

MINUTES

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Radisson Airport Hotel

2081 Post Road, Warwick, R.I.

Members present: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors, 1st Vice-Chair; Rick Costa, Secretary; Liz Graves, Council Chairperson; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul, Treasurer; Heidi Showstead, 2nd Vice-Chair; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach.

Volunteers: Leo Canuel; Madeline Colon; Don Phelps; Jack Ringland.

Staff: Camille Pansa, Executive Director; Lisel Rockwood, Program Assistant.

Interpreter: Deanna Ammon Gagne, Bethaney Long.

1. Introductions: Liz Graves welcomed Council Members to the annual meeting. Self introductions were made.

2. Minutes of quarterly Council meeting of June 18, 2010: previously sent. A motion was made by Heidi Showstead and seconded by Rick Costa to accept the minutes as written. The vote passed unanimously. For: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors; Rick Costa; Liz Graves; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul; Heidi

Showstead; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach. Against: none.

3. Liability insurance: Camille Pansa stated that the Directors' and Officers' liability insurance is in effect.

4. Interest disclosure statement: New Council Members were asked to complete the statement and existing Council Members were asked to submit any changes.

5. Brief history of the formation of the SILCs: Mary Wambach gave a brief history of the SILCs and why they were originally formed. She stated the importance of the role of the SILCs in gathering the needs of people with disabilities to access services.

6. Budget negotiations/reorganization/relocation: Liz Graves reviewed the budget negotiations for the upcoming SPIL. She stated that the proposed budget was reduced by one half causing the Council to relocate and reorganize. Many difficult decisions were made affecting staff and Council Members. Liz also explained some of the changes imposed on the Council due to the financial reduction and the interpretations of the regulations by the RSA. Some questions were asked of the DSU about the negotiations.

7. Audit issue: Camille Pansa reviewed the background of the audit issue explaining that our contract with the Department of Human Services required an audit which cannot be paid with federal funds. This issue is twofold: an audit is required in the current contract and is also part of the new contract. Camille and Liz Graves are trying to work with the DSU to resolve this issue. The issue must be resolved before the Council can sign the new contract with DHS. If the audit is not completed in the current contract, the Council will be in

violation of the contract. The Council's attorney and the attorney for DHS have been contacted to assist in resolving this issue.

8. Review 501 (c) 3 status: Mary Wamach reviewed the importance of retaining the 501 (c) 3 status and what it means to the Council. A discussion about the status was held with concerns about expenses, independence, and autonomy. A motion was made by Kristen Connors and seconded by Anna Liebenow to maintain the 501 (c) 3 status. The vote passed unanimously. For: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors; Rick Costa; Liz Graves; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul; Heidi Showstead; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach. Against: none.

9. State budget crisis: Ron Racine reported the fiscal shortcomings of the Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS). The applications for services were approximately 2500 and the total amount of consumers receiving services is approximately 7,000 annually. Due to the amount of services requested, the Department had to devise an order of selection process. There is now a waiting list for services.

10. Meeting dates for writing 704 Part 1 report for FFY 2009: The first meeting will be on Friday, October 15th, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the RISILC office.

11. Committee Reports:

Finance/Resource Committee: previously sent. Leadership Development and Advocacy Committee: previously sent.

State Plan/Monitoring Committee: The Centers reported on SPIL Goal 1, obj.1 (Transitioning) and obj. 2 (Olmstead Plan) was tabled. Reports attached.

Membership/Nominating Sub-committee:

Nomination of Council Members' reappointments:

Anna Liebenow introduced Terrence Chapman for Council Member reappointment and Leo Canuel, Don Phelps, Madeline Colon and Jack Ringland for first term Council appointments. A motion was made by Lorna Ricci and seconded by Tony Pierre to nominate Terrence for another term. The vote passed unanimously. For: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors; Rick Costa; Liz Graves; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul; Heidi Showstead; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach. Against: none.

A motion was made by Kristen Connors and seconded by Barbara Rozul to nominate the first term members to the Council. The vote passed unanimously. For: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors; Rick Costa; Liz Graves; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul; Heidi Showstead; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach. Against: none.

Nomination of Officers: Anna Liebenow presented the slate of officers as follows; Chairperson, Liz Graves; 1st Vice Chairperson, Heidi Showstead; 2nd Vice Chairperson, Kristen Connors; Secretary, Rick Costa; Treasurer, Barbara Rozul. Anna asked for nominations from the floor three consecutive times for each position. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Jack Ringland

and seconded by Mary Wambach to accept the slate of officers as presented. The vote passed unanimously. For: Christina Battista; Terrance Chapman; Kristen Connors; Rick Costa; Liz Graves; Margarita Grome; Anna Liebenow; Tony Pierre; Ron Racine; Lorna Ricci; Barbara Rozul; Heidi Showstead; Vanessa Volz; Mary Wambach. Against: none.

12. Executive Director's Report: previously sent.

13. Chairperson's report: previously sent.

14. New Business: Liz Graves read a letter from RSA stating the SPIL for FY 2011-2013 was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Costa

Secretary