# REALTIME FILE

# SILC EXECUTIVE MEETING

# June 2, 2021

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>> Can everyone see that?

>> Yeah.

>> Great.

>> Yvonne: Well, I will officially call our meeting to order. We do not have a quorum so we will not take vote at this meeting but will proceed. Let's go ahead and do a roll call so we know who is here. Tracy, start with the executive committee; and then we'll add other councilmen who have joined us, too.

>> Tracy: Yvonne Fleener.

>> Yvonne: Here.

>> Tracy: Jamia Davis.

>> Jamia: Here.

>> Tracy: Will Harrison is not able to join us. Mindy Kulasa. I don't believe she has called in yet, either.

>> Yvonne: Right. And then we have -- Stephanie, Frank, and Mark, and then Tracy and Steve. Welcome, everybody! I'm on my phone so I can't see all of your faces, so I didn't know you were here until I just looked at that. Let's go ahead and pop up the business meeting agenda.

>> Steve: Hold on. Let me make this full screen really quick. Can you see that? Did it pop up?

>> No.

>> Yvonne: I still see today's agenda.

>> Steve: Once I go into "share screen" mode, it's hard to get my controls -- over up top; duh. Okay. There we go.

>> Yvonne: We can't approve a proposed agenda because we don't have a quorum. However, we can kind of look at it.

Steve and I have talked. It's getting tough to get everything done in our meetings just because we're making a lot of progress and we have a lot of things to talk about; and so, we try to put together what we thought was reasonable and you can see we're going to do a consent agenda again; and then we have committee reports. Not every committee will always have a report; so, if you can scroll down a little bit, Steve. That's in that 15-minute window there so Steve's going to do a written report, but there are some -- he's been really, really busy; and so, I want him to highlight some of the things he and Tracy have been doing.

And then the financial reports I always want to leave room for the treasurer to, you know, point out anything in particular that was submitted in the reports. And Stephanie, that's where we will have you and Steve talk about strategic planning.

And then under that, we will be taking a vote to approve -- hopefully -- to approve the mission and vision statements at our meeting.

And then there is no policy committee report at this time. There hasn't been any work on that.

Council education -- we have two speakers this time. So, Steve, for Sarah, he's going to talk about culture and diversity from -- the U.P. perspective or in general?

>> Steve: She will talk about her CIL and recap the call that we had.

>> Yvonne: Yeah. Okay, good. That was really interesting.

>> Steve: Yeah.

>> Yvonne: And Jon, I know you have talked about him, and he will talk about the work in youth advocacy. That's awesome.

>> Steve: Yeah.

>> Yvonne: Then we'll take a break, and SPIL monitoring, this is the part of the agenda -- we need to -- as more action is happening, which a lot has been happening, we got to find a way to grow this part of the agenda. You know, when we used to meet in person, we met all day; and so now we're trying to cram in, even doing heavy, more things to talk about with less time to talk about it? But for now, we're going to make it work. So, Theresa and Jon -- will Jon stay for this part, do you think?

>> Steve: Yeah. He probably will stay on for it. My directors report will cover all of these --

>> Yvonne: Oh, great. Good.

>> Steve: We can put in a different document or format for official tracking, things like that.

>> Yvonne: Okay, good.

>> Steve: I covered this in my director's report, too.

>> Yvonne: That's perfect. They can focus on highlight or maybe what the next steps are.

And then ex officio reports. Mark, I think you made the recommendation we do ex officio reports earlier; and I heard you, and we just couldn't do it this time but heard you. I know that's tough to have to wait until the very end to do that part. Hopefully, we can start meeting in person again and change this up a bit completely on the time that we have. Any questions -- and feel free, councilmembers on the call -- feel free to chime in. Any questions or thoughts about the agenda?

>> Mark: What does this --?

>> Yvonne: Hi, Mark.

>> Mark: I sent the four goals the CILs had. It's REALLY tight in there.

>> Yvonne: I know.

>> Mark: So, I think, hopefully that will be short and -- Lori's not coming, is she, Steve?

>> Yvonne: No.

>> Mark: Okay.

>> Steve: I'm not sure, Mark.

>> Yvonne: Oh, I thought you had reached --

>> Steve: You mean Lori Hill, Mark?

>> Mark: Yeah.

>> Steve: I think Jan will give the report out on that. I know that Lori's had a lot on her plate; but we tried to schedule three or four different meetings with Lori on this objective.

>> Mark: Oh, okay.

>> Steve: Sent out three or four Doodle poll meetings. She responded to one of them and had the meeting set up. Jan and I got on the call and were there a half hour, and Lori didn't join in. And then we later learned she had a family emergency, which I can completely understand.

>> Mark: Okay.

>> Steve: We sent another Doodle poll to -- for this objective, but we haven't heard back from her yet.

>> Mark: Yeah. Okay. Well, I didn't know so she may show up. I think that our meetings -- because we have an MO muted, the CILs is putting together for the four objectives, that we have four goals.

>> Steve: Okay.

>> Yvonne: Hmm.

>> Mark: We report in accordance with what SPIL laid out for us. So, I think it will be interesting. They're really excited about it --

>> Yvonne: Good!

>> Mark: Real excited for it.

>> Yvonne: Good.

>> Mark: We don't have a first with quarter report because the SPIL wasn't ready.

>> Yvonne: Yeah.

>> Mark: But that second quarter, my rep that I have working on our piece, she'll be there and so we'll talk about our progress. I'll try to keep it to two minutes.

>> Yvonne: Just so you know, you have about ten because there's only three of these -- advocacy and leadership; personal care attendance; and emergency response have reports. So, you have ten minutes, at least, right?

>> Mark: Oh, okay.

>> Yvonne: So, you have ten minutes because that's a half hour. It's not a ton, and I'd like to see us is expand on that; and maybe what we'll have to start doing is picking two per meeting and giving people a lot more time to kind of go in depth than to really have a dialogue, rather than trying to cover a little bit. So, we could have sort of like theme meetings, like the theme of this one is emergency response and one of the speakers is about emergency response, followed up with, you know, maybe we can do it that way so there's room for creativity and dialogue.

>> Mark: Now, --

>> Yvonne: You will have ten minutes.

>> Mark: The CILs, what we're trying to do is come up with the actual report as a template.

>> Yvonne: Okay.

>> Mark: I'm really excited about it. It will just take a little while to get it going.

>> Yvonne: Yeah; okay.

>> Mark: That's all I have to say about that and will give my marching orders as far as the IL network update with Diana to see what she wants to talk about. There's a lot going on.

>> Yvonne: Okay. Good. Any other comments about the agenda or questions? We will have a chance to talk about it again when you guys -- when we approve it at the meeting -- but since you're on the call, I thought I would ask.

All right, so we're going to go ahead and set that aside, and I think the next item on this meeting was strategic planning, which Steve, I know you -- I didn't mean to jump the agenda. I do that all the time. I see it's on the agenda to give an update. Do you want to add more to what you said already about what's happened so that people on the call are up to date; and then just segue in?

>> Steve: Sure. Since our strategic planning retreat the full council was at, our next task, the strategic planning committee met with Regina; and she took us through a really, really incredible exercise where we got to ask a lot of questions and break out into work groups.

The questions were set up in ways that got you thinking creatively and really digging into the purpose of SILC and what it is that we do. And through those exercises, the strategic planning team came up with a draft new mission and vision statement; and it was either a week or two weeks ago invited the CIL directors to a Zoom meeting and presented it to them and asked for their feedback. And we sent it out to them in advance, and we welcomed e-mailed comments for those that couldn't join us. And I think we had five or six directors that did join us, and I would say to summarize in a short sentence, they were electrified by what we had come up with. They REALLY --

>> Yvonne: That's awesome!

>> Steve: -- thought it was incredible and just a resounding rally of support behind it. When I joined the CIL directors meeting a couple of Fridays ago, we got the same kudos at that meeting also. So, at tonight's meeting we'll present to the council members here for you to take a look at and to give your input on it as well.

>> Yvonne: Yeah; and Frank, I want to thank you for taking time to give your input; and it was include in the discussion, so.

>> Frank: Okay, thank you.

>> Yvonne: Mm-hmm. All right, well, without further ado, do you want to pop it up with what we have come up with thus far?

>> Steve: And here it is! To so the mission is to advocate for inclusive, equitable, and accessible communities for all. And the vision, which is how do we see the world when we no longer have to exist? People with disabilities are valued and choice is inalienable in all aspects of life.

I think Jan is going to join us also. She's just finishing up a meeting if she hasn't already.

>> Yvonne: Okay.

>> Steve: She just texted me.

>> Yvonne: Okay. Great. So “inalienable” is a big word, but we've really loved it because some of that discussion was around the word "citizen;" and, Frank, some of your dialogue, some of the things you shared were part of that dialogue, too; and really wanting to stay away from that word but make sure that people understood that it's a birthright to make your own decisions. And so “inalienable” is a Constitutional word. So that's the word we landed on.

I do think -- and I noticed it when you said it, Steve -- and whenever we said it, I do the same thing -- it feels like it doesn't roll off the tongue, the whole thing together; and I'm wondering if people with disabilities are valued and -- choice is inalienable. I guess it does. It's just a tough word to kind of --

>> Steve: As we were wordsmithing this, you know, Jan Lampman told a story about the fact that many people with disabilities throughout history, the history of this country, had their rights violated, their Constitutional rights; and to steep this vision back into the Constitution itself, it gets back to the fundamentals of who we are as American citizens and the rights that we are given by our birthright; and as being citizens and it draws right back to the Constitution and those Constitutional rights that were violated for people with disabilities throughout our history. And that is what our vision is, that we get back to the restoration of what everybody is entitled to.

>> Yvonne: Yeah. That triggers a memory for me about what we talked about, that we want it to be -- so like, for instance, Lansing just built an accessible park for kids, a playground, which I saw -- Mark, you guys got some kudos for being consultants with them on that so great job on that.

But we talked about, like, how come every park isn't accessible? Like it should just be a no-brainer, right? That every park is accessible and everything that we built is accessible and inclusive and shouldn't have to be this extra thing this happens. And so, you know, that kind of got us really energized and excited about if we didn't exist -- which is what your vision is -- what would the world look like? I was curious -- oh, Jan hasn't joined us yet. If this is -- your, you know, your initial reaction to it? It may be that everyone has seen it.

>> Frank: I don't know if people were -- it leaves us all speechless. It's very positive. I get a very positive impression from reading it and makes me feel good.

>> Yvonne: Is this something that you feel like I want to be part of that? Do you feel like we missed anything? And Frank, I was asking you specifically; sorry.

>> Frank: Oh, no. No. I feel like it's pretty inclusive.

>> Yvonne: Okay.

>> Steve: Another one of the challenges we were given in developing these statements was a ten-word limit because sometimes mission and vision statements can run on and on and on and become a paragraph; and it's not something that is concise, and you can just -- it comes out very simply.

So that is when we went back to the wordsmithing at the whiteboard on some of these and started kicking some words around and started talking about connotations of certain words and what the connotation to be in that word and question the word and thought about other words and, yeah, it was a great exercise for about an hour and a half.

>> Yvonne: Yeah. And, you know, we realized when we had that first strategic planning Saturday meeting, I think it was Stephanie that pointed out we had two different mission statements floating' around; and so, we realized we needed to take a step back and really look at the mission and vision. And then values, too, right? Values will be part of the next step.

>> Steve: Mm-hmm.

>> Yvonne: All leading to our, you know, strategic planning. Does anybody have any other just comments, thoughts about the process or questions?

>> Jamia: I really enjoyed the process of making the mission and vision statements, and I thought it went really well.

>> Yvonne: Good!

>> Jamia: It went really fast.

>> Yvonne: It did.

>> Jamia: I'm glad we were able to wordsmith to ten words or less because I'm normally long-winded, so this is a good --

>> Yvonne: Yeah.

(Steve laughing)

They say it should be something you want to wear on your T-shirt -- and I totally want that T-shirt Steve, Tracy -- that has that on the back and says "MISILC on" on the front. It would be a great advertisement for us. I'm excited.

>> Steve: We talked about a mission statement as simply "a voice for choice."

>> Yvonne: Yeah.

>> Steve: And toyed around with that.

>> Yvonne: Yeah.

>> Steve: I really love what the team came up with here.

>> Yvonne: I would not lose sight of that, Steve, because I think you made it up and is so excellent. I think it's a tag line for MISILC: a voice for choice.

>> Steve: Sure.

>> Yvonne: I think that's terrific. Just a little insight into the future -- but Regina shared a little bit about the survey results, and we have a lot of room to grow. There's a lot of directions I think we can take with the survey results, so I'm excited for her to review that with all of us.

Do we have to -- was there a certain time that people were invited to this meeting? Or was it just at the beginning -- you know? Is it 6:30 we're going to talk about the mission and vision?

>> Steve: No.

>> Yvonne: Okay.

>> Steve: No, we blocked from 6:00 to 7:30 for the meeting, but if we wrap up early, we can do public comment and move on.

>> Yvonne: Yeah. Well, I feel like unless there's any other comments, we are probably ready for public comment; so, I'll ask one more time if anybody has any thoughts or questions.

All right. Is there anyone on the call that would like to give public comment? I don't see anyone in the participant list who isn't a council member or here for another reason; so, I'll ask one more time: Is there anyone who would like to give public comment?

All right. Any other questions, comments for the good of the council that you want to bring forward?

Well, that was short and sweet, then!

(Laughter)

Fastest executive committee meeting we've ever had.

(Steve laughing)

I'll check in -- I know, you know Will wanted me to update him and I'll shoot a message to Melinda and check in on her to make sure she's okay. I know she's been really busy with her local CIL because she's on their board; and they're looking at hiring someone new, so she's been pretty swamped, too.

>> Steve: Please give Will our condolences, too.

>> Yvonne: Yeah, I will. He's pretty broken up about it. I think he was very close to her. So yeah. All right. Well, the rest of you take care. And we'll talk --

>> Steve: We got Jan joining in right now so maybe we can let her know. Hey, Jan!

>> Yvonne: Hi!

>> Jan: I was on the Self-Advocates of Michigan meeting so I'm sorry I popped in late.

>> Yvonne: Your hair looks cute.

>> Jan: Thanks. I was at a camp, teaching people -- I used the stand wheelchair that goes across the beach into the water, and I had to get in the water today!

>> Yvonne: Oh, man, Brr! Yikes!

(Laughter)

Well, we had -- we are wrapping up our meeting.

>> Jan: Oh!

>> Yvonne: We already asked about public comment. Frank is on the call, and he is the only one who join us who hadn't seen the vision and mission yet, and he's excited about it; and I'm excited about it. I haven't seen it since we first kind of put it out there, and I'm just as excited now as I was then.

>> Jan: Yeah.

>> Yvonne: I think we're wrapping' up, Jan.

>> Jan: Okay. Well, good! I think the mission and vision is great also. So, then we'll bring that to the full --

>> Yvonne: Yeah.

>> Jan: -- council.

>> Yvonne: Yeah, it will be voted on by the full board. Oh, will you give it to them in advance so people can kind of read it over, Steve, so they will have access to it?

>> Steve: Yes. I will have Tracy send to the full council including the ex-officios, and I will e-mail that to her right now.

>> Yvonne: Okay. Sounds good. You can let Tracy know -- Tracy, you can probably hear me -- it looks like we're okay to post that proposed agenda, too. I just made one change to it, putting the vote for mission and vision under the committee report. Other than that, it looks great.

>> Tracy: Okay, good.

>> Jan: -- have we gotten surveys back or now?

>> Yvonne: 36 out of 85, and Steve sent out that last reminder; hopefully, we'll get a couple more so that's pretty good, about 50%.

>> Jan: That's a good ratio, actually, for surveys.

>> Yvonne: Yeah. And so, you know, Regina I'm sure has tons of feedback to give us; and there's a lot of room for growth for sure so I'm excited to hear it all.

>> Steve: Same too.

>> Yvonne: Exciting times.

>> Yeah.

>> Yvonne: Have a good evening, everybody.

>> Steve: Thank you! Good seeing everyone! Talk to you in a little bit!

(Everyone saying bye)

>> Frank: Good night, everyone.