**Kentucky Statewide Independent Living Council**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2019 HDI Coldstream Training Room, Lexington, KY**

**Members Present (in person):** Chair Amy Dougherty, Vice Chair Joe Cowan, Member-At-Large Bobby Begley, Tyler Howard, Brenda Noble

**(Via Zoom)**, Robin Bush, Darrell Mattingly, Gay Pannell, Jennifer Dudinskie, Brad Schneider

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

**SILC Staff:** Scott Sisco

**Guests:** Susan Tharpe & David Allgood, Center for Accessible Living; Megan Coleman & Jessie Welch, Independence Place; Katherine Moore, disABILITY Resource Center; Rob Festenstein & Amanda Hardcorn, Center for Independent Living Options; Sonia Withers, attendant for Mr. Cowan; Nicole Maher, Council on Developmental Disabilities; Nancy Soard, Statewide Council for Vocational Rehabilitation (SCVR)

Chair Amy Dougherty called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed all members and guests.

Joe Cowan moved to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2019 SILC Quarterly meeting, second by Tyler Howard. Motion passed.

During Public Comment, Nancy Soard invited all members of the SILC to attend the next meeting of the Statewide Council for Vocational Rehabilitation. SILC Coordinator Scott Sisco will share the information with the SILC members.

Mr. Sisco shared the email from Regina Blye, Program Officer for ACL, conditionally approving the SPIL amendment for FY2020. Mr. Sisco met with Ms. Blye during the APRIL Conference to clarify the issues that need to be addressed by December 12, 2019 to complete the approval process.

* Assurances not all addressed. There is a section that was overlooked that needs to be checked yes or n/a.
* 3.1 Existing Network - Does not indicate the SPIL signatories. Need to add a sentence identifying which CILs signed the SPIL.
* Section 3.2 Expansion of Network - Does not identify underserved areas or populations (including those within areas served by existing CILs). Need to add a few sentences clarifying this. Services areas are in the SPIL, but the under/unserved areas are not clear.
* Section 3.2 Expansion of Network - Does not specify funding source, for the minimum funding level.
* Section 3.2 Expansion of Network - Does not describe the order in which new Subchapter C CIL(s) would be established in the area(s) currently served by non-Subchapter C CIL(s).
* Section 3.2 Expansion of Network – Cannot use Subchapter C funds to establish a satellite CIL (umbrella of an existing CIL or agency). For these three issues, Regina suggested removing the language about non-storefront CILs and just include the minimum Part C amount to start a new CIL.

The final three issues will be addressed at the beginning of the November 20, 2019 Virtual Town Hall. The rest of the Town Hall will be utilized to gather issues that could be addressed in the new SPIL. The new SPIL Instrument comment period in the Federal Register closed on October 11, 2019. ACL staff are reviewing and preparing responses to each comment. ACL is anticipating training to begin in December via webinar, with additional training at the SILC Congress in February and via webinar after that conference.

Mr. Sisco presented a financial report showing amounts from Part B funding distributed for all of FY19. The report shows that OVR has not accessed all of the funds allocated by the SILC for older blind services. Gay Pannell reported that OVR has lost some financial staff and new staff are still catching up. She will follow up on the issue. Bobby Begley moved to approve the financial report; second by Joe Cowan. Motion passed.

Chair Dougherty reported that the Executive Committee met September 24, 2019 to discuss items for the agenda for the Quarterly Meeting, the SPIL instrument and setting up the Virtual Town Hall. The Committee also discussed member issues including the death of Council member Dale Kite; Council Member Dusty Columbia-Embury moving to Dayton, Ohio; and Member Robin Bush, who has missed several meetings. SILC Member Kelvin Fugate was recommended to the Palliative Care Inderdisciplinary Advisory Council, but Gov. Matt Bevin did not accept this nomination. Additional nominees will be discussed at the Quarterly Meeting. Nominees do not have to be a member of the SILC, but must be recommended by the SILC.

Public Awareness Committee Chair Tyler Howard reported that the committee met on October 2 and discussed the SILC Facebook page and Website. Tyler pointed out that the link to the disABILITY Resource Center did not work. Mr. Sisco changed this link to their Facebook page, as the website is not available. dRC Executive Director Katherine Moore reported that the webpage is being revamped, and she will share the address once it has been completed.

Nominating Committee Chair Bobby Begley reported that he has been contacting university contacts to educate them about the SILC and the need for members from around the state. He also is contacting libraries to ask them to post the membership recruitment flyer. Members in their third year should be thinking about reapplying for another term. He encouraged them to submit applications early so that the Governor can get them appointed when the time is right to avoid any interruption in the SILC.

Center of Accessible Living Assistant Director Susan Tharpe reported that CAL’s Bowling Green office is continuing to grow its YES Program, the Young Empowered Self-Advocates program. Their transition program has started in one school and they’ve been very active on social media. In Northern Kentucky, staff is focused on systems advocacy, working with several partners to advocate on issues relevant to people with disabilities. In Louisville, CAL staff advocacy resulted in the creation of a council on people with disabilities, the second council in Kentucky modeled after Lexington’s Council. CAL Advocacy Director David Allgood has been meeting with the disability caucus in the Kentucky Legislature, and the chair of the Caucus is planning a trip to Louisville to discuss issues for the upcoming legislative session.

Megan Coleman reported that she was named as the Executive Director for Independence Place and has been dealing with staff turnover this quarter. IP has four new employees out of seven full time employees and the team is a very solid and learning about the Independent Living movement. Staff member Ryan Guyder has been named to the Mayor’s Council on Disabilities. Ms. Coleman and Mr. Guyder presented at the recent APSE conference. IP has hired a part-time staff member in Owensboro to work with the PREATS program in the schools there.

disABILITY Resource Center director Brenda Noble reported that the center has added one school to their transition program. They have seven active participants in the supported employment program and they have referrals coming in every day. They will be hiring a full-time employment specialist. Their numbers of people served continue to improve.

Center for Independent Living Options staff Amanda Hardcorn reported their staff is working on their annual Program Performance Report (formerly the 704 Report). They continue to administer the Personal Care Attendant Program and housing programs in Kentucky.

Gay Pannell, Rehabilitation Administrator for Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, reported that OVR served consumers in 115 out of 120 counties in FY19. Services were offered in the other five counties, but no one utilized them. Ms. Pannell attended a conference in September and interacted with staff from 56 other programs around the country. The goal of the conference was to develop strategies to meet needs of the growing population of older persons with vision impairments. OVR is moving to the new state office building that was just completed in downtown Frankfort.

SILC Coordinator Scott Sisco presented the DAIL report. While preparing for the trip to the APRIL Conference, the DAIL financial staff asked for a travel budget for the fiscal year for the SILC Coordinator. Mr. Sisco presented a proposed budget including travel to the APRIL Conference and the SILC Congress in February 2020 in San Diego, California. Joe Cowan moved to approve the proposed budget, second by Bobby Begley. Motion passed.

**Unfinished Business:**

The Executive Committee will review the Policy and Procedures manual for any suggested changes and discuss at its December meeting. Mr. Sisco will send a combined document of all suggested changes to this point to the committee for review.

Gov. Bevin’s office reached out to Mr. Sisco regarding the SILC’s recommendation of Kelvin Fugate to the Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council. Gov. Bevin did not appoint Mr. Fugate. Megan Coleman suggested Marlene Huff could be a candidate. She will reach out to see if she is interested and follow up with Mr. Sisco.

SPIL Development will begin with the Virtual Town Hall on November 20. Mr. Sisco asked all Council members to help promote the event to increase attendance. Comments and suggestions will be recorded to help guide the development of the new SPIL. Other SILCs are utilizing surveys distributed through CILs. Mr. Sisco will reach out to the CILs in Kentucky to develop an instrument and ask for assistance in getting responses. Megan Coleman will reach out to the Bluegrass Council for the Blind to ask about electronic survey tools that the SILC could utilize.

**New Business:**

Mr. Sisco gave a brief overview of the APRIL Conference and will follow up with a written report.

Mr. Sisco presented Legislative Advocacy 101 in preparation for the upcoming Kentucky Legislative Session.

Chair Dougherty adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.