bill is going well by the temporary age increase that had been given to direct care workers, it's one of the safe things in the budget and he fully expects it to pass but the question is whether it would be the \$3 as proposed by the governor's budget or the \$235 which was in the Senate's proposed budget.

We don't know the exact amount but we know the wage increase at some level at \$2 is going to be permanent and that is amazing.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: It is amazing.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I would like to point out that Jim Stamas has been a huge champion in the senate and the legislature for that wage increase and were he not the Chair of Appropriations I'm not sure we would have made the headway that we did.

I'm going to say that to anybody who will listen.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I don't think it would -- I don't think it over it over the line to send him a thank you letter from SILC that just says we appreciate your good work.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I think that would be really good.

Yeah.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Steve and Tracy can we send him a letter? Unless someone objects to that.

Just a thank you for your leadership for disability issues or I guess senior and disability issues.

I'm happy to help draft it if you struggle and I'm sure you can do it and Jan can certainly do it too.

What is his district? Do you know off the top of your head?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: I surely do and it includes my home.

He's a neighbor.

So he and I have a long history.

Our families have known each other for decades and he headquarters a personal connection -- there's a family friend that's practically one of his brothers that grew up together and he has down syndrome and

works at the pizza store and so Jim and all of the Stama's who have been in politics have been one friend of the issues that she really championed John and have always championed his equity for people with developmental disabilities or other kinds of disabilities but of their brother/family Tim.

So there's a very strong personal connection which we know helps.

Some other cool things that are happening is the direct support worker or direct wage coalition -- 18 statewide coalitions I sit on that workgroup.

We commissioned a return on investment sort of study related to what would -- how does -- what is the economic impact of giving that dollars race to direct support workforce? The thousand or so workers just working in the mental health part of the that or the mental health dollars and what would be the economic impact if we gave a \$5 increase and so the study was just completed.

It was just released this afternoon.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER:

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Actually and the authors are a former House Fiscal Agency Director and a former State Treasurer and they're highly respected of our legislators and the current registration.

I'll make sure to get that to Steve so he can get it to all of you.

I think it's a great tool to use when we're trying to advocate.

It's not just that those workers are getting more money but there are so many other economic benefits to those wage increases and we were really excited when we got that study back.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Very cool.

I'm excited to look at it.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Yeah so we've been meeting with the administration.

We've been meeting with the State Budget office.

We've been meeting, with, you know, the budget folks to start with the advocacy in getting the rates embedded into the system instead of legislative.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That would be fantastic.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: The think from the standpoint of organizations that are trying to provide this work and do this work, the way the wages are passed through becomes administrative nightmare and we're starting to do work with the administration and the department to try to improve that.

Because really if we can get the department to start thinking of it in terms of a raise in the rates, right?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Right.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Then I think we can have a bigger impact in terms of getting that up to that.

We think the sweet spot is \$18 to \$19 an hour.

That's what we're going for.



>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: For the reimbursed rate for the provider.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: No.

For the wage.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Fantastic.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: If you look at the Alice studies they've done for Families who are working but yet income constrained, right?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: We know that you have to -- a single person needs to be making -- a single person with kids needs to be making at least \$13 an hour, right? Most of our workforce with parents and so as soon as you add kids into the mix.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: A lot of them are single too.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: A lot of single parents.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Am I getting feedback to you all? No? Okay.

>> It was but then it stopped.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Good we think the \$18 or \$19 an hour is that sweet spot so that's what we're going for.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That was me I think.

Sorry about that.

I think I was unmuted.

How do you plan foreign insuring -- part of the nightmare of the administrative piece is that we have to be able to prove that that dollars and cents right now went directly to them and we didn't keep it.

If it becomes part of the Medicaid reimbursement rate what's to stop a provider from paying minimum wages because they're still going to have to track it somehow.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Actually, there is some mechanism embedded in the way that the system can work.

I don't think that it happens often but you know, Medicare can come back and say we paid you X number of dollars for that unit of service.

Break that down and tell us what you spent all of that on.

There are some mechanisms within the system that could be brought into play to make sure that the right amount is going to the actual workers.

In reality to my Libertarian and Republican friends would say the way you do that is by the market.

If you're a provider low balling the wage you're not going to get Staff.

We have to get the wage up there before we get to that place.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Well that's fantastic news.

So I'm so glad that you've been involved with that.

We do have an in-part alliance Council meeting coming up September 30th and I don't know -- is impart alliance still part of the work that you're doing is or is that a different track from what you're working on.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: We have been laser focused on the wage where impart alliance has a broader focus.

Impart alliance is focusing on training and career, and the whole issue of that being a respected role.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Right.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: So, I hope there's going to be some movement because some of the things that we've been talking about at the wage coalition that's outside of the scope of our work that we're hoping to see is there are federal one time only dollars that we still as a state have to decide how we're going to spend them and some of that work around creating infrastructure for training infrastructure for a career pass -- those onetime dollars can be used for and I hope that comes out of their work.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: This is part of my job right now but one of the things that is treasury training is that every funder have audits and every funder sits in their office and says let's add this training and it would be good to mandate all providers provide it but they don't reimburse us.

We have to do the training but we don't reimburse it for us.

My voice is that training is fantastic and who the heck is paying for it?

I'm supportive of it, but it can't be not included in our reimbursement because it's expensive to train people.

Especially turnover rate that you get which hopefully, higher wages would help with.

Any other comments? Will, I know this is an important issue for you too but everyone?

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: I was on the phone yesterday with two Staff Members that were really stressed out and I see it every day and one of the things that we're frustrated with is we can't find Staff because the common dilemma -- work at McDonalds -- most people I know who do it -- they're getting paid so little and most of them are -- you know -- it's -- this is a priority they are the ones that are supporting the individuals with disabilities and it's such a needed thing.

So it's encouraging to know we're making progress on that.

So thank you for all your hard work, Jan.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Any other comments or questions for Jan on that?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Hey Jan.

This is Steve.

Mark meant to direct message you but, he messaged me and he was wondering what is the direct care provider's wage currently?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: The provider rate?

>> STEVE LOCKE: The actual wage that the care provider gets right now, the average.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: So the average rate before the \$2.25 was \$11 an hour statewide average and many employers were paying minimum wage and you take that and add \$2.25 to it, that's what people are getting now.

We really need to keep pushing.

I saw somebody in social media posting McDonalds in Ann Arbor offering \$15 an hour to anybody who can walk back and make some fries.

That's what we're competing with as you said, Will.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: We had our nurse go visit and we've had transitions here and she's taking over home care roles that weren't normally hers and she called me that night and said, do you realize we have a brand-new care provider who isn't trained and she tube feeding and suctioning and no training and she's making 12 bucks an hour and that's what's being asked of her.

We didn't know and there's a lot of reasons behind that and we're going to talk to CMH and say no.

That's important care.

It's all important care but this is life or death kind of care and we're sending people in and your case manager is not showing up to do the training.

We just happened to have a nurse go visit the home and check in on the family and discovered this is what's going on and it was kind of wild. I could go on and on and I'm glad we're making progress on it.

Else on person care, attendants? Emergency care response.

Frank, Mark, Steve.

>> Thank you for your time.

I just want to give a quick update before I talk about those updates in terms my role.

Can everyone hear me okay?

>> Yes.

>> Okay and so I had completed residency at the end of June and I started my new position? July up here in Harbor Springs.

Relocated from Lansing, Michigan to Harbor Springs so could help with more of our Michigan coverage and representation, closer to you Allen.

Won't get as cold, I hope.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Congratulations, Frank.

>> Thank you.

More responsibility now going from resident family physician to attending resident physician.

Our clinic is the tribes clinic.

We primarily focus on our tribe citizens up here in Emmet County, neighboring counties as well.

So hopefully, we can have some more partnerships working with that arena and that focus too for underrepresented people and I just wanted to share that update with everyone and have it on the record.

Also speaking to our emergency preparedness team and our focuses there.

We have had several meetings now and it's been really fruitful.

We've had a lot of great things going as you see from Steve's report and to highlighting a couple things - most recently we did meet with Rodney who is a representative from FEMA from this region and it was a joy to meet with him and explore the opportunities that we can have in future work together.

To meet the needs in times of emergencies for our people.

I can let Mark and Steve speak a little bit more to that.

I also just wanted to speak a couple more things personally in terms of networking further.

I think where it left off for pulling in Sparrow Hospital as a partner, in my residency program that I graduated from, we helped with staffing a mobile clinic so you know weekly that mobile bus, that mobile clinic gets driven to different parts of the Lancing area and so I was trying to look at building partnerships and that mobile clinic and our SILC and also you know pulling in Annie in on that conversation as well.

Just because if there were any plans in the future when we COVID, you know, COVID allowing and then making sure that we can have representation and meet the needs with a mobile clinic in terms of any gathers that we have, any health fairs that we do.

We can have that clinic come to the people.

And you know, it's baseline primary care and can help establish care for some patients who need it.

Maybe they don't have a doctor.

So something that we're looking at there and something I'll be following back up on.

And with regards to Native American health care, our clinic currently doesn't have anyone that focusing on assisting or a case manager that assisted primarily with our patients with disabilities but something that our Health Director was really excited about in potential future partnerships with SILC and local CILs up there and it would be something that I would like to continue working on exploring and seeing what we can do here.

So I'll share the floor here.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Excellent.

Before we move on, so you don't lose your thought, anybody have a question or comment for Frank? Usually have another chance but just in case there was something you want to say right now.

Go ahead Mark and Steve.

>> MARK PIERCE: Can you hear me? Because I've been having technical difficulty.

Can people hear me?

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yes.

>> MARK PIERCE: Good to hear.

I did send my report to Steve and basically Maria, my assistant for the emergency preparedness piece has been sending -- has sent all of the forms to the CIL centers as to put together an assessment and to make a person eligible or say that they are emergency prepared for an emergency.

And I think I send that report to Steve thus far.

And so I don't know what else Steve had to add beside for the FEMA thing.

>> STEVE LOCKE: That was great, Mark and so Maria has, you know, sent those emergency preparedness data is statement tracking templates and instructions for each CIL to really capture the number of consumers who have an emergency preparedness explain basic supply kit.

The total number of consumers enrolled in smart 911.com and each county's smart 911.com enrollments since she sent those August 18th she's not met with other CILs but the intent is to have contact with the CILs who administered these.

Prior to August 5th I was contacted by Rodney Garrett who is from FEMA and we convened on August 5th an emergency preparedness team meeting and he's the Regional Disability Integration Specialist, external affairs at FEMA in region five and he joined our emergency preparedness team here on the SILC.

During that meeting we explored FEMA resources and what resources could possibly be used outside of the declaration of an emergency of the President of the United States.

Jessica was going to join us.

She unfortunately wasn't able to join us on that meet, .

I've been trying to bring her up to speed so what's happened since August 5th.

In October we're going to reconvene all of the SPIL objective teams for our next meetings and next steps and that's where we're at with emergency preparedness on that particular goal right now.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Good job, guys. It's great.

I mean, you know, it's too bad we have to have a pandemic to recognize how important Emergency Response is, but whatever it takes.

Not that you didn't think it was important but I do remember in writing the SPIL we sort of joked a little bit about well at least we don't live in areas where they have hurricanes and I think we jinxed the entire universe by doing that Mark do you remember that?

>> MARK PIERCE: I remember that so clearly.

We don't have them type of emergencies.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Right? No we didn't deserve this but any way.

>> MARK PIERCE: I was thinking and it got my creative juices thinking.

One thing of what's missing today is smart 911 and the smart 911 piece of it -- it costs the county something like \$30,000 a year to keep going and some of the counties are considering dropping that and going with the state emergency plan.

Maybe we should push that a little bit more because we are in a pandemic.

Maybe them counties can get that money to get people uploaded because that is kind of a burden to -- well, I'll say it's low hanging fruit to cut when you start looking at the expenses of your municipality or your county.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah let me ask you -- when you have that idea or like from a --

Frank when you had ideas about the mobile health units and things like that -- do you both feel from a SILC perspective that you know how to kind of then turn that into action or do you feel like the idea is just kind of out there and then nothing happens? Like, I want to make sure you feel there's a tract to take your ideas and do something from them, and finance, what else can we do to help you with that?

>> MARK PIERCE: This is Mark.

I don't know.

I do know that we have a community Director of Community Engagement that can speak more to legislative change.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah.

>> MARK PIERCE: And I think it would probably be good the whole PA piece to get that on her agenda too.

That will be a true partnership that's all I can think of from that perspective.

I'm not that versed to make that type of change on a large scale and maybe we need training.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I think training would be good and disability network -- Terry that would be a great connection and then Frank, I know you always have good ideas.

Do you feel like your ideas then turn into something in the SILC or do you feel like we nod and just move on? Like, what can we do to make sure you're feeling like those ideas are then being supported into possibilities?

>> FRANK: It's just about circling back and communication and a lot of changes going on personally right now and I think once getting more established and stable where I'm at help keeping things driving and carrying the ball with everyone.

I think with regards to speak more specifically to see if we have any health fair that sets up at a local area -- since the mobile clinic is at Lansing area and services the Lansing area really can't go outside of that and really looking at other partnerships and that's a whole idea itself.

In terms of making it happen I have a great relationship with our Program Director and he's the one that oversees staffing of our resident family physicians for that clinic and we talked a couple of times and he would be excited for our family residents to provide services.

Several patients who come to our clinic share with us it's hard to make it to that appointment.

There are so many other barriers.

Transportation, maybe devices that are really large and can't bring it all efficiently and they're waiting on transport and scheduling with that.

There's a lot of things that we learn as doctors that we need to be considerate of.

You can't just be all right see you for a follow-up in three months and expect them to be there or see you for a follow-up in a month.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yeah.

>> FRANK: I also talked with our coordinator who oversees the mobile clinic itself ask she would be excited about health fairs and bring.

>> ANNIE URASKY: Bringing Sparrow representation and our female in the Lansing disabilities know that Sparrow does care and is there to provide a service for help.

That one I can see come to fusion a little bit easier.

The other partnerships in terms of servicing our Native American communities -- that's something that's going to take more -- FEMA, I can see things taking off there too from the meet and greet in the last session, but I can see more of the actual things being planned out and actually launched in follow up meetings.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And I just want to be clear, Frank, and I did not mean to suggest what do we need to do to make you guys do more.

I mean do you feel supported in the Council with the work you do and the ideas that you have.

>> FRANK: Short answer.

Yes.

Not long winded.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yvonne to piggy back on what you're saying I get what you're driving at because a lot of times our meetings are about exploration and they don't turn into action.

The next emergency preparedness meeting we have I want to explore with Rodney of what FEMA resources he has to support a 911 system in Michigan on the call today. The we have Jessica Hester from the American Red Cross who is also a valuable Member of the emergency preparedness team and there is a grants opportunity that SILC has written a letter of support with that's separate from the American Red Cross and I would like to open the floor inform Jessica for any comments she would like to add to this portion of our meeting in terms of the emergency preparedness effort from the American recess cross perspective and also the grant possibility she's presented as well.

I would welcome you to go ahead and contribute and welcome.

>> Jessica: Hi, everybody.

I wasn't planning on being seen.

>> STEVE LOCKE: That's okay.

>> Jessica: But yeah in terms of the grant, we will know about that in November but if we get the grant, then the Pitch Mitch Public Health institute will be able to work with SILC and with the CILs throughout the state to really ramp up the emergency preparedness programs that people are already working on.

But really give additional support for that. And then as you guys are talking and I've been making all of these notes for other grants that I'm like oh we should look into that grant.

That grant is a possible.

Including Frank, what you were just talking about with the mobile clinic.

Everything went spinning in my head with the possibilities of that so I apologize if my thoughts are a little bit unclear.

>> STEVE LOCKE: That's okay.

>> Jessica: I was able to have a really good meeting with Rodney from FEMA and he and I were really brain storming a lot of collaborations that the Red Cross and FEMA can do together in Michigan in terms of trainings and outreach and things like that because we work together and we do -- if there's a major disaster we do things together but then they have resources we don't have.

We have resources they don't have.

And what we want to do together is make sure we're getting Michigan as much as we can between the two organizations.

So we're really excited about some possibilities with that.

So hopefully, more news later on that.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: And I apologize that I didn't see that you were on the call or I would have recognized you.

>> Jessica: That's okay.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you for being here.



We appreciate it.

In general I will say about the SPIL goals, so this is my second year on the SILC and Mark and I were on the SPIL Monitoring Committee the first year and we talked a lot about data and numbers and I never felt as much progress as I feel tonight from you guys all talking.

So that's amazing.

It's really exciting to see is it all happening.

So good job.

Any other comments about our SPIL in general or about the topics that we had? All right.

All right.

Mr. Locke's evaluation happened.

As you all know if you had time it to look through his evaluation that every Council Member, voting Member participated as well as Ex-Officio Member and eight CIL Directors and we had a nice turn out given the turnaround time was really quick and thank you Jamia for staying top of that and reaching out to people and making sure that got done.

It was really important from the Executive Committee that we heard from every voting Council Member and we thought that was really important.

Over all, and almost completely, the feedback was very, very positive.

For working with Steve.

If you didn't have a chance, I did pull it up.

I'm going to share my screen for a second.

So you know these paragraphs written here the Executive committee pulled from the surveys and try to put it into a narrative form.

Steve's integrity and professionalism -- he has a collective leadership style and values collaboration and transparency and he has worked hard to build bridges while holding onto the SILC bridges and effective communicator and approachable and friendly and consistent and starts at a place of patience and flexibility and kindness and can be firm and hold his ground when needed and he is an excellent listener and -- it goes on from there.

So very positive.

There were something inside there just from like a recommendation or development standpoint that weren't criticisms but they were what the Executive Committee could kind of pull the goals for next year.

Our recommendation is a 3.5% increase that starts October 1 and that is included in the budget.

The budget that you approved had an up to 4% increase and our recommendation is 3.5 and we looked at goals for next year and divided it into these areas.

So for the strategic plan he is going to operationalize it which means developing smart goals.

Oh gosh under pressure can I remember what that mean inside specific.

>> Measurable attainable and time lined, thank you, thank you.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Great job, Frank.

>> FRANK: Realistic in reasonable?

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: He is going to develop those for the Executive Committee and Council to review and agree upon and those will be used as part of his evaluation for next year and we have timelines for that.

For the current SPIL using a reporting format, some of the feedback was just more communication along the way about how are we doing on things and that was something he was already working on.

For the new SPIL, facilitate the creation of the new SPIL writing team.

October starts year two of the SPIL which is a three year SPIL and we want is to in year two have Steve help facilitate getting the writing team? Place and the timeline in place and there are a lot of steps and we were a little bit behind the eight ball when we did this the last time and we made this a measurable time and in year three we're ready is it starting to write the SPIL.

I recognize we're talking about making changes to the current SPIL so that may have impact on that.

Collaboration and partnership, create a regularly scheduled collaborative venue for the SILC Executive Directors and the CIL directors.

Steve and I met with the leadership with the CIL network and Steve can be included and it makes sense and to build and share the relationships.

He has all the relationships and it's about building or enhancing them.

I think you felt pretty good about that where we land odd that would you say.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I definitely did and I have to go back to our budget discussion and my gist about wages.

I have to tell you that wages are not my motivation in what I do in this job.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Right.

>> STEVE LOCKE: It is always at the end of the day provision of services to people with disabilities and the elevation of their inclusion, their accessibility, and their belonging within their community -- that's my driving forces all the time in the job that I do and what I've done since I've been part of this IL-NET work.

So Mark, I know that you noted my comments during the budget discussion but experiencedly that was all in jest.

Money is not my motivation for what I do and it comes from a deeper place than that.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Steve it tears my eyes hearing the feedback.

When we told him our recommendation he was grateful for that and he said exactly that.

I'm grateful for the feedback and hear how I'm doing and that I'm part of making change.

It gets me all teary eyed again.

So thank you for saying that.

We all know that but I understand why you wanted to say that because we were poking fun at you about the three years and two days and whatever the, other two goals are lines of authority -- Executive Committee thinks it's important that we're really clear there's a tool that the nonprofit network provided us and it's something the whole Council will approve but it's really about making sure what can Steve do on behalf of the Council, what does the Council have to do and what's somewhere in the middle.

Because the Council meets so little as a whole Council we want to make sure he feels empowered so act when opportunities arise and the Executive Committee will go through that decision making process and make sure that's clear and share that with the Council to make sure everybody is on the same page.

The next is the budget and working with the Committee to spend the funds as much as possible.

The money goes back to a pot but not to advance the mission of the SPIL or the SILC.

When we turn back in money or don't draw down money we didn't use it for our mission.

It went to somebody else's mission which isn't bat bad or good but it's isn't our mission.

He want to try to stay on top of that throughout the year to use the dollars so that we can advance the mission and over here we just -- I put some of the broader arching questions that were on there.

There were more.

I'm happy to share with you the summaries of all the charts if you want to see them?

So he had a really strong -- do you have a clear vision of the organization and understands his role? Very strong the people who neither agree or disagree made comments like I don't really know yet or I don't know Steve that well to make a decision on this.

Maintains a positive professional reputation by Council Members and CIL network and strategic partners.

Strongly agree and agree for everyone who filled this out.

Overall performance -- the feedback on the people who marks adequate was super positive so they must just be the people that never give five stars to any restaurant or hotels they do to because the comments they made were positive so adequate to them means good.

So very good.

There was nothing in the entire survey that was below swat and I think that was the only one.

Everything else was do have average and excellent.

Kudos and congratulations Steve on the work that you're doing and now we have a chance for any comments or questions before we make a motion to approve the recommendation or change the recommendation.

>> MARK PIERCE: This is Mark.

Can you hear me? I don't know.

Something is going on with my --

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: We can hear you.

>> MARK PIERCE: Okay so Steve -- in the time that I've been on the Board -- I mean on the Council , this is the first time we've ever really done something like this and I want to say hats off to you.

Job well done.

I can see the difference between 2018 and today.

I mean, this is the tip of the iceberg.

We haven't even got into getting things done mode.

We're just on the crust of setting up strategic plans and trying to get things operational.

So my hat is off to you.

You're doing a great job.

And keep up the good work.

All of the Directors feel that way too, I think that was a good response.

We maintained over 51% of the Directors did respond.

I think if we do what I talked about with us earlier we can get more of a response too.

That wasn't for you.

That was for the Executive Committee to help me we.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: The turnaround time was really tight and I think that was part of it too but I was really pleased that we got the number of people that we did.

Any other comments or questions? No? Bill, you kind of sat up? I thought you had something on your mind, are you good? Okay.

>> BILL ADDISON: No comment.

Just listening.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Okay.

All right.

If there are no other comments or questions, can we move to approve the recommended increase of 3.5% as well as the objectives to be achieved for this coming year?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: This is Jan Lampman.

So moved.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you Jan and do we have a second.

>> MARK PIERCE: I'll second that.

This is Mark.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I apologize, I have not been asking for discussion after I get the motion on the floor.

My bad.

Hopefully, there wasn't.

Is there any now? Any additional discussion.

Tracy can you please do a Roll call vote and this is to do a 3.5% increase as well as the recommended goals and objectives which might be altered slightly based on new information that comes in.

>> TRACY BROWN: Frank Animikwam.

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Steve and Tracy you are great really appreciated.

>> TRACY BROWN: Glen Ashlock.

>> GLEN ASHLOCK: Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis.

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison.

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa.

>> MINDY KULASA: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce.

>> MARK PIERCE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Motion carries.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right congratulations, Steve.

Job well done.

I want to add that Steve also did a performance eval for Tracy and had recommended an increase for her as well and so that will be reflected in the budget so also congratulations to you, Tracy.

>> TRACY BROWN: Thank you.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I just wanted to say thank you so much to all of you for the trust that you place in me and giving me the honor to continue to serve the disability community through the role that I play here and true truly it is a role that I play here and I understand that I serve at the pleasure of this Council and I just wants to thank all of you for allowing me to continue to serve in in role and I'm grateful and I'm humbled.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Don't make me cry.

Don't do it.

>> STEVE LOCKE: It's true.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right.

>> MARK PIERCE: Crying is good for the soul.

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Tears are medicine.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: My father-in-law said I have the gift of tears.

So that being said, I would like to make an announcement that I have let the executive committee and Steve know that I will be resigning from the Council after this meeting.

Which I'm sad but I'm also -- I'm doing it because of a job opportunity that came my way and so because of that, I have to make some changes here.

But I -- okay, so here's the deal.

The still Council meetings have really great food when we meet in person so by God when you meet in person, I am coming as the public, because I missed a whole year of great food.

[ Laughter ]

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: So I am coming but I will be sending you all person notes because there are things about each of you that I really want to express my gratitude that I can't do and get us out of here in time and I will share more when all of the pieces are in place about, you know, where I'm going and where I'll be and what I'm doing when that timing is right but I have truly enjoyed this so very much.

This Council , I say it all the time and I really mean it, is full of amazing people and I can't wait to see what you do next and I will be there supporting you in any way that I can.

So that being said, you see the slate of officers pull the up and Jan Lampman has agreed to run as Chair and will remain Vice Chair and will run for Chair when it's time right for him.

Jamia is going to continue as Secretary and Stephanie Deible stepping up as Treasurer and that's a great squad if I've ever seen one.

We also take nominations from the floor.

You can nominate yourself or you can be nominated by someone.

At this time are there any nominations for yourself or for someone else to also run for Chair? Okay.

How about Vice Chair? Any additional nominations people interested in running for Vice Chair? So he recollected? Nominations for Secretary? And Treasurer? Nominations for Treasurer? Okay.

I know Jamia has reached out to you guys all via email to give you opportunity to think about that too so this isn't first time you heard that so I wasn't expecting anyone to nominate yourselves given you've had opportunities but you are welcome to if you would like to.

Since there are no additional nominations we are going to vote on them as a package.

We're going to vote to nominate our new officers as a whole so if I can get a motion inform accept the nominations inform our new executive officers.

>> MARK PIERCE: This is Mark -- can you hear me? I lost the whole screen.

But did Jan -- I didn't see you accept.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Oh.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Yes.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Yes.

If you all vote for me, I'll accept the job.

>> MARK PIERCE: Okay I just wanted to make sure.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: That's a good question.

Surprise.

[ Laughter ].

>> STEVE LOCKE: Maybe we should go back through and ask each candidate if they accept the nomination for the public record.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Jan Lampman, do you accept the nomination as Chair?

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis, do you accept the nomination of Secretary?

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Yes.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible, do you accept the nomination of Treasurer.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Yes.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you Mark, important step.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Yes.

>> MARK PIERCE: One more question because Jan is taking your spot and taking over your term, when is the election for officers.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Every September.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: My term ends now, so I would have had to rerun.

My point isn't over yet.

That was 2023, so I have to notify the Governor's office and I wanted to let you know first.

Whoever replaces me has the end of my term to serve.

It's my term on the Council , not my term as the officer on the Council .

>> MARK PIERCE: Got it.

I was trying to figure out a way to keep you.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: I know.

I wish I could -- yeah.

It's just a new job thing where I got to just really focus on that but I hope to attend the meetings and you know maybe do some committee work if committees ever open up to outside members but thank you I appreciate that and I hope we stay in touch, Mark.

All right.

So let's see.

Okay.

So approval of the SILC Council meeting dates for 2022.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I think we have to have the vote.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Oh we didn't vote.

I'm breaking down here.

Hanging up my Chair hat and I'm out of here.

So can we get a motion to approve the Executive Committee.

>> I'll make a move.



>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Sorry to cut you off.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: This is Allen and I support that.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you Allen.

Tracy, roll call vote on that.

>> TRACY BROWN: Frank Animikwam?

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Glen Ashlock.

>> TRACY BROWN: Allen Beauchamp?.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jamia Davis.

>> JAMIA DAVIS: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Stephanie Deible.

>> STEPHANIE DEIBLE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Will Harrison.

>> VICE CHAIR WILLIAM HARRISON: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mindy Kulasa.

>> MINDY KULASA: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Jan Lampman.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Mark Pierce.

>> MARK PIERCE: Aye.

>> TRACY BROWN: Motion carries.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Congratulations.

You're all in good hands. Thanks guys and I appreciate the kind words.

>> STEVE LOCKE: I just want to say that I am incredibly sad to see you leave here because under your leadership this Council has propelled itself forward like a leapfrog on steroids.

And I only hope that we can keep the momentum going and the energy that you have brought to this.

And the fire that you have lit under this Council and under me personally and professionally.

I can only hope to carry that torch forward and you will be welcomed back here at any time.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you.

That's really nice.

I'm not going to cry.

I swear.

I really look forward to this meeting so believe it or not even though it's 8:30 at night I really enjoy working with you guys and boy it's been a ride so you know I've enjoyed it so thank you for those kind words too.

I appreciate that very much.

Okay.

Now stop talking about me and approve the SILC Council meeting dates for 2022. When Steve and I talked about this, we -- thank you Allen.

We recognized that some of this may change if we are able to meet in person because then it might be a weekend because you know if we're going to travel around the state, things like that could change.

We wanted to get something on the books to help people with their schedules knowing that we're living in a pandemic and who knows what's going to happen.

For now these meetings are -- Tracy, what night of the week? Still Wednesdays?

>> Yes.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Still planned for Wednesday evening that if and when you're able to meet at a CIL that might change because a Wednesday evening isn't really going to work for that.

So do you want these voted on, Steve?

>> STEVE LOCKE: I think probably just a tense five acceptance of them because it says to be determined.

We can change these going forward as new Council Members come on Board.

If we have a Council meeting up in the UP where it's in the middle of a work week and most people are working, we can work that around a Friday Saturday arrangement or a Saturday arrangement travel arrangements and these are just to get them on the books and we can finesse them as we move forward on the calendar.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Okay it's more information sharing.

With that being said is there any other information Chairing or announcements that people have.

>> Yvonne just want to say we should avoid meeting in January and March.

>> STEVE LOCKE: Thank you Allen.

>> JAN LAMPMAN: Thank you Allen.

>> STEVE LOCKE: We intended for you or to be our first CIL.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: September would be beautiful.

Do you have fall color there Allen or not yet.

>> ALLEN BEAUCHAMP: It has started earlier this year. It's beautiful.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All right well hearing no other information and announcements, now is the time for -- well we're going to get out of here a little bit early maybe.

Public Comment.

Is there anyone on the line who would like to give Public Comment? Sale ask one more time.

Is there anyone who would like to give Public Comment? All right.

Hearing none, could I guess a motion to adjourn.

>> LISA KISIEL: Before you go this is Lisa and I want to get in and you were talking but thank you for all the work you've done.

I echo what Steve said and I think you've been an amazing leader and it's been a hard work and I'm doubly sad because now you won't be on the Michigan Rehabilitation Council either so we will miss you on many fronts but you've done a great job so is you.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Thank you well it's been a partnership.

So thank you I appreciate it.

All right.

Can I get a second to adjourn? Do I get a motion to adjourn actually? I don't even know what's going on anymore. I don't know what the heck is happening.

>> FRANK ANIMIKWAM: I don't think we want to adjourn.

I motion to adjourn.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: Can I get a second.

>> MARK PIERCE: I second it.

This is Mark.

>> CHAIR YVONNE FLEENER: All in favor say Aye.

Aye [in unison] I'll be in touch guys bye.