

1 **SILC COUNCIL QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**
2 **January 20, 2021**
3 **Zoom Meeting**

4
5 **SILC Voting Members Present:** Frank Animikwam, Allen Beauchamp, Jamia Davis,
6 Stephanie Deible, Theodore Dorsette, Yvonne Fleener, Charles Harrison Jr, Melinda
7 Kulasa, Jan Lampman, Theresa Metzmaker, Mark Pierce.

8 **SILC Voting Members Absent:**

9 **SILC Ex-Officio Members Present:** Lisa Kisiel (BSBP), Bill Addison (MRS), Annie
10 Urasky (MDCR), Janet Timbs (MDOE), Vendella Collins (DD Council).

11 **SILC Staff:** Steve Locke, Tracy Brown.

12 **Guests Present:**

13
14 **SILC BUSINESS MEETING**

15 Y. Fleener called the meeting to order, 5:30 pm. Y. Fleener welcomed Council
16 members, Ex-Officios and guests, introductions were made. A quorum was present.

17
18 **AGENDA**

19 The January 20, 2021 Quarterly Business Agenda was reviewed. The audit motion and
20 Council Education were removed. SPIL Monitoring was moved to after Ex-Officio
21 Reports.

22
23 ***Motion by M. Kulasa, seconded by J. Davis to approve the January 20, 2021 Agenda***
24 ***as amended.*** Motion passed unanimously.

25
26 The October 28, 2020 and December 17, 2020 Draft SILC Council Business Meeting
27 minutes were reviewed.

28
29 ***Motion by F. Animikwam, seconded by S. Deible to accept and place on file the***
30 ***October 28, 2020 and December 17, 2020 Draft SILC Council Business Meeting***
31 ***minutes as presented.*** Motion passed unanimously.

32
33 FY2020 Audit Presentation by Carri Bevard, The ALG Group.

34
35 Staff Report ~ Steve Locke

- 36 • The annual Program Performance Report (PPR) is generated jointly with the
37 Designated State Entity (DSE) and submitted by the DSE. This is a report that all
38 of the Centers for Independent Living are required to submit to the
39 Administration on Community Living (ACL), which is our Federal funder. The

1 PPR is complete and is awaiting Tina Fullerton, MRS Director's signature. It
2 will be presented to the Council at the March 17th business meeting.

- 3 • On January 12th, 2021 we received notification that The FY2021-2023 SPIL
4 Amendment was approved by ACL.
- 5 • One initiative that the Council is tasked with in the new SPIL is our Statewide
6 Outreach Initiative. We will be looking for volunteers from the Council and CIL
7 directors to help with program design on our outreach process to reach unserved
8 and underserved people with disabilities in Michigan.
- 9 • Our website has been fully redesigned to become completely accessible. We
10 welcome feedback from our Council members and the general public on how we
11 can continue to improve that.
- 12 • The final SPIL Monitoring Report for 2017 2020 will be disseminated and
13 discussed at the March 17th business meeting.
- 14 • Upcoming training opportunities: Monthly SILC speak peer calls that are
15 facilitated by ILRU. SILC Congress may be held virtually this year, once a
16 determination is made the information will be shared with you.

17
18 Executive Committee Report ~ Yvonne Fleener

- 19 • The Executive Committee met on 1/5/2021, meeting minutes were provided.
- 20 • In addition to preparing the agenda the committee has spent time thinking about
21 Council education and what we can do to build the next group of leaders who will
22 be the executive committee and how do we best monitor the SPIL.

23
24 Financial Report ~ Mindy Kulasa

- 25 • The December 2020 Preliminary Statement of Financial Position, Year to Date
26 Budget and check register were reviewed.

27
28 ***Motion by M. Kulasa, seconded by J. Davis to accept and place on file the Staff***
29 ***Report, Executive Committee Report & Minutes and December Preliminary Finance***
30 ***Report as presented.*** Motion passed unanimously.

31
32 Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) ~ Bill Addison

- 33 • MRS has taken a bit of a hit the last couple months especially since March in the
34 number of people that came to our door. The good news is more people are
35 applying for our services, our numbers are going up which is very positive.
- 36 • The Governor has identified a return-to-work scenario for the first part of March.
37 With all these things that have occurred lately that will be a challenge. Many
38 issues will need to be addressed.

- My role at MRS is Program Enhancement Division Director. This division handles the contracts for the CILs. We will be hosting a training session on February 2nd at 1:00pm for all of the CILs and anyone else who would like to attend a session on how CILs get funded. There is federal funding called Part B, which is the federal dollars, there is state funding which went up this year and there is also what we call SSA funding which is our revenue that we earn from SSA transactions. Contact Steve or Tracy if you are interested in attending this training session.

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) ~ Lisa Kisiel

- BSBP is a supporting partner of the SILC and we appreciate that opportunity and we value the relationships that we have with our SILC partners as well as our CIL partners.
- BSBP utilizes the Independent Part B grant. It passes through MRS to BSBP for supporting individuals in Michigan that are not vocational but require the skills necessary to maintain their independence in their home and in their community.
- BSBP continues to work with Disability Network Capital Area on a customer survey project and we have also worked hard to provide some assessment equipment for some of our Centers for Independent Living as well as our American Job Centers or One Stop Centers.
- BSBP is working very hard this year in the virtual world that we are living in. We have been told that we are home until March 1st.
- Our training center which is in Kalamazoo, which is dedicated to workplace readiness skills and independent living skills received notification that we will be able to begin providing in person services soon.

Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) ~ Annie Urasky

- I am the Director of the Division of Deaf, Deaf Blind and Hard of Hearing my office is under the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. We are based in Detroit, but have offices in Grand Rapids, Detroit, and Lansing.
- My office is focused on serving approximately 7.4% of Michigan residents that identify as deaf or deaf blind or hard of hearing.
- We spend a lot of time educating, advocating, and raising awareness about the needs and the barriers and the experiences that our community goes through on a daily basis relating to employment barriers.
- Since the COVID pandemic has happened we really shifted our focus to interacting with the community and interacting with community-based organizations. Specifically, about the current impact of COVID and public health

1 and how it relates to the community whether it be communication access and/or
2 information sharing.

- 3 • We are partnering with both Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
4 and the Governor's office to make sure that the information relating to the
5 pandemic and COVID is accessible in American Sign Language.
- 6 • The Protect Michigan Commission is looking for candidates who are interested in
7 serving. If you know anyone who might be interested in participating in that
8 commission, we can nominate their name. To apply: [Whitmer - Protect Michigan](#)
9 [Commission](#)

10 Michigan Department of Education (MDOE) ~ Janet Timbs

- 11 • J. Timbs provided an overview of the Michigan Inner Agency Transition Team.
12 Or what we call MITT, MITT because we are the mitten state. MITT is not a
13 Department of Education team. It is a collaboration between a variety of
14 agencies. The co leads for this is MRS, BSBP and our office and the Office of
15 Special Education. It is a grass roots team, we came together, decided we wanted
16 to form a team that was cross agency, had a focus on secondary transition. MITT
17 was formed in 2017 as a result of the capacity building institute with the National
18 Technical Assistance Center on Transition. We have representation from about 16
19 different agencies or offices. Our goal is to align transition services across the
20 state, across state agencies so that we avoid duplication of services. We promote
21 a common understanding of secondary transition and improve student outcomes.
22 We are looking at developing a model for secondary transition planning. We have
23 already done a resource map across the state. It was a survey that we did to find
24 out what services are being provided in what areas and we defined what services
25 we were looking for. We are in the middle of creating a perception survey now so
26 from the consumer and/or from the professional end are you aware of the services
27 in your area and are you using those services. We are hoping to get that out this
28 spring. And then gather some information, see if there are gaps between the
29 services that agencies say they are providing and what consumers are saying they
30 are using.
31

32 Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council (MDDC) ~ Vendella Collins

- 33 • We are in the process of developing our next five-year strategic plan. We have
34 had community conversations and some preliminary work by the staff on the
35 issues that we have heard. We will make every effort to include in our plan those
36 things that people deem necessary for individuals with intellectual/developmental
37 disabilities (I/DD) to have a good life. We hope to have it ready for public input
38 in late May or early June.
39

- 1 • We are working very hard to engage our office, our Council members and our
2 community partners on the race equity work we are doing. So, when people come
3 in to receive any human services that they will receive services in a way that is
4 acceptable for themselves and their culture.
- 5 • We are working to continuously update or tweak information that goes out around
6 COVID so that individuals with I/DD understand the process. Right now, we are
7 working on the vaccine distribution prioritization plan that the department put
8 out. We are trying to make that a more accessible language so that people will
9 understand where they fit in. And then to know that they need to really make
10 contact with their local public health office so they can understand where they fit
11 in, in that county's or that city's prioritization process.

12 IL Network Update ~ Mark Pierce

- 14 • FY2021 contracts concerning our core services and fee for service are signed and
15 ready to move forward.
- 16 • In the past 90 days many of the CILs including myself have hired new staff.
- 17 • Sara Grivetti, the CEO of Disability Network Michigan resigned, and all of her
18 tasks and duties were turned over to the board of the network. They have done an
19 internal distribution of her duties until new leadership is found.
- 20 • CILs have put a big initiative out to advocate for people with disabilities to get a
21 clear understanding as to where COVID vaccinations can be given and which
22 particular group, they fall in.
- 23 • The CIL Network has a Legislative Day coming up. We have a three directors
24 who are handling that. Jim Moore in Northern Michigan. Dave Bulkowski in
25 Grand Rapids and Lori Hill in Wayne County, Detroit. I would be happy to send
26 information to Steve and Tracy if you would like to volunteer and be a part of it.
- 27 • The CIL Network is using the Cares Act dollars we received for FY2019 and
28 FY2020 to create ways to make sure that people with disabilities are getting
29 vaccinated. If you know people out there that are really struggling with how they
30 are going to get to a vaccination site or they need some extra equipment or
31 technology to be a part of it, check with your local CIL. They have funds out
32 there available to assist with that.

33 **SPIL Monitoring**

- 34 • Y. Fleener will be reaching out to each council member to find out what
35 area/SPIL goal(s) they are interested in becoming involved with. We would like
36 to have each member involved in at least one goal.

37 **NEW BUSINESS**

1 Strategic Planning Discussion

- 2 • Y. Fleener and S. Locke will be talking with Regina Penny, a consultant from
3 Jackson on January 29th regarding facilitating a strategic planning event. More
4 details will be available at the next meeting.

5

6 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

7 Corporate Bylaws Amendments

- 8 • The bylaws were reviewed.
9 • Gender neutral language needs to be added.

10

11 *Motion by J. Lampman, seconded by M. Pierce to approve the Bylaws with the*
12 *modification of language making it gender neutral.* Motion passed unanimously.

13

14 Public Comment ~ None.

15

16 **OTHER:**

17 Member Education ~ On Wednesday, February 24th from 5:30pm – 7:00pm Joel
18 Cooper, Director of Disability Network Southwest Michigan will be providing a Board
19 Governance training for the council.

20

21 **ADJOURNMENT** *SILC Business Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.*

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