ROUGH EDITED COPY

MISILC

10:00 COUNCIL MEETING

 November 2, 2018

CAPTIONING PROVIDED BY:

Q&A REPORTING, INC.

JESSICA A. NEIDERHEIDE

RPR/CRR/CRC

18088 WILDWOOD CT.

SPRING LAKE, MI 49456

Email is annetteblough@charter.net

Skype Address is annette.blough

Text: 616‑881‑3594

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
This text is being provided in a rough‑draft format. CART captioning, Communication Access Realtime Translation captioning, is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings. Any video that has been reproduced in text format is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act under the Fair Use Doctrine. This file is not to be distributed or used in any way that may violate copyright law.
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

 (Waiting to begin)
 >> All right. I will call this meeting to order at 10:03. Thank you all for being here. I know that there were a lot of health issues and ‑‑
 >> Recording started.
 >> Different reasons that people couldn't be with us in person. I just ‑‑ I wanted to begin by clarifying something about myself. You might notice that once in a while when I'm talking, I seem out of breath. That's not because of any issues with, you know, being confident in what I'm talking about. It more has to do with my disability. Thank you for your patience and for understanding that, you know, even though we have disabilities, and there's ‑‑ there's so much strength in all of us that we bring to the table and I'm so proud to be a part of this council and the people that are on it. I hope that as the chairperson, I have been able to lead by example and the biggest ‑‑ the biggest sign that you are is that other people are empowered. So I hope that each and every person on this council really is inspired to look within themselves and feel empowered by what they can do on behalf of this council, their own lives, and disability movement because we are at a crossroads, right? We are at a crossroads with this changeover and were on the cusp of going into a new state plan. We've talked about a strategic plan that we want to enact for how our council works. We're going to be talking about how we want to act ourselves and what responsibilities we want to hold ourselves up to. So I just feel like we are at a crossroads where we need to really look at it and say, okay, what is my commitment not only to this council but to the independent living movement and the vision that SILC is trying to make sure we are walking in and that we are ‑‑ we are working with the public. We are listening to what they say. We are ‑‑ we are taking moves that will, you know, go towards some effect over our lives. That is why I'm here and that's why I'm proud to be a part of this council. Okay. That was my spiel.
 >> Beautiful. You want to do it again? I can record it.

 (Laughter)
 >> I know.
 >> Can we have a ‑‑
 >> I'll say more inspirational things and if I do, I'll make sure to give you a heads up that, hey, Gabriella, I'm about to get inspirational. I want to call us to order. I already banged the gavel so I'm not going to do that again. So why don't we go around the room and do intros? And then we will introduce those on the phone. So I'm the chair, Robin Bennett. Happy to be here.
 >> Aaron Andres. Council member.
 >> Beth White representing BSBP today.
 >> I'm Alyssa Potter. I am representing Michigan Rehabilitation Services.
 >> Tracy Brown. SILC staff.
 >> Mike Hamm. Executive committee member.
 >> Gabriella Burman. Council member.
 >> Mark Pierce. Council member and CIO liaison.
 >> Sarah Grivetti. Representative member of SILC.
 >> Wonderful. And those on the phone, if you would like to introduce yourself.
 >> Joe Hartz.
 >> This is Kelsey Kleimola. Council member.
 >> Steve Locke. Disability mid‑Michigan.
 >> Now, I will do a roll call.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Here.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Here.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Here.
 >> Lisa Cook Gordon is sick today.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Here.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Here.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Here.
 >> Mairead Warner is calling in after lunch. You have a quorum.
 >> Wonderful. Our first order of business is to approve the November 2nd, 2018, quarterly business meeting draft agenda. So I need a recommendation for a motion.
 >> I move to approve the agenda.
 >> Thank you, Aaron.
 >> Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 >> Thank you, Sarah. All right. Do we have any discussion or changes that need to be made to this agenda? I think I am good with that.
 >> I know. I keep trying to think if something else needed to be added. Doing executive director search update, right?
 >> And the executive committee.
 >> Okay. Robin, may I suggest that because the executive committee is not the search committee, that maybe we ‑‑ we isolate out these executive directors ‑‑ an executive director search committee report.
 >> So you are amending the motion to add a search committee update.
 >> Yeah. Under reports. So I would add item five, executive committee ‑‑ sorry ‑‑ executive director search committee report would be my recommended change.
 >> Aaron, do you support that change?
 >> This is Aaron Andres. I would support the change.
 >> I support Aaron's motion to amend the change ‑‑ amend the agenda. This is Sarah.
 >> Any further discussion? All right. Let's take a roll call vote.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sarah Grivetti?
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> Awesome. All right. And next, we have ‑‑
 >> Oh, and Rebecca, sounds like she just joined.
 >> Hi, Rebecca.
 >> Sorry for the delay.
 >> The approval of the September 14th, 2018, draft quarterly business meeting minutes is ‑‑ we need a motion for that.
 >> Motion to approve the September minutes as presented. Aaron Andres.
 >> Mark Pierce. Support.
 >> Thank you, Mark. Any discussion? All right. Let's go ahead and take a roll call vote.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sara Grivetti?
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> Thank you very much. All right. Now, we have ‑‑ let me see. We will start with the staff report. So I will let Tracy make a few comments and then I will add.
 >> Okay. It's business as usual. The day‑to‑day operations are being handled accordingly. We're managing the office in the interim. Robin and I are collaborating on concerns or issues that need to be addressed. We are working on the website. Thank you for your patience. We are including information on our Facebook page.
 >> I have a question. Rodney has now left as of the 19th?
 >> Correct.
 >> So you're a one person ‑‑ you're down to one. You look like you're still alive.
 >> We are hoping that ‑‑ and we'll give more updates in the executive director search report ‑‑ but we are hoping that this will be a temporary, you know, interim.
 >> Right. So executive director search will fall under executive director search number five. The other position, the advocacy position, where are we with that? That would fall under this for staff so ‑‑
 >> I don't know if we're refilling that position.
 >> That will be ‑‑ that will be up to the executive director. Whoever ‑‑ whoever the council chooses.
 >> Right.
 >> It will be up to the executive director to decide what they're doing with that role or any other staff role because the executive director oversees any other staff.
 >> Right.
 >> Right. Yeah.
 >> In the future of net SIL management is being ‑‑ so MRS SILC and a few CIL directors are working collaboratively to determine what's next for net SPIL now that we don't have Rob within SILC. So they are collaborating on some long‑term strategy. We do have a short‑term strategy in place.
 >> Can people identify themselves for the record? Thank you.
 >> That was Sara Grivetti speaking.
 >> Yes. I would like to clarify for those on the phone that our microphone was not working this morning. So we will each do our best to say our names and speak up so you can hear. Robin Bennett speaking. I just want to add that all the critical communications from the administration on community living. I have been ‑‑ I have been responding accordingly. Communicating with our officer. Tracy is managing the daily operations of the organization currently and all ‑‑ all wheels on this train keep rolling. So including committee meetings, working on the SPIL, so many things seem to be going on. The search committee. The SPIL committee. The ACL changes that we will be talking about in a bit. There is a lot going on but we're on top of it and I feel confident about where we are until we get a new ED hired.
 >> Can I add, too, that there are several SILCs in this nation that do not have staff?
 >> That is very true.
 >> So there's no ‑‑ there's no mandate that a council has staff. There's only a mandate that the council do their federally‑identified role and I give Robin a lot of credit for really stepping up to support Tracy and I'm very confident, from my observations, that their constant communication is making sure that there really has been no interruption in our necessary functions that we have to engage in.
 >> Well, thank you.
 >> I remember meeting someone at SILC Congress. I believe they were Wyoming or Colorado. They were one of the western states and their SILC did not have staff. They did not have an ED. They didn't have director of operations. Nothing. So the chair basically kind of had to figure everything out.
 >> If it was Colorado, Colorado is a state VR agency. Provides administrative support to the council in Colorado.
 >> I remember thinking how do you do that?
 >> Yeah.
 >> But, you know, they ‑‑ they find a way and they get just what they need. So all right. That is the staff report. We will move on to the executive committee report, which I will give and other executive committee members may jump in as needed. Obviously, we have been talking a lot about, you know, making sure daily operations are rolling and, you know, making sure we're covering all our bases and having the executive committee, you know, really looking into, okay, who is taking care of this? Taking care of this? You know, and making sure everything is managed, as well as, you know, speaking into and recommending things that should be ‑‑ make sure we do in terms of the executive search, like questions to ask. How to be on top of that. The executive committee has been meaning to, you know, keep on top of all these changes with the current SPIL that we will be discussing in a bit. So that's something that we ‑‑ we talked about how we wanted to present that to the council and if we had any recommendations. So that's basically what's been going on with the executive committee. We've been doing a lot of hard work to make sure that the ‑‑ you know, things are still moving forward and things are in place with the strategic plan or with getting ready to write the SPIL so that when we do bring on an ED, he is in the best position to be able to be successful to move forward with all of those things and implementing those things. Both with the council and with partners. So I will go ahead and throw it over to Mike Hamm for the finance committee report.
 >> We are under budget this year. It's about 352 if I recall. Anybody have any questions on that?
 >> I know. I forgot to ask for questions on mine. Thank you for asking that.
 >> I figured we were just going to talk after all reports.
 >> I have a question. This is Robin. I guess when I look over the budget and I look over, you know, the report that says, you know, we're getting this much less in fiscal year 19. Is it because we save so much and did such a good job and, therefore, we've shown we don't need all this extra money and we're being frugal? Or is it because there was money left on the table that we could or should have put into, you know, a program or something that we were funding or et cetera?
 >> I think we've just done so well in the last three years.
 >> Right.
 >> This is Gabriella. Did we take advantage of, like, providing any scholarships over the last year like we did last year to people wanting to go to trainings? Like that young person in Traverse City that we helped to support?
 >> We got a few scholarship applications but that was ‑‑ goodness, when was the last one we received?
 >> Several months.
 >> Yeah. Several months.
 >> We need to remind the CILs again.
 >> Yeah, I agree.
 >> Do we have the scope of the scholarships identified and a selection process identified?
 >> Yeah.
 >> I think we do.
 >> No, we decided that the ‑‑ if it was under a certain amount ‑‑ I think like $3,000 with some money back ‑‑ that the finance committee itself could ‑‑ you guys, the full council empowered the finance committee that if it was under that certain amount, we could decide the yes or no.
 >> Okay.
 >> If it's over a certain amount, we had to bring it to the full council for review and decision.
 >> Is that on the website? Maybe we should have a new tab on the website. Something that, you know ‑‑
 >> You're right.
 >> And I do think there's still opportunities for SILC to have greater alignment with the CIL network on, like, their internal IL summit that they do for staff development.
 >> I know we tried to be a part of it this past time and I ‑‑ I noticed that on ‑‑ because I attended it and I noticed on the back of the program, there was a SILC member listed as being on the planning committee. But as far as I know, that individual wasn't really a part of it. So I don't know where lines got crossed or ‑‑ I'd have to follow up on that. But I do know, at the end of the day, we were looking for more involvement, more say in that and something going forward that we could really work on like how does SILC really investment more ‑‑
 >> In the next generation really.
 >> Yeah.
 >> I think, too, my recommendation ‑‑ this is Sara Grivetti ‑‑ my recommendation is that once we get an executive director on board, that we take a look at ‑‑ we look at the draft strategic plan that we will finalize after we have a new executive director and identify where there may be expenses associated with that strategic plan. We had talked about training. We had talked about more council members engaging in, like, SILC Congress or maybe going to the conference in the summer time. I do think there's opportunities that we should look internally for council development before we focus on external scholarships right now.
 >> Well, the hard thing there is that I think council members want to be more invested when they see that things are happening. They're not going to have the desire or take the initiative to follow up on training or go to SILC Congress, you know, et cetera, et cetera, if they don't see that SILC is quote unquote doing anything. I mean, we do a lot. We do a lot. But it's not always something that people can point at and say this is what SILC does.
 >> Well, SILC's role is so limited to developing, monitoring the independent living plan. Understand the independent living philosophy. Understand what the WIOA requirements are as it relates to SILC and writing SPILs. And those are all things that as a council, we should be engaging in those training opportunities because that's where we need to get stronger to be stronger council members and if we're not willing to take on those opportunities for training, then I think we have to ask ourself whether it's really the right match for us right now. We aren't ‑‑ we aren't a service organization. Well, yes, I totally agree in developing youth. That's the role of the center for independent living, not the role of the council. Getting people in the community working. That's VR partners, not the role of SILC. We are a conduit to help our stakeholders understand the barriers and help develop a strategic plan through a SPIL to help overcome those barriers. And I think that we need to focus the resources on internal development. I'm sorry, our council and our new director.
 >> Great opener when you have the SILC business card and you say, hey, I'm on this council.

 (Laughter)
 >> This is Mark. I got the scholarship piece. Maybe I could ask the directors are there needs for that within their area? So we get a feel for it. You know, by just saying there's so much money out there, I'm not sure that directors have possibly consumers or people that may need that. I think we should ‑‑ I'll ask that question.
 >> Can you wait to ask that question until we get a director on board?
 >> Oh yeah. Yeah. Yeah. I'm just saying ‑‑
 >> Yeah.
 >> That, you know, let's kind of think this out and even when you ask that question, there should be a form that they have to do.
 >> Now, Mike, my question with the fiscal year 19 budget, are we still going to have the same availability money‑wise to give to scholarships? Or will we have ‑‑
 >> We still have that carryover money.
 >> Okay.
 >> I strongly suggest that we use it before we possibly lose it.
 >> Well, we've got SILC Congress coming up in February, right?
 >> Yeah.
 >> Might want to get away for a little winter get away. Orlando.

 (Laughter)
 >> I've seen many VR partners come to SILC Congress too. Little plug in for our VR partners.
 >> Do any of the council members on the phone have anything they want to add?
 >> This is Rebecca. No, not that I can think of.
 >> All right. Thank you. All right. We will go ahead and let the SPIL committee chair Mark give an update.
 >> Okay. This is Mark. The last meeting we had, the minutes were already posted for October 15th. One of the main discussions there was over the actual application of consumer representation co‑chair. Rebecca is revising that to be more ‑‑ to speak more to consumers and speak more to the IL philosophy. Rebecca just sent me an e‑mail ‑‑ was that yesterday, Rebecca?
 >> Yeah. Yesterday morning.
 >> Yeah. So Rebecca was revising it after comments from the public concerning that application. We'll get that out. Also, I do have the schedule for the meetings. We had a meeting ‑‑ we're supposed to have an end‑of‑the‑year data review. We're not able to do that because we don't have data to finish off that report. We'll try our best to get that done.
 >> We are working on it now.
 >> I will be getting the data here probably early next week.
 >> Okay.
 >> This is Sarah. I'll be getting the data early next week and I feel that we'll have a report completed for your team or for the whole council really within two weeks.
 >> Okay. Thank you, Sarah.
 >> You're welcome.
 >> Also, Tracy, we have the tentative schedule for all our meetings for 2019. I think you have this already. So we will get that posted. So it will be on our website. That's it that I have.
 >> You might want to also give a copy of those dates to Gabriella so she can put them on our Facebook page.
 >> Okay. Good. Yeah.
 >> Can I take that one?
 >> Yeah. Any questions?
 >> These are all open to the public?
 >> Yes.
 >> What's the location? They just call in?
 >> Phone.
 >> Yes. Yes. They have the phone. Yeah.
 >> This is Robin. My question is, is the SPIL committee going to take off November and December for the holidays? Or how is that working?
 >> From what was said, looking at all of the things I'm busy with as far as the executive search committee and the SPIL writing team, I'm definitely open to having a meeting in November/December. But at this time, I have suggestions from the council on that. I prefer to have the meeting starting in January.
 >> I'm fine with that. I'm fine with, you know, just if we need to take the time to make sure we have all the appropriate data that is going to really inform us in our monitoring and further work on the SPIL committee, I, as a member, would be okay with waiting until January. What do you think, Aaron?
 >> I think if we had all the data and we had all the information, it would go smoother as far as creating actionable items towards the SPIL and towards everything else, I support the January suggestion.
 >> Any council members on the phone have thoughts?
 >> This is Rebecca. I support taking the next two months ‑‑ taking that time and get everything together and start up again after the new year.
 >> This is Kelsey. I would agree with that.
 >> Thank you.
 >> This is Sarah. I have ‑‑ I ‑‑ I believe that once I get the SPIL monitoring report to Mark, it can be put online so that anybody can review it. So even though we'll wait until January to have a meeting, the information will be there and people can use it to inform you in your next SPIL meeting. My other question is, I'm really interested in the consumer co‑chair selection process as it relates to ‑‑ I'd like to know what is your goal date for having the consumer co‑chair? And what is your selection process? If you had ten applications, how do you choose which consumer you want on there? And is there a way to then, for the nine that didn't get selected, to incorporate into ‑‑ maybe have them be regular committee members for the SPIL committee to continue to have the consumers' feedback?
 >> This is Mark. At the actual committee meeting, we discussed the 89 days. We were hoping to have a chairperson in place by the 4th of January and that's one of the things we probably need to do. The quicker we can get that posted and get feedback as who's all interested has everything to do with how quickly we can get that chairperson in place ‑‑ co‑chair in place.
 >> Well, if we don't meet again until January ‑‑
 >> Probably wouldn't.
 >> We would have a person selected, though, before the January meeting.
 >> Right. But we still have to meet to approve.
 >> Oh, I understand.
 >> The application has not been approved because there's been a lot of back and forth questions of, oh, are we allowed to have that question? Do we need that question? So we're just fine tuning it. Hopefully, this next one, we'll take a vote and either go forward or throw it out and start over.
 >> Aaron Andres. I would think that if we had a SPIL or committee meeting just for the process of getting it worked out so that we're good to go by January, then that would be my recommendation.
 >> So over the next month, having a meeting just solely on the process of application.
 >> Yeah.
 >> As a non‑committee member, I would encourage that because this process has been going on for quite a long time and I think that if you guys could keep that moving forward, that would be really important. You'll probably have a SPIL report too if you want to use that.
 >> That would be great.
 >> Yeah.
 >> I was just looking at the calendar and for some reason, we didn't have any type of meeting in November, maybe we could do something by late November after Thanksgiving. So we should have everything there. That would give Rebecca time to get it updated. We can look at maybe the 30th of November? That's a Friday. Done deal? Then we can get that posted. Special meeting to discuss the co‑chair and we have it at three ‑‑ three to four.
 >> This is Sarah. I think a robust recruiting process through the CILs and other advocacy organizations would help garner more applications. So sending it to the DD council, Michigan disability rights coalition, you know, the natural partners. Sending it to our VR partners as well. If there's consumers that are wanting to build leadership skills.
 >> Uh‑huh.
 >> I love it. All right.
 >> Okay. Any other questions? Thank you so much.
 >> Thank you.
 >> Just trying to put something in my phone.
 >> We have the list of all the CILs on the website, right?
 >> We do.
 >> They're on the website.
 >> They're on the disability network website. All of the CILs.
 >> We should.
 >> When you go on ‑‑
 >> Because then I can post the link, contact your CIL if you're interested in, you know, participating in the new SPIL committee, right?
 >> They would be contacting the ‑‑
 >> Just us? Contact us?
 >> Well, no because then ‑‑ yeah, so then CILs could identify them and send them our way. Isn't that what we're trying to do?
 >> They can apply directly and put the form in and send it in. We have to review them and interview. That's one of the big things with that.
 >> Where is the form?
 >> Once it is approved, we can put it on the website and then have ‑‑
 >> Okay. So when the form is done ‑‑
 >> Yeah. When the form is done, we can move forward.
 >> Got it. Okay.
 >> All right. Thank you so much.
 >> And then everyone here ‑‑ you're on Facebook. You're on Facebook. You're not on Facebook. Get with it, Mike. Get on Facebook. I know Kelsey and Rebecca are on social media. So please retweet and, like, share our postings because that's how things go viral. Please.
 >> To confirm, and I would suggest it be modified here shortly, in the research section of the MISILC.org website, there is a behavioral independent living resources and Michigan agencies and that would be an appropriate place for that link to be. Towards the bottom of the page too.
 >> I've seen ‑‑ I've seen links to resources, you know, not on our page.
 >> Right.
 >> But on other disability, you know, organizations or services. Links to resources of things that I'm like, this does not have anything to do with this issue.
 >> I'm just shocked that we're under behavioral independent living resources.
 >> Well, I think that's it. They have employment and training. MRS and BSBP. But we're not under behavioral.
 >> On our website?
 >> On our website.
 >> I'm looking at reports. I don't see where you're ‑‑
 >> I'm under resources.
 >> I see it. I found it.
 >> Yeah. Resources. Then under the independent living resources. It's linked ‑‑ it's linked there too but it should be removed then from behavioral independent living resources.
 >> All right. So if there are no more questions about the SPIL committee, I will go ahead and give a quick executive director search update.
 >> You can take your time. We got plenty of time.
 >> Oh, awesome.
 >> I'm taking my time. I'm just always like, I must be efficient.
 >> This is Mark. The whole website thing, I do think we should look a little bit more into that and navigate. Posting things and make sure they're proper. I don't know. Does someone actually maintain that for us?
 >> Tracy's maintaining it right now, right?
 >> A little bit with Rodney's help.
 >> Oh, okay.
 >> I think we should look into getting somebody to maintain it.
 >> I think that will definitely be ‑‑ to identify an IT person that can help us with that because with Rodney, he was kind of wearing multiple hats.
 >> Right.
 >> But now, that's not necessarily going to be the skillset of somebody new coming in. So they may have to hire out.
 >> And if there's resources within our council, then the director would leverage those resources. I mean, we've got Gabriella's expertise in communication. But as far as ‑‑ as far as managing a business operations function, that would not be the council's responsibility.
 >> Right. That would be ED's.
 >> The way we structured our operations I should say.
 >> Yeah.
 >> But I agree we got to get some resources.
 >> Yeah.
 >> So Sarah has told me that I have all this time. So I'm going to read to you from my personal memoirs. I'm just kidding.

 (Laughter)
 >> Just kidding. Although, I should have memoirs because I'm a really good writer and I'm really interesting apparently. So quick executive search update. Please, my fellow executive search committee ‑‑ executive director search committee members, Mike and Mark. Mike is the chair of that committee so ‑‑ but I'm not going to throw him under the bus to make him give the update. So I'll just ‑‑ I mean, do you want to say something? Yeah. We've gotten just a ton or I should say the search committee is getting tons of résumés and applications. They have broken them down for us to kind of help the search committee, the four of us, kind of have a little ‑‑ be able to look at them with more informed sort of ‑‑ what's the word ‑‑ be able to manage all the many applications they've gotten. So we're looking at, you know, specific ones that have qualifications that would be absolutely necessary to be the SILC executive director. And we have a great number of those. We have a meeting coming up, a teleconference meeting coming up, with the search company on Tuesday where we're really going to really go through all of these and say, okay, these are the ones that we recommend that you have an initial phone interview with. That will be the first step of kind of beginning to narrow down into the people that we want to bring forward for public interviews with a quorum of the council in an open meeting. So I'm not sure if we've quite identified a number that would be our goal for how many we would want to do that with. Mike is raising his hand. I'm sure the number is not high. Go ahead, Mike.
 >> We may have three, four, or five. Then they make a recommendation for us. I think the first round will be just the four of us. Then when we come up with the final candidates, whether it's two or three or whatever, then they come before the full council.
 >> Oh, yeah. We're not going to be bringing, you know, eight different people before the full council. We are going to do our due diligence to really identify who needs to be before the full council to really say like, oh, this person's really qualified or this person's really, you know, has characteristics that would be great. So we are definitely ‑‑ there are steps until we get to that but as soon as we identify the timing of when those public open meetings for interviews would happen, we will be letting everyone know. And those will be very important for every council member and for the public to attend. You know, it's a big job. It's a big responsibility and we want to make sure we're finding the right person.
 >> And that needs to be in person. You really can't do that on the phone. You have any comments?
 >> Just that you would let us know in enough time to get everything situated and I'll be wherever I need to be, here or wherever, to facilitate proper due diligence.
 >> This is Mark. Sent me ‑‑ I think they sent the numbers that I seen in the second tier that we want to look at their résumé. I haven't had a chance to view them yet.
 >> I haven't either.
 >> But as one of the members of the search team, I look at the actual job description and then what the person has on their résumé. Then from there, we'll go through that process. I think we do need to have some time ‑‑ set some time ‑‑ for when first interview's going to happen and the second. With the holidays coming up, it could get very tricky.
 >> Yeah.
 >> Yeah. This is Sarah. That would be really helpful I think for the council to understand what the timeline is. Like, if you can identify your dates for interviews but especially the date when you need the council to come together because you'll want to have that date available to give to your candidates.
 >> Yep.
 >> And my preference is that this is done in December. In person, final round of interviews is done in December.
 >> I mean, you got a month. If you could identify your top candidates.
 >> I think it's very possible. I think we'll make quite a bit of progress next Tuesday.
 >> Are they all homegrown? Or are some people traveling from out of state?
 >> They all were in Michigan.
 >> It won't be too hard to, like, logistically get them here. That kind of thing.
 >> Right.
 >> I think they can do a phone interview. Some type of video.
 >> Yeah. There's all kinds of technology.
 >> We could Skype them in.
 >> You probably want to meet them in person, right?
 >> I think for the sake of the individual, if there is a top candidate that is from out of state, we have to pay for them to come to Michigan and all their accommodations while they're here and their meals. Et cetera. That's just ‑‑ that's protocol when you're interviewing people.
 >> Yeah.
 >> I do think it's best practice to have it in the same room, not to Skype, you know, for the final interview. Up to the final interview, you could do video chat or do Skype. When you say testing, what does that mean?
 >> Personnel profile.
 >> Oh. The ‑‑ the ‑‑ my husband would know. The ‑‑ not ‑‑
 >> It's pretty good. It kind of shows you.
 >> Yeah.
 >> Yeah. That's what it is.
 >> So you're going to want to look for somebody that's got ‑‑ you want somebody that's got a high I.
 >> Right. Exactly.
 >> The candidate that you selected, I don't know how long ago it was, but had they met the expectations that you had for that candidate?
 >> She's been on board for about a month.
 >> Oh, okay. That's a short amount of time.
 >> She interviewed the best of any candidate on her final interview. She knocked it out of the park.
 >> All right. We have about an hour to discuss the next two topics. But I want to open it up to the council members on the phone, if they have any final comments about the executive director search or questions.
 >> This is Eleanor. May I just ask what that word Mike was using was for the name of the test?
 >> It's called the DISC.
 >> Okay. Thank you.
 >> All right. Well, thank you for that discussion. It will be a lot of help to the search committee during our meeting on Tuesday. All right. We need to make the strategic plan update. As we all know, we have this SILC strategic plan that we've been working on and when did we start working on it? May of this year? And we worked on it for months. We had a special teleconference via phone about it. I'm very excited about moving forward with the strategic plan. But there are some things that need to be finalized with the plan before we can move forward and we have discussion with the executive committee about making a recommendation to table the strategic plan until after a new executive director is hired because the new executive director will be a huge part in making sure that these things are happening and keeping on task with them. Building the relationships that are identified in the strategic plan. So that was something the executive committee had talked about recommending to the full council. So I thought perhaps we could have a discussion. Aaron?
 >> We need to approve the report.
 >> Yes. Good call.
 >> Ah. Thank you very much, Aaron.
 >> Motion to approve the reports as presented.
 >> I'll second.
 >> Okay. So Aaron and then Gabriella.
 >> Any discussion? All right. Hearing none, we'll go ahead and take a roll call vote to approve the reports as presented.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sara Grivetti.
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> Thank you. As you can tell, if it's not in bold on the agenda and I have to ask for a motion, I won't remember. So we will go on to talking about the strategic plan. I'll just open it up for discussion.
 >> This is Sarah. Tabled at the last meeting and can continue to be tabled until someone makes a motion to table it.

 (Laughter)
 >> Yeah. So I just want to clarify that. I do ‑‑ I do think it's a really smart idea to ‑‑ and I want to get Mike's attention to share this or just I guess really just the search committee. I do think it would be wise that when you select your final candidates for the interviews, that you present them with the strategic plan and develop questions that are aligned with our strategic plan so that you can get a sense of ideas that they might have.
 >> Yes. The committee discussed doing that kind of thing and seeing their take on next steps or how they, as executive director, would utilize or help implement different aspects of it. Yes.
 >> Yeah. So I think it's a good tool for that purpose. Mike, I'm not sure if you heard. I'm suggesting that you use the strategic plan, provide it to the final candidates. She said you guys already talked about that.
 >> Yeah.
 >> Can you talk a little bit louder?
 >> We can ask the final candidates to bring an essay question back.
 >> Oh. You're going to pose an essay ‑‑ like a written question?
 >> Yeah.
 >> Are you evaluating based on their writing skills as well?
 >> I'm thinking the content.
 >> But I like the idea. This is Robin. I like the idea of working with the search committee that we have hired to take the strategic plan as one of the main things, even though it's not finalized yet, it has some good ideas and for them to ‑‑ to work with the search company on building, okay, how could we present this final candidate to maybe ask them to put a presentation together on how they would implement one or more parts of this. How would this happen? You know, how would you take this information and implement it? That would be an interesting conversation to have.
 >> Yeah. This is Aaron Andres. I also think it would be good so that the final candidate or candidates could, once we decide, they can have a platform rather than, okay, I haven't seen these documents. I need to review these documents. At least they have the opportunity to see it and have an idea of what they're going to do when their feet hit the ground and they start rolling in the executive director position.
 >> Aaron, I think that's such an excellent point because not only are we interviewing a candidate or candidates, they should be interviewing us.
 >> Right.
 >> And they should be seeing themselves in our strategic plan, alignment of their values and their beliefs in our strategic plan as well and if they don't, that would be hopefully a reason someone wouldn't be pursuing a position.
 >> Excuse me. This is Joe Hartz. Is there a motion on the table?
 >> There is no motion on the table right now. I will clarify and I was just about to. The SILC strategic plan was tabled at the last meeting and through some research that we have done with Robert's rules, when you table a motion, it stays tabled until someone brings up a motion to untable it. So basically, that was just an update on where we are and why we're leaving it tabled. But if there was a council member that felt like, no, I want to vote on this now, they would need to make a motion to untable this today.
 >> Thanks for that clarification.
 >> So ‑‑
 >> Why'd you put it on the agenda?
 >> Because it's an update and we were going to spend some time talking about it. But let's move on. If everyone has agreed that we're ready to move on, we need to cover the ACLILA direct guidance on the SPIL. Now, this ‑‑ this letter that I received ‑‑ oh goodness, I feel like I received it like four days ago ‑‑ this letter that I received, I sent to all of you. It was in your meeting packets. So I must've received it at least nine or ten days ago. But so the guidance letter, it has a lot of jumble. Like, wait, what is it trying to say? But we have discussed it. I tried to break it down in the e‑mail that I sent to all the council members. Sort of what the important points to take away from the letter was. So I am going to ask, Sarah, would you like to walk us through sort of what the letter was saying?
 >> Sure. I encourage others that are on the SPIL writing team to chime in as well.
 >> Yes. The SPIL writing team met yesterday and you went over the APL letter and the options it gives us for creating a SPIL for 2020. A one‑year SPIL. We went over it and talked about, you know, the different scenarios and if there needs to be a recommendation. I don't think there's a recommendation for this council but we more wanted to bring it to you, explain what the letter is, and talk about it as a council so that if ‑‑ if there is clarity on which direction we want to go, we'll make a motion today. But let's first tackle what is this letter saying?
 >> All right. So in 2014, when the workforce innovation opportunity act was signed, there needed to be a process of aligning the new legislation with the implementation of the IL program, inclusive of the role of independent living council and their role in developing a plan. Administration on community living has been working collaboratively with members of SILCs and CILs, nickel, April, IRLU, and trying to develop the tools necessary for us to write our 2020 through 2022 plan. They were not able to finalize that in time and they're still in the process of doing that. My understanding from our call yesterday is that the ILA is reviewing the recommendations that were made by the work group. But what that means to us is they're giving us the opportunity to write a one‑year state plan for independent living that covers fiscal year 2020. Then the new guidance will be issued and released to us in time to write a 2021 through 2023 plan.
 >> So just to clarify, this is not, like, oh, you can either do this or this or this. They want us to create a one‑year SPIL for 2020. So it would go into effect at the end ‑‑ at the end of the fiscal year next year and it would go ‑‑
 >> It would go into effect in ‑‑ in ‑‑ in October of 2019.
 >> Right. It would go into effect at the end of 19 and it would go into 20. So it would cover that year. They haven't finalized things enough to be able to create a three‑year plan. They're saying, okay, here's your options for this one‑year plan. So we have to make a one‑year plan. That's not an option. We have to do it. Our options are within how we create that one‑year plan.
 >> So the two options that the ACL independent living administration has given us is we can make what's considered substantial and material changes to the fiscal year 2019 through ‑‑ sorry 2017 through 2019 plan. Or we could make technical amendments to our current plan to extend it through 2020. I want to share with you what the options mean. If we make substantial material changes, if that was our decision, we would be changing objectives that impact the scope of services, changing the designated areas that we consider unserved or underserved, changes in the funding distribution method or the formula we use to distribute the part B funds and part C funds. And changes of the designated state entities that's not currently identified in the state plan. Technical amendments are changes to the entity responsible for achieving the SPIL objectives. So currently, when you look at our SPIL goals and objectives, it will say responsible party or responsible entities and it just says CILs or SILCs or BSBP or both or all. Changing our DSE director or SILC chairperson. So with MRS being our designated state entity, with Suzanne Howell's retirement, we would definitely be doing a technical amendment regardless for that. If Robin wasn't our chair, that would require technical amendment. Then changing the implementation dates of our goal. So currently, our implementation dates are 2017 to 2019. The implementation dates could be changed to end 2020. So they want the council and CIL directors to decide whether you want to make substantive changes or technical changes and to inform them in a letter by May 1st of 2019 and that we would have until July 31st of 2019 to submit the new plan. Substantive or technical. So the SPIL writing committee met yesterday. We reviewed all this information and we participated in an IRLU SILC speak call which is essentially a peer‑to‑peer call that ILU facilitates and had some really good dialogue and got an idea of what other states were considering and also got an understanding of areas of confusion. It was very valuable information for us to listen to. So, as Robin said, we wanted to have open discussion here today with the full council and then if you're ready to make a recommendation, fine. If not, if you want more information before you make a decision, we've got time to do that as well. The fact that BSBP is also impacted by this due to distribution of parking funds and goals and objectives that impact you, you certainly have a voice in this discussion regarding whether we decide substantive or technical.
 >> So I would, first before we get started, I want to invite anyone, if you have questions that you want clarified ‑‑ I know that was a lot of information. It will probably become clearer as we talk about it but if anybody has questions, go for it.
 >> You have the knowledge. My gut instinct but you have the knowledge.
 >> Just so ‑‑ just so you're aware, the SPIL writing team is co‑facilitated by Sarah and myself. Neither one of us have, like, a vote of, like, okay, SILC should recommend this to the full council or Mark should recommend this to the CIL directors. I am co‑facilitating on behalf of SILC. And we have Mark, Alex, and Diane from CIL representing CILs on the SPIL writing team. And then we have Rebecca Parton, Aaron, and Lisa Cook Gordon, who was not able to join us yesterday, representing SILC. So it was my understanding yesterday that the SILC representatives didn't feel ready to give a recommendation to the full council on what the full council should motion and vote on. Like, say, we recommend that you should do this and then you vote yes or no. Aaron, do you want to explain why ‑‑
 >> I'll explain my thought process and where it went from there. When I first brought up the discussion, I was thinking substantive because the goals aren't really working at this point as it is and if we were going to do this thing and do it right, then we were going to have to change them anyway. But if we had substantive changes ‑‑ and public hearings that we had to process and go through the process of bringing this to the public and making sure everything's on the up and up and everything. At least my thought process was mixed because I ‑‑ I was wanting to do it complete but I was wanting also to ‑‑ we don't have enough data as it is to effectively make the proper changes we need to make to make the proper decisions to move ‑‑ move the ball forward in terms of making an effective SPIL.
 >> Uh‑huh.
 >> So we had some back and forth about how, you know, if we just change the dates, are we pushing the ball down the road so to speak and not really making substantive changes? And giving the public the proper they need to have to be able to function. So there was a lot of back and forth. But after ‑‑ after further deliberation with myself, I think probably the way to go to let us get our ball under us and get all our ducks in a row before we have to do all the public hearings and stuff and make sure that everything's good to go and then when 2023 ‑‑
 >> 21 to ‑‑
 >> 21 to 23 comes along, then we could roll out the three‑year plan and have the proper items in place to really push specific issues and move forward in a positive direction, if that makes sense.
 >> 100%. Yeah.
 >> I want to clarify. I think what you are saying about all the public hearings that would be required, you're only concerned because of the time we have.
 >> Yes. Yes.
 >> That's the only reason.
 >> I wasn't concerned that the public would be kept in the dark. I was just saying because of the time constraints, the technical amendment would probably be the way to go so that we can get all the procedurals in place and then have the public hearings and stuff in the future rather than having to rush and get everything done immediately.
 >> Right. Didn't we recently finish a whole slew of public hearings around the state over the last year or two? Didn't we just ‑‑
 >> Well, we've had the ‑‑ because they weren't based on, okay, here's our strategic plan, here are the questions, here's what we're speaking to, here's a draft of the SPIL, because it doesn't meet the requirements of how you need to go through SPIL public hearings, those cannot be considered SPIL hearings. You know, that's all right. And we did have ‑‑ we did have the initial SPIL hearing at the last meeting in September but there's still a lot more that we need to have in terms of putting together a draft and putting that draft out for the public to make comment on. Then bringing it back and changing it a little and then putting it out again. Then it's ‑‑ and in between each of those times, like, okay, now it's going to be 30 days. And Aaron was just speaking towards both the time constraint and the fact that where is our energy going to be best utilized?
 >> Right.
 >> Because ‑‑ and ‑‑ and, you know, I ‑‑ I completely see where Aaron's coming from because if I ‑‑ if I had to figure out what to recommend to the council, I would be in the same boat because, you know, like he said, on one hand, you feel these things that you could do to make it better for the one‑year SPIL. The 2020. For a one‑year period. And you see, okay, well, do what we gotta do and make it work and, you know, make these changes and then wait for the period we hopefully have some better goals or is it better use for our time and energy to concentrate on hiring a great new executive director, concentrate on getting this new strategic plan rolling, and then really being able to start the process of putting together 21 to 23.
 >> Right. I think it's pretty clear what the answer is.
 >> I do too.
 >> Yeah. I think ‑‑ I want to add, too, that in our SILC speak call we participated in yesterday, there was at least one SILC that identified that they were going to make substantive changes but the reason why made a lot of sense. It was that they were well into developing that next SPIL. I mean, they had goals and objectives already developed. So their plan was, well let's just go forward and make the substantive changes after business as usual. Then when the new guidance comes out, just roll those new goals and objectives into the next SPIL. Whereas, we're behind the game on our next SPIL development and we really felt yesterday in our conversation that this one year, we looked at as almost a gift for us to really create some more opportunities for consumer feedback into the SPIL. So we talked about encouraging each CIL to host at least one public forum in their community but maybe more. Do some virtual townhall meetings. The SPIL writing team would create a process that's consistently implemented across the state for public forums so we can collect consistent data. Also, using federal data sources, like the American community survey, to help us develop a more data‑driven SPIL. Then once we get the SPIL monitoring report completed, using that as a resource. Just because we submit technical changes to the ACL doesn't mean that the SPIL committee can't look at some of those goals that are in the current SPIL and laser focus on a few of them to make them more measurable and maybe test out a few processes for implementing. That doesn't mean we can't still ‑‑
 >> This is Mike.
 >> What's that?
 >> We can do a little bit of both?
 >> Well, not ‑‑ not ‑‑ not formally. But what I'm saying is that you could submit the technical changes to the ACL. Internally, in our state ‑‑
 >> I got you. Yep.
 >> And, Mark, maybe you can speak to that a little bit too. There's a few goals that are not written as measurable yet but internally, maybe translate them to some measurable indicators and monitor them the next few months.
 >> Yeah. Yeah. Definitely. We do have some goals on the plan that are difficult to monitor because we haven't come from the proper perspective and have things in place to monitor them. You know, when you look here, transportation's a huge one. You know, how are we going to monitor that? And what are we going to do or task CILs to do to get that done? You know, I hate to say it's a problem but what are some of the solutions? Or how are we going to use that to move forward? I think everybody wants to be on a team that's actually getting something done. You know, we just don't want to be sitting around just saying I got numbers. We're here to serve the public. So we gotta get better at the process.
 >> I like ‑‑ I liked how our conversation flowed yesterday because often times when you are ‑‑ when you're having conversations about barriers, you're kind of up in this space of kind of philosophically or theoretically how do we want to fix the world? But then you gotta kind of drill it down. You gotta drill it down to what can we reasonably achieve to improve transportation, for example? What do we have control over? Do we understand the transportation system and where we do have influence? Then how do we leverage for influence? I like how we drilled it down. I like how we drilled it down to what is it that we really have control over changing? I think sometimes we write our SPILs to try to accomplish everything and stay in that real philosophical space of trying to change the world.
 >> And my favorite part of that conversation was that what we drilled down to was that it wasn't up to SILCs or it wasn't up to CILs, it was up to us creating the opportunity and the access for consumers' voices to be heard louder than anything else.
 >> Uh‑huh.
 >> That was my favorite part.
 >> Yeah.
 >> Mike, go for it.
 >> This is Mike. When you talk about transportation and the same topic came up. In my county, we've had at least five different red teams, blue teams, we all get together and try to brain storm how we're going to and we've done that three or four times.
 >> What county was it?
 >> Newaygo. Just a thought.
 >> Like, with the employment first, we were doing ‑‑ we brought somebody in from the Department of Transportation to do a presentation and help us understand how the funding worked and really how you could influence improvements to the transportation system. And I think that's part of it. Even when Aaron said something about educating legislators. It's really federal legislators and local county legislators because there's no state funding. I mean, the funding flows through the state but state legislators don't control transportation. And it was ‑‑ it was ‑‑ so having a basic understanding of how ‑‑ who to talk to and what to say and then how do we empower the consumer voice to help get millages passed?
 >> This is Mike again. I just heard yesterday a millage increase.
 >> Yeah.
 >> I led millage campaigns for Saginaw like years.
 >> Yeah.
 >> I want to make sure we're giving Kelsey and Rebecca a chance to speak into the SPIL amendments, whether substantive or technical amendments. Do either of you have any thoughts?
 >> I think it's ‑‑ it's a vague bite too and I definitely need to look over it. But I think giving council members that time is a good idea.
 >> And, Rebecca, do you have any thoughts?
 >> Sorry. I had to use the restroom so I've missed the last couple minutes.
 >> Okay. So I ‑‑ I do want to ‑‑ and this is just statement of fact. It's not to sway the council's votes one way or the other. But our timeline, you know, while we are working on, you know, hiring a new ED and we're going to have to have special business meetings via teleconference sometime in December to interview candidates, choose someone, and our next meeting is not until March. So just to let people know that if ‑‑ if we don't decide on this today and people want more time to really think about this, review this, that is certainly within everyone's right. I mean, sometimes we need more time to think about something. But our next opportunity to make a decision on which way we're going to go would be December, if that's when we end up doing the interviews, which I'm not sure about that date. Or March, which is the next time we meet. This SPIL needs to be ready to be submitted by ‑‑ what ‑‑ May?
 >> No, we have to communicate our intention by May. We have to submit it by July 31st.
 >> Yeah. We would have to make a decision and move on making any changes, whether they be technical or substantial, to be submitted next summer. So just to let everyone know, that's the kind of timeline we're working with.
 >> Yes, this is Mark. We have some technical changes we're going to have to make anyway, correct?
 >> Yeah.
 >> Just changes in positions and things like that, right?
 >> Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.
 >> Assuming Robin's going to stay on as chair.
 >> Yeah. We have ‑‑ that's a lot of changes along with the goals.
 >> That's true.
 >> Yeah. So that was ‑‑ that was just to say that no matter what changes we make, that's the timeline we're working with. But if we choose more substantial changes, which, you know, is totally possible to do and it doesn't have to be the whole kit and caboodle but it would be more work and it would be on a more tight timeline.
 >> Can I make a recommendation? Or are we not ready for that?
 >> You can make a motion if you feel ready.
 >> I would like to make a motion to make technical changes to the 17‑19 state plan for independent living.
 >> I would support that. Aaron Andres.
 >> Thank you, Aaron. Any further discussion on that?
 >> I think it's wise. This is Mike. I think it's wise that we do vote today because April or March, that's a long time away.
 >> My question would be to Beth. Do you think that Mr. Robinson would be comfortable with making technical changes versus substantive?
 >> I can't speak for Mr. Robinson. Sorry.

 (Laughter)
 >> Technically, Lisa did.
 >> Oh. Would you be okay running that by Bill or Lisa? If there's any concerns, just let Robin know. Then, Melissa, could you share with your leadership, if the motion passes, what we're recommending and the next director would have to sign the SPIL.
 >> For the technical amendment?
 >> Yes. But it wouldn't be until July that they'd have to sign it.
 >> This is Mike. Just the fact that it's a big project to do the SPIL and a year goes by ‑‑ a year goes by so quickly. You turn around and a year's gone by.
 >> I think that what the SPIL writing committee's going to do is just basically amend our timeline. But the focus of the next 12 months is going to be obtaining public input. So we're still going to keep meeting as if we're developing a SPIL. They didn't give us a one‑year break.
 >> Yep.
 >> I ‑‑ I ‑‑ I feel ‑‑ well, I don't want to sway anybody either way but I felt torn, you know, as Aaron expressed. You know, we can go either way and really I think either way, we can choose to go about it with excellence and really working hard at the goals that are there. Whether they're substantially changed or not. So I feel like it's all about how we, as a council, are working and how our staff is working and what our priorities and vision is and how we're moving forward. So any other discussion on the motion to make technical amendments to the current SPIL for the 2020 one‑year period? Council members on the phone, any comment?
 >> No. This is Rebecca.
 >> This is Kelsey. I don't have anything.
 >> Oh, go ahead.
 >> Oh, no. You're fine. I was just saying I don't have anything to add.
 >> All right. Thanks, Kelsey. We'll go ahead and take a roll call vote, Tracy.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sara Grivetti?
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> All right. Thank you, everybody, for that very involved conversation and for everyone really putting your due diligence into understanding what ACL is asking of us. We will work on that as the SPIL writing team and making the technical changes and we will be sure that the council is updated on where we are with that.
 >> Can Mark share what he's going to do with the CILs?
 >> Okay. Mark has something to share.
 >> Oh. Yes. This is Mark. I will relay information that we've done here and talk with the CILs about the two types of changes and get their input to bring back. Whether the substantial or technical.
 >> Because as ‑‑ as ‑‑ just to clarify for everyone, the CILs, as they are required 51% of directors are required to sign the SPIL for it to pass.
 >> Uh‑huh.
 >> It is important to gather their input on where they would stand on this decision. So we appreciate you taking that to them and that will lead us into a lunch break. Thank you very much, everyone. We will ‑‑ we will adjourn for lunch. We are meeting back at 12:30 for public comment.
 >> Thank you.
 (Lunch ‑ reconvene at 12:30)
 >> All right. I will reconvene at 12:30. We will go into our public comment period. All right. Members of the public who wish to speak will be called on by the chairperson. You will be allowed five minutes as an individual and five minutes if you are the designated representative of a group. The public must address the council and not utilize this time engaging in dialogue with members of the council. Members of the public are requested to refrain from repetitious comment during this portion of the agenda. All right. Who do we have on the phone as members of the public to give comment?
 >> Joe Hartz.
 >> Eleanor Cantor.
 >> All right. Why don't we have Mr. Hartz go first? You have five minutes, sir.
 >> Where to begin? Over and over and over and over again, this body violates the open meetings act and it violates the Michigan freedom of information act. Today, it talked about developing or technical amendments to the next SPIL and you don't even put out the monitoring reports of the current SPIL, even to the SPIL committee. That's even in your minutes. There's all kinds of funny business going on with this operation. By the way, you should take a look at the RSA monitoring report for the findings on ‑‑ on the various centers for independent living and the SILC itself basically making not‑allowable expenses with the DSE. Then we get Sara Grivetti talking today about whether Bill Robinson, you know, supports the technical amendments. Well, Bill Robinson is not a voting member. Period. He's not the DSE. Period. Then we go back and ‑‑ and look at your last meeting minutes and all the talk about Mr. Craig, you know, he's going to continue on. You know, he just wanted to have his role reduced and then all of a sudden, he's gone. He's gone. I wonder why. What ‑‑ there's no ‑‑ no accountability. There's no accountability for where the funds are going either. And by the way, you're going to be voting on a contract for BSBP. Well, it's a statement of report, if you people would look at it, from the Michigan SILC Corporation. The major job of this body is to develop and monitor the SPIL. Implement, develop, and monitor the SPIL. We can't get any numbers on that. We ‑‑ I ‑‑ I can't even get through on the phone, by the way. Nobody returns phone calls. Nobody answers the phone. Nobody returns, in a timely fashion, simple requests for information, including meeting minutes, which are required to be put out within eight working days. Then we get them back dated, if you take a look at the bottom of your minutes that were put on the website, which apparently nobody goes to and which is barely accessible and doesn't have accurate data, you know, are dated November 2nd ‑‑ I mean, October 2nd. I didn't get them. You've all seen my requests for these things. I didn't get the SPIL meeting minutes and they aren't fully accurate either. But you'll note in those that even Mr. Pierce didn't have the data to work with. What kind of clown show is this, ladies and gentlemen? Oh, and if you ‑‑ if you're ‑‑ if you're really out to get a new executive director, why don't you post that position to your own website? Oh, that would be something that would be interesting, wouldn't it? Where's the funding going for all this stuff? Then you talk about this strategic plan and nobody ‑‑ nobody ‑‑ nobody accounts for spending the money to solutions. It's a bunch of garbage. People don't even know what independent living is here in this state and they don't even know the requirements of the SILC. My God. It's the worst thing I ever saw and I'm getting to be a damn old man. I would've applied for this executive director post but I'm not really qualified. I tell you why. One, I'm an actual person with a substantial disability and I actually know something about independent living and I actually know something about the law. Two, as a blind person, I don't have a valid driver's license, which is an illegal thing to be putting into a report and a violation of the ‑‑ or into a ‑‑ a ‑‑ a job description and is a total violation of the American's with disabilities act. And three, I'm not a liar, thief, or a crook. We've got public funds that aren't accountable. Again ‑‑ again, look at the RSA monitoring review and look at all the collusion that's been going on. Look at the fact that this SILC has been in bed with the DSE and the PR program and can't even put these programs together appropriately. Millions of dollars is spent to escalate this stuff. To escalate the funding for MRS with unallowable expenses.
 >> All right. Thank you, Mr. Hartz. Your time is up.
 >> Yeah. Your turn's up too, Robin.
 >> Thank you for that comment. All right. Let me reset. Eleanor, I believe you are the other person to give public comment. Go ahead.
 >> Yes. I would appreciate it if people could please refrain from engaging in other conversations during public comment. Okay. Eleanor Cantor. Consumer. It was stated that all wheels keep rolling at the SILC but the wheels weren't rolling before. The SILC continues to hold its meetings behind closed doors in violation of the open meetings act, completely ignores FOIA requests, and neglects its primary responsibility, which is to monitor and implement the SPIL. Nobody has been responding to questions by e‑mail, phone, or meetings for years. I hear the chair saying the finance committee is distributed to funds under $3,000. That is illegal. That's called a final‑agency determination and it can't be made behind closed doors. It is absolutely critical that the next executive director of the SILC be a person with a significant disability, who has respect for consumers and independent living philosophy. And the person who gets offered this job should understand that the SILC is currently engaged in numerous illegal activities at the state and federal level. It's not fair to put someone in that position unless they are fully prepared to take on that type of responsibility and risk and ready to implement major changes in the organization. I have Googled the DISC assessment and it looks like a psychological assessment designed to eliminate abnormal people. Does anyone know how this test applies to people with psychiatric and other disabilities? The author of the test wrote a book called "emotions of normal people" in which he explained that people illustrate their emotions using four behavior types. Dominance, inducement, submission, and compliance. He included two dimensions that influence people's quote emotional behavior. The first dimension is whether a person views his environment as favorable or unfavorable. The second is whether a person perceives himself as having control or lack of control over his environment. People with disabilities, because of their experiences, are more likely to view their environment as unfavorable and to perceive an accurate sense of lacking control over their environment. So it sounds like the suggestion is coming from someone who spent too much time working at community mental health and it also sounds like it was designed to weed out people with disabilities specifically. I propose that we do not give applicants a psychological test to determine compliance and submissiveness. I'm glad everyone thought it was funny to say that the SILC's work was not sexy. I think it's sexy and you would too if you educated yourselves on independent living. Really, come march with us in Washington D.C. Participate in actions to help save Medicaid. It's thrilling work. Things have, once again, gone south in Muskegon. Our center for independent living has been sabotaging consumer advocacy and directly violating agreements made in independent living plans. They are partnering with entities ‑‑ that is a direct violation of their mission. Now, the executive director of that organization has been appointed to the SPIL writing team. Now, I want you to really think about this. It means that Muskegon's disability community would actually be better off if we had no center for independent living at all. Received guaranteed money from tax payers. Serving consumers instead of businesses and local governments, violating their rights, is the most basic element of IL philosophy and legal requirements. It is the purpose of your funding. We have to get our house in order in this state. Finally, the public needs to be involved in development of the SPIL at every stage, both before and during the development of the SPIL. Not just before so that no one understands what they're talking about and not just after when our input is not seriously considered. The ILA has told you that. There are people on this council who do not even know the difference between the common disability agenda and the SPIL and who do not regularly attend meetings, yet their input is given weight while consumer input goes ignored. I don't know what to tell you except that the entire IL model has been turned upside down. You need to rethink everything. Educate yourselves on independent living. Join the movement. If you do not wish to participate in the movement, please resign so that this council can be populated with people who do. Thank you.
 >> Thank you for your comment, Eleanor. Is there anyone in the room who would like to give public comment?
 >> Madam chair, I ask for a point of clarification from one of the members of the public.
 >> Yes. Go ahead.
 >> Eleanor, Sara Grivetti. At the last meeting, you indicated that SILC was illegally created under the governor's office under my leadership. I'm wondering if you were able to find some factual information to support that claim.
 >> I sent you that factual information by e‑mail, Sarah. Did you get that?
 >> I believe your factual information was accusing me, making further accusations of me. Did you find executive order under the governor's office 1994‑21 and 23 and executive order 2007‑49 that created SILC's ‑‑ the SILC within the governor's office dating back to 1994?
 >> Sarah, what I tried to tell you at the last meeting before I was muted was that that is not what we're talking about. What we're talking about is the SILC's repeated insistence that it does not have to comply with FOIA because it is created within the governor's office. That happened under your chairmanship. It is illegal and it is wrong and that is what I clarified for you.
 >> What part of that is illegal?
 >> Because, Sarah, the governor, our current governor, insists that his office doesn't have to comply with FOIA. The SILC says that as ‑‑ because it is created by the governor's office, that it doesn't have to comply with FOIA. But the governor's exemption from FOIA only applies to the governor's staff. The SILC cannot be a part of the governor's staff and is, therefore, not exempt from FOIA. Does that make sense?
 >> Yes, it does make sense. Thank you. Appreciate the clarification.
 >> Hey. I got a little comment on that too. Under that executive order, the open meeting act applies and if the open meeting act applies to the SILC, the FOIA applies. I sent you all that too and you all know it.
 >> All right. I want to thank ‑‑ thank the members of the public for their comments and clarifying. I want to ‑‑ I want to make a comment that this ‑‑ this council or at least myself and the individuals on the council that I work closely with, we are not ‑‑ we are not trying to be at odds with any member of the public. We ‑‑ we think about the comments. We digest. We ‑‑ we apply and we are trying to continue to move forward and to build something through this privilege that we have of sitting on the council. We know ‑‑ we see that it is a privilege. We get that and we are trying our best to build even when things are hard or when someone comes along and knocks down, burns down, what we are trying to build. We persevere. We don't give up. And I want to thank the members of this council for that. But I also want to thank the members of the public who are, in their own way, trying to make changes that they see need to be made. I hope that, as we move forward with this new SPIL, we can find a way to work together. All right. So could I make a motion?
 >> Yes, please.
 >> I would like to make a motion that this council seeks formal guidance from the governor's office regarding the freedom of information act and its relevance to this council. I do not want that to continue to be a barrier for this council. We've had, throughout my time here and throughout your time here, Robin, we have gotten conflicting information from the governor's office. Therefore, while I would like to propose my motion that the guidance be sought under our new governor once we have a new governor seated so that we have clarity on what our role is with the freedom of information act and that this can be a non‑issue so we can engage in many more productive conversations within the council and within the consumers and people with disabilities in Michigan.
 >> All right. I will ‑‑ any discussion? I fully think that would be a very responsible move on the council's part. Any other comments from council members? Council members on the phone, any comment?
 >> This is Rebecca. I support getting updated formal advice and clarity on this topic.
 >> This is Kelsey. I totally agree and I think that once we get that information, it needs to be distributed to not only members of the council but members of the public who have had this concern repeatedly.
 >> Hearing nothing else, we're going to go ahead and take a roll call vote.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes
 >> Gabriella Burman.
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola.
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce.
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion carries.
 >> Thank you very much for that discussion and I hope that we can come to a resolution on where that stands. We will go ahead and move into reports. I know we have some different representatives here than the names listed on the agenda. So I will ask for the Michigan Rehabilitation Services representative to introduce herself.
 >> Hi. I'm Melissa Potter and I am representing Sue Howell, who is right now currently director of Michigan rehab services. Bill Addison, who is at a training this week and he will be returning next quarter fornext meeting. Our executive team this week was at CSAVR, which is the council on state administrators of vocational rehabilitation. Those of you do or don't know, Sue Howell is going to be retiring November 16th, 2018. She's been with us for 40 years. No one has been appointed yet as actling director but we should know something soon. But the position will go through the civil service selection process. RSA report issues. All are expected and have been accepted and MRS is currently developing corrective action for all of those findings.
 >> An update on the finding that relates to SILC?
 >> I can break that down and I will have MRS get back with you.
 >> Okay. Thank you.
 >> Would it be possible to read what the ‑‑ what the report says that applies to SILC for everyone?
 >> Sure. This is Beth White and I work with the bureau of services for blind persons. I was asked by Lisa Kiesel, as they also are at CSAVR so they're still enjoying California weather. I am the central region manager and the region that I have has grown. We now cover 53 counties in the state. We're the largest region and we have the UP underneath us now, which is great. I was not given anything to specifically report on so today I'm just here to observe and take back questions and concerns and I appreciate being here.
 >> Thank you for being here. It's ‑‑ it's nice to see a new face. I know I've seen you at other things but it's nice to see you around the SILC table.

 (Laughter)
 >> So, Mark, do you want to go ahead and give an IL network update?
 >> Yes. I guess about 60 days CILs have been looking at peer review. Ways of assessing our CILs and making sure they are compliant. We've been meeting to get that done. The next thing I'm also very involved in right now is the community's transition services, which will replace services we had. That will be all laid out. Webinars and things of staff. Looking at reports. Billable and non‑billable. Things of that nature. Last but not least, the disability academy got laid out this past ‑‑ this October. October 1st. All the staff members have logged in. Allow for us to have training with the CILs statewide. I believe it will be really helpful for us to know what the competency is of staff members. That's all I have.
 >> All right. Thank you. Any questions for Mark on the IL?
 >> We're moving to Lansing. We'll be located in the inner city of Lansing. Just excited about it.
 >> Good. Yeah.
 >> Great. My question would be we're going to talk a little bit more at the end of the day about the ad hoc committee for long‑term support but are you finding ‑‑ and you can just give a yes or no question ‑‑ answer to this ‑‑ are you finding more challenge with moving people out of institutions and into the community because of finding caregivers is a challenge?
 >> I'll have to get back with you on that one.
 >> Okay. That would be a good thing for that ad hoc committee to know.
 >> Regarding transitions over the last four years and into this new program, the Medicaid funded program, we're required to report the barriers moving back into the community. So we'll be able to provide you with more specific data on those ‑‑ on those barriers to moving back to a community. So that's a Medicaid requirement and we embedded that into the net SIL system so when asked, we have the data. I will double check if caregivers ‑‑ lack of access to caregivers ‑‑ was one of the mandatory barriers that Medicaid implemented. So I will check on that.
 >> Madam chair, I have a comment for that.
 >> Go ahead.
 >> I know that particularly the UP has been struggling with caregivers for at least five to six years. Finding quality caregivers and people that are willing to stay within the job once they get hired is difficult because, predominantly, you can go anywhere else and get paid much more money and do less strenuous work than you can being a caregiver and we have approached several entities about raising the wage and that seems to be a challenge for the organizations because the state wants ‑‑ to back up their claim that we need to increase the wage to have greater caregivers ‑‑ well, they want to see the data that there is, in fact, a shortage. They want the ‑‑ to show the need for ‑‑ for caregivers, which no organization in their right mind is going to do.
 >> Yeah. It's like we're not going to do anything about this problem until it becomes so obvious.
 >> So I don't really know how to address the issue. I don't really know how we're going to resolve the issue. But eventually, it's going to get to the point where it's so huge that we're going to have to figure out something.
 >> The LTSS caregiver crisis ad hoc update. But right now, for the interest of time, let's move forward to SILC expectations.
 >> Do you want me to talk about ‑‑
 >> Oh, yes. I'm sorry. Blew right past you. Go for it, Sarah. Thank you.
 >> I will send this link out to the council. The RSA monitoring report. RSA came to Michigan in 2017 to review VR activities for Michigan Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year of 2015. The monitoring report on page 38 and 39 addresses the contribution of funds, general funds, from SILC to MRS. History. Under Valerie's leadership, she negotiated an amount of $70,000 of general funds from the independent living line item of the state budget to be contracted to SILC. Any time SILC did an employment‑related activity, they would report that, quarterly, back to MRS. MRS would report that to the feds. They could then use that as state‑matched funds. So basically, if SILC spent $100, that could turn into another $300 of federal match for MRS. Okay? In 2016, that practice stopped but because the monitoring report was for 2015, that practice was continuing. So the monitoring report for RSA addresses that match that it's not allowable and requires MRS reporting cost for unallowable SILC activities that do not meet the VR program requirements. That stopped in 2016. Then there were two other recommendations or two other requirements for MRS, which was really more about policy changes that they have to make. So the reference that you recently heard from Mr. Hartz, I just want to clarify for all of you at SILC, that was rectified two years ago. We would like to hear, Melissa, from Bill is just more clarity from MRS's perspective on that. Not my interpretation of what the report says. Thank you. And I will send Tracy this link and then she can send it to all of you.
 >> All right. Thank you so much, Sarah, for reading that for us all. We will look forward to Bill's perspective on that for all the council.
 >> Why don't you read the one on the disability network Michigan on the VR title one grants and all those shenanigans?
 >> Mr. Hartz, we are moving on.
 >> That was a recommendation, not a legal finding.
 >> You all should have received in your meeting packet. I put this together after ‑‑ I mean, I think for the last three business meetings, including the teleconference we had in August, we have talked about creating a policy, a form of commitment agreement for what all council members would be responsible for and expect out of themselves. So we thought ‑‑ we were talking with IRLU. I thought this would be best delivered as a policy that we could decide to make changes if we thought or fine tune or whatever and vote on it being a part of the policies that we expect moving forward from SILC and SILC council members. So I put this together and I tried to make it pretty ‑‑ pretty minimal. Pretty clearly that these are the minimum expectations. Nowhere on here are you going to see the word "requirement" because, of course, everything will be discussed with ‑‑ if you ‑‑ if you are in a certain situation where your health or life circumstances keep you from meeting one of these minimum requirements, that would be a discussion that you would have with the chair or with the executive director. So let's just go over it together. In an effort to pursue excellence as a member of an engaged and impactful Michigan Statewide independent living council, members are asked to commit to the following. Complete two ILRU webinars or similar ILs/SILC trainings per fiscal year. Attend at least one SILC‑sponsored or related activity for fiscal year. Membership of at least one committee. Attend at least the majority of assigned SILC standing committee meetings per fiscal year and be excused from no more than one business meeting per fiscal year. And then beneath it says more about how each of these things will be dealt with differently depending on your individual circumstances. The SILC expectations and responsibilities will be overseen by the SILC chair and the executive committee. The inability to achieve any of the above minimum targets will result in a review with the chairperson. Will be the per view of the chairperson and executive committee. Additional absences from meetings will be considered on a per council member situation. So I wanted to ‑‑ perhaps I'm looking for a motion so we can have something on the table so that we can discuss it.
 >> This is Aaron Andres. For the sake of transparency and clarity, who's going to be monitoring the executive? Okay. This is Aaron Andres. I motion that we approve this expectation by the SILC. SILC expectations and responsibilities.
 >> I'll second.
 >> Go ahead. Go ahead.
 >> Go ahead, Gabriella.
 >> This is Gabriella and I'll second it.
 >> So for the sake of transparency I guess, who is going to be monitoring the executive committee?
 >> Well, as it says, this would be overseen by the chairperson and executive committee. So there's no one single person.
 >> Okay.
 >> There's no one single person that would be making a decision based on, oh, you weren't able to come because, you know, you were sick or whatever. So, you know, we're going to do this to you. To have it be a team conversation if something needs to be decided and hopefully, you know, it wouldn't ever get to that point. It would just be, okay, these are indicators of the minimum requirements of what we are expecting of ourselves and what we are saying a SILC member needs to be able to devote and commit to council membership. So if ‑‑ if you're not meeting those targets, maybe a conversation with the chairperson about why that is needs to happen. Then you would go from there in terms of, you know, let's identify are you unable, for whatever reason ‑‑ it could be because of my work schedule is crazy or I've had really bad health. So maybe that's a sign that I can't fully devote to the council at this time.
 >> Could membership on the phone, anybody listening, please mute their phones? We're getting some background noise and it's disruptive.
 >> Thank you.
 >> So does that answer your question?
 >> Yes.
 >> Thank you. I'm sorry. I'm ‑‑ no, it was a good question.
 >> I appreciate your leadership. I think with ‑‑ what's important for us to continue to take a look at is the size of the council went from 15 members, voting members, to 11 voting members with this most recent executive order and what I've noticed since that's happened is it feels like we have very few people in the room even though we have quorums and people on the phone, we just don't seem to have a lot of people that are able to participate in person right now and it ‑‑ and we have people that represent participating at all right now and with only 11 seats on this council, the 11 seats need to be filled by people that are willing and able to show up and make this a priority to attend either in person or by phone. I know that life gets in the way at times. I know I had some challenges, you know, some conflicts at a period of time as well and I just think that on principle, we need to ask members of the council to commit to these.
 >> Yes. And I ‑‑ I ‑‑ I really ‑‑ I try to take everyone's feedback that they have given at the meetings and we ‑‑ both in‑person meetings and teleconference ‑‑ we repeatedly had council members bring forward the idea that doing ILRU online trainings should be an expectation because you can do it from your computer, you can do it anytime. There's a list of on‑demand ones. Did we already send them out, Tracy?
 >> I attached it. Yep.
 >> You can go on the ILRU website and see what's on there and ‑‑ and they are training both on IL but also on SILC operations that we all need to be familiar with and SPIL, you know, what is a SPIL? How do I ‑‑ how do I write an effective SPIL? How do I be a part of, you know, these are all things that are very important for us to know. So in making this list, there are only ‑‑ what ‑‑ five bullet points. I ‑‑ I really thought about what is reasonable for a volunteer council? We all have other responsibilities, jobs, families. I know I just started a new job and I'm like, gosh, will I ever sleep again? But this is ‑‑ this is important and we cannot become the kind of council that we want to be that can execute the things in the strategic plan that, you know, we thought of oh this would be a great thing for SILC. This would be a great relationship to have. Let's make sure we do this and let's make sure we do that and we can't fully execute what the public's been saying to us either if we are not doing our best to be at the top of our game. And ‑‑ and as Sarah said, that can't always happen. You know, life happens. I mean, my father passed away two weeks before the strategic planning meeting. I ‑‑ I didn't want to go but I knew how important it was. So I mean, that's not to say be like me. But let's all look at what is our personal best and these are minimum requirements. I think if we adopt it as a policy and we say, okay, this is what we ‑‑ is the bare minimum of what we're shooting for and if we're not able to meet them, maybe it's not because it's directly, oh because we're lazy. But maybe it's just a time that maybe right now is not the best time for me to be on the council. So I'll open it back up to you guys. I'm sorry.
 >> Robin, I think that ‑‑ this is Sarah ‑‑ I think that this is an excellent policy and that I would like to see our new director, once they come on board, within their first six months to develop the procedures to implement the policy.
 >> Do you think the procedures would need to be developed before we could vote on it being a policy?
 >> No. No. We can vote the policy now. The procedures are more how do we operationalize this? How do we monitor and what's our process for monitoring whether every council member attends two trainings? What's our process for establishing a budget that will support council members to attend SILC‑sponsored activities? How are we monitoring attendance at standing committees? So it's more about operationalizing it. So that really doesn't even need to go through an approval process per se. I would ask, though, that the policy be adopted and the motion be voted on today and that, within the first six months of our new director, they would develop the procedures for operationalizing.
 >> I agree.
 >> This is Gabriella. I have a question. So the policy's only as good as the council members. I'm just curious. Are we still getting new interest and new applications that are still being vetted by the governor's office? Like do we have a pipeline? Are there people out there that you've identified as being like these people would make a good addition to the council because they would be able to abide by these minimum requirements and make a contribution?
 >> There are ‑‑ I do have a few names of people that I'm going to be speaking to the appointments office about because I know we have a few people whose time is up with us. I believe, Gabriella, this is your last meeting unless you seek reappointment.
 >> Oh, okay.
 >> Really?
 >> I didn't know. I have no idea.
 >> This is Mike. I thought when the governor reappointed us a year ago, we all had two years. We can reapply.
 >> I had to reapply and I got appointed for a three‑year term.
 >> Okay. All right.
 >> I don't know what I ‑‑ what did I ‑‑ did I also? I feel like it's been six years.
 >> But you had ‑‑ you had to get reappointed.
 >> Right. I did.
 >> I think you were reappointed for two.
 >> Thanks for letting me know.
 >> To answer your question, I do have a few people that we could put forth their names to the governor's office. But I would feel more comfortable if we had some sort of ‑‑ I know we have the nominations committee, which I believe was you and Lisa.
 >> Right.
 >> A phone conversation with these individuals just to maybe even go over this policy if it's something that the council adopts and just say, hey, this is kind of our minimum. These would be the targets.
 >> Right. Sure.
 >> I ‑‑ I'm kind of in the moment of because of the election, do I try and reach out to someone in appointments now? Or do I wait a few months until things settle down with the new administration? I ‑‑ I ‑‑ I've gotten ‑‑ I've talked to different people and have gotten conflicting, like, Rodney's like do it now. But then somebody else is like, oh no, you better wait. So I was like ‑‑
 >> If you get it in now, the governor's going to try to make appointments in December. Before his term ends, he's going to try to make some appointments. So, Gabriella, if you are eligible to continue on, you would go online and fill out an application. I don't think it's too late. And same with the new people. We have a relationship with the appointments office. Rodney established a relationship with the appointments office. They are very easy to work with. I ‑‑ it will probably be a good four months after the governor ‑‑ the new governor's seated and sworn in before the appointments office will be fully staffed again. These positions end when the administration ends. So all the staff usually go on to different positions.
 >> Right.
 >> So it would be better to utilize our relationship now.
 >> Got it.
 >> If you want them appointed for next ‑‑
 >> Yeah.
 >> Let's say I end my term, that's one seat. How many ‑‑ are there others? Like where are we?
 >> That's a good question.
 >> Are there others that are up at the end of this year?
 >> I would have to check on that. It seemed like there'd be two or three of you.
 >> Kind of need to know that.
 >> Because we don't want to be out of compliance next calendar year. It's like low thing on their priority list.
 >> I know.
 >> I'm looking that up right now. We have Gabriella, Michael Hamm, and Kelsey.
 >> Kelsey, did you know that?
 >> I thought it was coming up. As soon as you said your term was up, Gabriella, I was like I bet mine is too because I feel like I only had a two‑year term as well and it's flown by.
 >> Right.
 >> Do the three of you have intentions of reapplying if you're willing to say that out loud today? Or you want to think about it?
 >> If you want to think about it and have a discussion with me in private, that would be all right too.
 >> Excuse me. This is Mr. Hartz. That website is not accessible on that application page but that's nothing new.
 >> This is Eleanor. I have applied to sit on the SILC and I never heard anything back.
 >> I'm ‑‑ I'm assuming that you are ‑‑ you are referring to the governor's application on the Michigan.gov website, yes?
 >> Me? Yes.
 >> Well, that would be ‑‑ that would be on them, not on us. So I will ‑‑ I will look into why that is. Thank you for notifying me. I would ‑‑ I would ‑‑ I will talk with Kelsey and Gabriella and Mike about your intentions. That will probably be easier. Okay. So back to this ‑‑ this policy. Yes, Gabriella, it was still ‑‑ you know, people would be vetted and approved by the governor saying this would be more for internal use of this is our policy of, you know, how we work and what targets we're trying to hit.
 >> Right.
 >> And I think it's really important to indicate that if somebody does not comply with the policy and the executive committee wants to make a recommendation that the individual is not reappointed, that recommendation can be made to the governor's appointments office and, again, it is still up to the governor. Very seldom is a person unseated during their term unless they resign.
 >> Yeah.
 >> So there's also an opportunity if somebody really isn't able to participate, whatever the reasons, we can continue to have dialogue about helping them make the decision to resign. This isn't ‑‑ we don't have the authority to kick anybody off this council.
 >> And it's very important to have this kind of policy because if someone's not meeting targets, I think there needs to be a conversation about are things accessible for you? Are you able to get transportation to these things? Maybe someone is not being part of something because, oh, well, I don't have a ride to get there. Well, did you know that SILC can pay for a ride for you.
 >> Oh.
 >> Uber.
 >> It took me a while to realize that I could ask SILC to pay for a van to come and get me and take me somewhere. So any questions or thoughts from any members in the room or council members on the phone?
 >> Just a reminder that everybody gets two terms each and that's it.
 >> It resets when a new executive order is established, though.
 >> No, it doesn't.
 >> I'm sorry, we have a discussion in the room. Mike, go ahead.
 >> Go ahead, Aaron.
 >> Is it possible that you could send current council members all the years of ‑‑ what term they're on so we know how long we have left? Or to ‑‑
 >> Very good idea.
 >> This is Rebecca and I would also agree. I was getting ready to ask for my appointment information. I know the paperwork's somewhere in my files but it would be helpful to have that sent out via e‑mail.
 >> Thanks.
 >> All right. We have a motion on the table to accept the responsibilities and expectations policy. Is there any more discussion on that?
 >> Ultimately, yeah. The governor's going to have the final say. That's not fully up to us.
 >> I just wanted to clarify.
 >> Any other comment? All right. Well, I'll let Tracy go ahead and take a roll vote. We are voting on the motion to accept the SILC expectations and responsibilities policy.
 >> Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sara Grivetti?
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> And, Mairead Warner, did you join?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> All right. Awesome. Thank you so much, everybody. I will make sure that is added to our record. All right. What do we have next? Second page. We're almost done. Yay. Okay. We need to ‑‑ we need a motion to approve the fiscal year 2019 BSBP grant.
 >> I ‑‑ I have a point of clarification. I believe that what we have that's been presented to us ‑‑ sorry, let me pull it back up here ‑‑ was a budget for BSBP.
 >> Yes, I believe so.
 >> The budget for the grant. So once the council approves the budget, then the grant would be finalized. Beth, do you have any knowledge of that? Okay. So we're not approving the grant. We're approving the budget for the grant.
 >> Okay.
 >> Tracy, did Rodney leave you with any of that information?
 >> No. No. We don't have the actual grant. We have to approve the budget first.
 >> Okay. So recommendation for motion to approve ‑‑
 >> I'll make the motion.
 >> I'll support. This is Sarah.
 >> All right. Thank you, Mike and Sarah. Do we want to have discussion?
 >> Yeah. I'm wondering when do we have the MRS budget?
 >> That was already approved.
 >> Oh, it's already approved? Okay. Okay.
 >> Why are we approving a budget for BSBP?
 >> We receive funding from both MRS and BSBP for the operations of SILC.
 >> Okay.
 >> So it's our ‑‑ it's our operating expenses that are identified in our work plan.
 >> I believe 35% comes from BSBP and 75% from MRS I believe. Is that correct, Sarah?
 >> What'd you say? 35 and ‑‑ yeah, it's about that. It's about that.
 >> Does anybody have questions?
 >> We took a significant decrease in our funds from BSBP. A $60,000 decrease. My understanding is that Rodney worked with Mike Pembell on this and that part of the decrease was to ‑‑ because we didn't have expenses to go against the contract and that we had money in reserves that needed to be spent down. Is that true, Mike?
 >> Yes.
 >> Okay. So I do believe that Rodney left the door open with the conversations with Mike Pembell that ‑‑ that next year, that would be revisited. We may go back up to ‑‑
 >> Yeah.
 >> So that door was left open, wasn't it, Mike?
 >> According to Rodney, it was. Yeah.
 >> Right.
 >> I think I heard something about who it was but I'm not positive.
 >> Well, we had three people that were taken away just during lunch. Not saying a word.
 >> No. I wouldn't either.
 >> Word travels fast I think.
 >> Oh, yeah.
 >> Uh‑huh.
 >> So just because ‑‑ this is Robin ‑‑ just because budget, spreadsheets, all that, is sort of my flaw in terms of trying to understand and wrap my head around what is this going to? What is this going to? What is this for? Would it be possible to break down the need to knows or the things that have changed that we need to be aware of before we ‑‑
 >> Significantly cheaper.
 >> Right now, we don't have an ED either.
 >> Yeah. We don't have an ED.
 >> So overall, we're saving quite a bit of money.
 >> Mike, we've got a budget for BSBP that we need to approve. I just want to be clear. We have a $21,000 savings with BSBP. However, we need to put up for bid, the contract for CPA services. So we will need to account for those expenses maybe going up at some point.
 >> Probably.
 >> Yes. Our accountant sent us a letter via e‑mail that she will be retiring at the end of January due to age and health. We wish him the best. Great guy. He is going to, thankfully, stay with us throughout the transition period.
 >> Made a recommendation, didn't he? Did he make a recommendation? Or did Rodney?
 >> I have not heard.
 >> The auditor? Auditor? Jason?
 >> Is that who it is?
 >> Well, we have to.
 >> Yeah.
 >> Robin ‑‑ looking at Tracy ‑‑ Tracy, can you access Rodney's computer?
 >> I can ‑‑ yeah.
 >> And maybe send it to Mike?
 >> Okay.
 >> And maybe we can, at the next meeting, talk about getting that package out. I'd rather get it done sooner because it'd be nice to have Rich trained as the CPA. This isn't a bookkeeper. Tracy does the day‑to‑day bookkeeping operation stuff.
 >> Lots of moving parts right now. I ‑‑ I am thankful to Tracy for keeping it all on track and thank you very much.
 >> This is Aaron Andres. Do we need to make a motion?
 >> We have a motion.
 >> If you want to call the vote.
 >> I will support or yeah.
 >> Okay.
 >> All right. All right. We're ready to vote. Go for it.
 >> All right. Aaron Andres?
 >> Yes.
 >> Robin Bennett?
 >> Yes.
 >> Gabriella Burman?
 >> Yes.
 >> Sara Grivetti?
 >> Yes.
 >> Michael Hamm?
 >> Yes.
 >> Kelsey Kleimola?
 >> Yes.
 >> Rebecca Parton?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mark Pierce?
 >> Yes.
 >> Mairead Warner?
 >> Yes.
 >> Motion passes.
 >> Awesome. Thank you, everybody. Now, the old business, which is the last item on the agenda. I just want to update everybody on what is going on with the long‑term supports and services caregiver crisis ad hoc committee. If anybody remembers, I think at the meeting back in, like, February or May, Lisa Cook Gordon, we had that presentation on the caregiver crisis and how it's really going to ramp up in the next four to five years and affect people, you know, through disability, aging, autism, developmental disabilities. I mean, just across the board, people will be struggling to find adequate caregivers who are paid well who know what they're doing. So she put forward an idea at that council meeting that the SILC should, in some way, have a committee to look into this. We tabled it at that committee and then we retook it back up at the September business meeting. She made an amendment to her original motion, which was to just have it be an ad hoc committee that would exist for a short time that would look into conducting research on what organizations are already out there and what are they doing that maybe SIL could partner with to help further this along or do further research on if we're going to do anything with it in the next SPIL, which would be the 2021 SPIL. So I ‑‑ I appointed Mairead Warner and Al Starr to do some web research and make phone calls to gather some information about what organizations are doing, what advocacy is happening, you know, all these different things. Mairead Warner, who is on the phone, do you want to ‑‑ do you want to speak ‑‑ you did a lot of phone calls and e‑mails so far. Do you want to tell them a little bit about that?
 >> Yes. When I was looking up information, I found a lot of ‑‑ I looked through a lot of information, agencies online to ‑‑ looking for non‑profits and I made a few phone calls. I tried leaving a couple organizations some messages. I never received word back. A couple other calls now.
 >> And Mairead sent me a lot of her contacts. She's left messages for probably half a dozen different places and waiting on calls back. She's done a lot of web research and I really applaud her for all the hard work she's doing and she's putting together for us and you definitely have time to hear back and have conversations from those places because with this new SPIL changeover, we have a little bit more time until we're really going to have to have a package together for the writing team to look at. So I think you're ‑‑ you're right on target with that, Mairead. Alex ‑‑ Alex reached out to someone he used to work with at the Arc and they e‑mailed back a lot of information about what they're doing. So I really appreciate both of their work. I'm glad that they have the chance to really be a part of this important committee and figuring out what's going on with this. So stay tuned and hopefully we'll have much more information to talk about and figure out what our next steps would be.
 >> This is Mike. We need to think of maybe partnering with a bigger ‑‑ a bigger committee out there. Is that something we could think about?
 >> So basically, having ‑‑ having Mairead maybe look into what ‑‑ what organizations, like DHS, mental health, CMH, are already doing and maybe how we could all come together and partner?
 >> Yes. I mean, I think it's important before you would engage in any advocacy efforts, you understand why there's a barrier and who can interact ‑‑ who interacts within the system that is creating the barrier and develop a strategy from there. I think when we look at caregiver shortage, there's multiple factors. At least in the research I've done, there's multiple factors to what causes the caregiver shortage. One is it's not ‑‑ for some people, it's not a desired job to do. You know, to take care of other people. A lot of families serve as caregivers and you've got issues with family caregiver burnout. But the major issue I've heard about and seen in research is the compensation structure of the payer system for caregivers and it is either paid for to adult home health with DHHS or paid for through Medicaid funds, whether it be the home of community‑based services waver program or it be the behavioral health programs. The wavers for behavioral health. Then you have to add on that, the additional issue of local county's decision on how they supplement the cost as well. So when caregivers are being compensated at minimum wage and they are not receiving benefits, it's just ‑‑ the attractiveness of that for a career longstanding is just ‑‑
 >> Non‑existent.
 >> Let's call it what it is.
 >> I think you have to look at the whole issue of impact of caregiver turnover on people's lives.
 >> The problem we had to deal with caregivers was not showing up. Substance abuse. Dealing with their consumers' prescriptions. Dealing with money. I mean, the issues go on and on and on. When you look at the systemic barriers, they're vast. It's not as simple as we need better education or we need to promote the whole idea of care giving as a great career. It boils down to until the payer system is improved, you're not going to be able to hire as many highly‑qualified caregivers. Thus, families end up taking care of their loved one because often times ‑‑ and I'm not saying this ‑‑ I'm not saying ‑‑ what I've seen is families end up taking care of their loved ones. Or they go into nursing homes.
 >> Yeah.
 >> And it's a challenge and so when we talked about creating this ad hoc group, you know, I definitely support SILC talking about it as an issue and talking about how we engage other organizations. I think we're ‑‑ we really need to continue with doing what Mairead's doing and hopefully Alex is helping. An exploratory process of what the real issues are and I think there are advocacy organizations out there around trying to increase caregiver wages.
 >> I think that's why Lisa augmented her motion at the last meeting because it is such a vast thing and there's a lot of organizations and agencies already doing things. So it's all about gathering information and figuring out, okay, where are we at? Who is doing what? Who's going to partner with who? And I thank Mairead and Alex for doing that work.
 >> The average hourly wage for a caregiver in Detroit, Michigan, is $10. This is 4% below the national average, which is $10.46. This is a national issue, not a Michigan issue. It's a global issue. Japan is going to face a shortage of 300,000 caregivers I think by the year 2030. And they're implementing robotic technology so that robots are in the home of people that need care giving to dispense medication and ‑‑
 >> I don't know how I feel about the robot.

 (Laughter)
 >> Really. Robot, dry me off. Robot, make me lunch.
 >> So I mean, it's a global issue.
 >> Yeah.
 >> So, Mairead, I would suggest as you continue your research, look up ‑‑ just do a Google search of advocating for caregiver rights or caregiver wages in Michigan. You could also probably do it more nationally and see what other advocacy groups are addressing this issue.
 >> Sounds good.
 >> Thank you so much. All right, ladies and gentlemen. We have come to the end of our agenda.
 >> Woo‑hoo.
 >> All right. I'm not seeing the excitement around the room. I ‑‑ is there anything else that anybody else has that they want to cover? Mike? All right. And we will ‑‑
 >> You don't have to take a roll call vote.
 >> We will adjourn. Thank you so much, everybody.
 >> Thank you.
 (Concludes)