**Kentucky Statewide Independent Living Council**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2020 Zoom Videoconference**

**Members Present:** Chair Amy Dougherty, Vice Chair Joe Cowan, Member-At-Large Bobby Begley, Robin Bush, Brenda Noble, Grace Gilliam, Darrell Mattingly, Brad Schneider, Lala Williams, Helga Gilbert, Michael Fein, Sharri Anderson, Heather Hornsby

**Members Absent:** Member-At-Large Lukas Saint-Clair, Kelvin Fugate

**SILC Staff:** Scott Sisco

**DSE Staff:** Commissioner Victoria Elridge, Jennifer Dudinskie, Kelli Sheets

**Guests:** Jan Day, Susan Tharpe, Carrissa Johnson, Melanie Piazza, Center for Accessible Living; Megan Coleman, Tabatha Johnson, Independence Place; Rob Festenstein, Peggy Tucker & Amanda Hardcorn, Center for Independent Living Options; Sameera Jackson, Wellcare; Katie Bentley, Nicole Maher, Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Chair Amy Dougherty called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed all members and guests. Chair Dougherty installed new members Heather Hornsby, Michael Fein, Sharri Anderson, Lala Williams and Helga Gilbert. Ms. Williams was appointed to represent the DSE as an ex-officio member and Ms. Gilbert was appointed to represent the Office for Vocational Rehabilitation as an ex-officio member. Ms. Hornsby, Mr. Fein and Ms. Anderson were appointed on April 30, 2020 by Governor Andy Beshear.

**SPIL Public Comments**

Chair Dougherty opened the floor for comments regarding the FY21-23 Draft SPIL. The following comments were presented:

* Needs to include some virtual options for services and meetings, especially as we have had to adapt over the last few weeks.
* Partnerships need to be defined in the objectives and the objective needs to be measurable.
* A report needs to be developed as to the attainment of the measures.
* On a plan for cuts to funding, something needs to be included in regards to the goals and objectives if cuts were to happen.

The SILC will hold a Virtual Town Hall to gather more public comments on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 from 1-4 p.m. EDT.

**COVID-19 Response**

Jennifer Dudinskie reported that DAIL staff is responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Staff began working remotely in mid-March. They have been working with all partners delivering services to ensure that the services are being protected and employees and consumers are safe. They’ve been providing resources and instructions on how to suspend services as well. Service managers, coordinators are checking on the participants more often to make sure their health, safety and welfare is being maintained. DAIL staff has been able to work with providers to provide meals for more participants as well.

Susan Tharpe reported that the Center for Accessible Living staff has been working from home as the offices are closed to the public. Staff is still providing services remotely and checking on consumers. They are adding to the ramp program waiting list and building some as circumstances allow. They have worked with DAIL on modifying procedures for home visits for PCAP. They’ve been doing a lot of social media posts and Zoom trainings. They are developing IL Skills training programs to deliver via Zoom.

Jan Day added that they have lost two to three consumers and this could be a catalyst for systems advocacy to advocate for moving people out of nursing homes.

Megan Coleman reported that Independence Place closed their office on March 16, and they’ve had one employee going into the office to check the mail and telephone messages daily. They are not conducting face-to-face meetings and are working with their consumers to teach Zoom. Some have been resistant to using it. They have been doing more peer-to-peer mentoring via Zoom and Google Hangout. IP has been approved to provide supportive employment services remotely by OVR. They have begun planning for reopening.

Brenda Noble reported that disABILITY Resource Center has been doing many of the same things the other CILs have done. They have been getting ready for a next round if there is one so that they will be better prepared next time. Staff has been going into the office 1-2 times a week to check phone messages. Their supportive employment plan has been approved. They are staying as safe as possible and keeping their consumers safe.

Amanda Hardcorn reported that her duties for the Center for Independent Living Options have been modified. She has been in contact with all of her PCAP consumers through weekly phone calls. She’s been working from home and hasn’t had any issues so far.

One difficulty CIL staff has encountered is that they do not have company cell phones, so they have to use their personal phones. Google Voice was proposed as a potential fix for this issue.

Bobby Begley moved to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2020 SILC Quarterly meeting, second by Joe Cowan. Motion passed.

There were no additional public comments.

Chair Amy Dougherty reviewed the Rehab Act, the Federal law that establishes SILCs and governs Independent Living services.

Mr. Sisco presented a financial report showing amounts from Part B funding distributed for the second quarter of Federal FY20. Bobby Begley moved to approve the financial report; second by Joe Cowan. Motion passed.

**Unfinished Business:**

Mr. Sisco briefly presented a report from the SILC Congress and referred the Council to the written report submitted.

Mr. Sisco submitted proposed meeting dates for the SILC for the year. Joe Cowan moved to accept June 3, 2020 as a SPIL Approval meeting and July 15, 2020, October 21, 2020, January 27, 2021, and April 21, 2021 as quarterly meetings, second by Bobby Begley. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

Mr. Sisco updated the SILC members on upcoming meetings for national organizations. NCIL is scheduled for July in Washington, DC, but staff is monitoring the COVID-19 situation to see if it will still happen. APRIL included a request for presenters to include a plan to present remotely for its annual meeting scheduled for October. SILC Congress is scheduled for February 2021 in San Diego. Organizers are working with the hotel to finalize dates and possibly utilize larger space as the 2020 conference was a record breaker.

The SILC Bylaws require a “written” ballot for the election of officers. In order to accomplish this during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Sisco, in consultation with Chair Amy Dougherty and Nominating Committee Chair Bobby Begley, developed a plan to send ballots out to the SILC members following the meeting via email. Ballots were to be returned to Mr. Sisco and DAIL Staff Kelli Sheets so that two people could review the ballots.

The Chair will appoint committees once the election determines the new chair. Mr. Sisco will reach out to the SILC members to request preference for which committee would best suit the members.

Chair Dougherty adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.