



*Rhode Island Statewide
Independent Living Council
"Together, Making a Difference"*

DRAFT MINUTES
Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, September 29, 2014

1:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Warwick Public Library

Members Present: Alicia Babcock; Ray Bandusky; Christina Battista; Vinny DeJesus, Acting Chair; Liz Graves, Secretary & State Plan Committee Chair; Kathy Kindelan; Siera Leone; Margaret Molloy, Needs Assessment Committee Chair; Barbara Ringland; Jack Ringland.

Members Absent: Laurie DiOrio (ORS); Karen Dougherty.

Volunteers: Barbara Henry.

Staff: Rick Costa, Executive Coordinator; Lisel Rockwood, Assistant to the Executive Coordinator

Interpreter: Dorothy Hodge.

- 1. Meeting called to order at 1:10 a.m. Quorum was present.** Vinny DeJesus welcomed everyone and self-introductions were made.
- 2. Reports:** The State Plan Report was distributed and accepted into record. Liz Graves added that Carmen Boucher, DHS, attended the September meeting and will be a good resource for collaboration. She invited all Council members to attend the next meeting on October 24th; they will be discussing progress made toward the goals and objectives and the 704 Report.

Jack Ringland reported that the GCD Legislative Committee had reviewed the transcripts from the GCD Public Forums and identified five main areas of concern: accessibility, transportation, healthcare, independent living, and education for employment. Jack stated that accessibility concerns in public areas could be reported to the GCD Accessibility Coordinator, Chris DeGraves.

Jack Ringland reported that the Cross Disabilities Coalition recently reviewed the importance of voting as well as working on employment and bullying presentations.

Margie Molloy gave a brief overview of her Needs Assessment Committee report. It was accepted into record and will be emailed to members.

- 3. Approval:** The May 7th minutes were previously sent and approved as written. The Financial report was distributed and accepted into record. Rick Costa reviewed the report and members' questions were answered.

4. Votes: Rick Costa explained the nomination process. The Council vote to nominate or recommend potential Council members to the Governor but it is the Governor who makes the official appointment. New members are not officially seated until their Certificate of Engagement has been signed, notarized, and filed with the Secretary of State's Office. Rick presented Barney Hughes and Barbara Henry for nomination. Barbara Henry left the room during the discussion and vote; Barney was not present. Jack Ringland made a motion to nominate Barney Hughes and Barbara Henry for Council membership; motion was seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

Margie Molloy presented Vinny DeJesus (second term), Karen Dougherty (second term), and Liz Graves (first term after partial) for re-nomination. Margie made a motion to nominate all three members; motion was seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

Bylaws: The new bylaws were previously sent. Liz Graves made a motion to approve the bylaws as written; motion was seconded. New changes were reviewed and questions answered. Motion passed unanimously.

Policy and Procedure Manual: Manual was previously sent. Kathy Kindelan made a motion to approve the Policy and Procedure Manual as written; motion was seconded. It was noted that Council members should be aware of the content in the two new sections, Committee Members and Travel Reimbursement so they can follow the expectations, such as sending group emails. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Updates: An update concerning PARI and the DSU's Monitoring was emailed directly to Council members by Laurie DiOrio (ORS). Liz Graves added that the Executive Council has been in touch with Elizabeth Akinola (RSA) who stated that the SILC is not involved in the PARI situation and that she would contact the SILC when and if the State Plan needed to be modified. Liz reassured members that PARI consumers were still obtaining the needed IL services. She also stated that Lorna Ricci (OSCIL) would be joining the Council as the Center Representative.

6. Advocacy Committee: Rick Costa reported that the initial Advocacy Committee meeting would be at the office on Wednesday, October 29th from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. NAC members have been invited and Rick will also send invitation to agencies that have expressed interest. The mission of the committee will be to advocate through education so policy makers will be aware of how proposed legislation affect persons with disabilities. The committee structure, meeting times, and prioritizes will be determined by its members. By meeting at a later time, it is hopeful that consumers who work fulltime might be recruited to join the committee and the Council.

7. Future of Council: The importance of having a strategic meeting was discussed. Members decided to have the regular quarterly Council meeting on December 10th from 11-1 p.m. and try to schedule a strategic meeting for March or June. Staff will investigate the possibility of hiring a moderator and checking available funds.

8. Announcements: Don Phelps's resignation was accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

**Liz Graves
Secretary**