

MINUTES
STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
OSCIL, 1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889
Phone: (401) 337-5888

Members Present: Vincent DeJesus, Acting Chair; Jack Ringland; Kathy Kindelan; Barbara Ringland; Lorna Ricci, CIL's Rep.; Laurie DiOrio, DSU Rep.; and Christina Battista.

Members Absent: Margie Molloy, Siera Leone, Ray Bandusky and Karen Dougherty.

Guests: Gary Whitman and Barbara Henry

Meeting called to order at 3:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

Self introductions were made; Lorna Ricci, OSCIL Executive Director, was introduced as the CIL Representative and voting member of the SILC.

Vincent DeJesus asked Jack Ringland to facilitate the meeting and Barbara Ringland was asked to take minutes of the meeting. Motion made by Lorna Ricci and seconded by Christina Battista. All were in favor.

Discussion of the phone conferences between SILC/DSU/RSA of October 29 and November 5 of this year. The October 29 meeting was called at the request of the Council Secretary, Liz Graves who wrote a lengthy email regarding the necessity of a conference between SILC, DSU and RSA to discuss issues of smooth operation and cooperation between SILC/DSU/RSA. As a result of this call, Elizabeth Akinola, Grants Management Specialist at RSA felt it necessary to schedule another conference call on November 5, 2014 between SILC/SILC Staff/DSU and RSA to discuss the issues and suggest resolutions.

November 3, 2014 she emailed all Council, the Staff and DSU an in depth agenda of the topics she wished to review. See attached copy.

During the November 5, 2014 conference call Elizabeth Akinola referenced Section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1993 and how the Council measured

against those standards. She found several discrepancies and said the Rhode Island Independent Living Council was operating upside down, in that it appears staff and the Executive Committee are making all the decisions for the Council. She further stated that RSA only recognizes the Council Members, the Chairperson, CIL representative and DSU representative. She reported that if we do not start operating the SILC as prescribed in Section 705 we will be in danger of losing our resource funds. Summary of that meeting is attached.

Several members who were present at the teleconferences reported their own impressions and worries about loss of resource funds and how to assure we remain in compliance.

Explanation of Documents: Copies of Section 705 of the Rehab Act were passed out. This document is essentially the same as 34 CFR 364.21. It is Section 705 that we are to follow. Documents also reviewed were RSA-TAC-13-01 and RSA-TAC-14-01 which contain information helpful to SILC organization.

Election/Appointment of Officers:

Motion 1 (Lorna Ricci/Vinnie DeJesus) Reinstate Jack Ringland as Chair of RI Statewide Independent Living Council. All in favor.

Motion 2 (Jack Ringland/Kathy Kindelan) Vincent DeJesus to return to Vice Chairman position. All in favor.

Motion 3 (Barbara Ringland/Vinnie DeJesus) Nominate Kathy Kindelan for Treasurer. All in favor.

Position of Secretary will be filled at a later date.

A motion (Christina Battista/Kathy Kindelan) was then made to suspend the election scheduled for the December 2014 meeting. All in favor.

A 10 minute break was called.

The Council directed the Chair to get more information on the costs associated with the RISILC office and the reason why it was necessary to become a 501c3 Corporation. The Council is worried we will not receive adequate funds if these issues are not addressed.

Council Calendar: It was decided to increase Council meetings to six a year. While continuing with quarterly meetings, we will add two recruitment meetings, one in the summer and one at Holiday time.

Proposed Meeting Schedule: All meetings will be held at OSCIL in the large conference room which has enough room for all wheelchairs and/or walkers to move easily around the area.

January 2015 – 1st Quarter Meeting

March 2015 – 2nd Quarter Meeting

June 2015 – 3rd Quarter Meeting

July/August – Summer Outing

September 2015 – Annual Meeting/4th Quarterly Meeting

December 2015 – Holiday Meeting

Appointment of Finance Committee: Tabled

Announcements: None

Next Meeting: December 10, 2014 at OSCIL Conference Room from 1 – 3 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Barbara Ringland