

## **GAC APPROVED MINUTES:**

**March 12, 2018**

**Members Present:** Elizabeth Graves – GAC Member / SRC member; Regina Connor –GAC Member, Carmen Boucher – DOH / SILC representative; Ralph Iannitelli – GAC Member / Vice Chairpreson; Barbara Walsh – GAC Member;

**Members Not Present:** Donna Elliott – GAC Member / NFB of RI; John Pimental – Vice President of NFB of RI / GAC Member;

**Staff Present:** Laurie DiOrio –Administrator SBVI; Jane Cannata – Supervisor, SBVI; Carmen Boucher – SILC representative; Rebecca Cloutier-DeCosta – Case Aide SBVI

**Staff Not Present:** Melanie Sbardella – Assistant Administrator SBVI / BEP Program Administrator;

**Marie Morin – Acting SS / IL Supervisor**

**Guest:** Monica Dzialo, Jalen Rodriguez (student); Donna Mitchell (TVI), Grace Pires President NFB

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Meeting started at 4:05 PM with introductions.
- December 11, 2017 were approved as quorum was completed – motioned by Regina and seconded by Liz

## **SOCIAL SERVICES UPDATE – Laurie DiOrio**

- Since the last meeting, Sandy and O&M instructor have retired
- Marie Morin is now acting SS/ILOB Supervisor
- New O&M – Lori Wagner started Monday
- There are discussions revolving around bringing children over from

**SS Unit as the waitlist has been implemented – possibly keeping children in SS for a longer period to maintain services**

- **There are programs available for adults, and some undocumented children – comparable benefits must be used first**

#### **ORS UPDATE – LAURIE DIORIO**

- **ORS is now on waitlist status**
- **There are 399 as of 03/12/18 on the waitlist**
- **Some monies have been released for VR – but sometimes there is an unknown withdrawal due to lack of funding across the state- aka ‘scooping’**
- **All ORS policies have been revised per Office of Regulatory review – format issue – they are now all considered Regulations vs. Policies**
- **Some policies were updated – tuition and trainings (post-secondary)**
- **All changes are posted for public comments**

#### **VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION UPDATE – Jane Cannata**

- **Working with Pre-ETS children (3-18) and those at risk of losing their jobs**
- **Making use of Promise Grant**
- **Trying to streamline the procedure to work with cases**
- **There is not a flat threshold, individual cases have limits**
- **Budget constraints**
- **There are still the Job Development and Placement, SWEEP, Work Try-Outs and Travel Training and O&M services available for the transition children**

- **Workforce monies can be used to assist in certification**

## **BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM – Laurie DiOrio (for Melanie Sbardella)**

- **Opened VIRKS and working to reopen NUWC Site 67 with a new vendor**
- **Along with SBVI being fiscally responsible**
- **Trying to recruit new individuals**

## **RISILC REPORT – Carmen Boucher**

- **Council members training through webinars which will continue through the summer**
- **Website support – Allison Dupont will be working on the website – should be up in 3 months**

## **SRC UPDATE – Liz Graves**

- **Conflict of interest—an issue that the SRC has addressed—circulated sample recusal form - Consent decree is DOJ – clients associated with BHDDH – trying to get clients services – Functional Limitations (?) delete this**
- **GDC has a “Livable Grant” – making houses more livable – with modification**
- **ORS/RSA monitoring visit in June**
- **OOS – biggest sticking point – complicated set of issues**
- **Writing letter to support ORS, but waiting for RSA visit**
- **Another training for long standing members**
- **Nomination for Awards for Services for Individuals with Disabilities – going on now – to be presented at the May breakfast at Salve**

## **Regina**

- **OSCIL does have Catherine Murray Scholarship available for possible funding**

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## **MEMBERSHIP OFFICES**

- **Regina Connor was nominated by Liz Graves and seconded by Barbara Walsh for Chairperson – Regina accepted**
- **Ralph Iannitelli will remain Vice Chair motioned by Barbara Walsh and seconded by Regina Connor**
- **Monica Dzialo and Jalen Rodriguez were motioned by Ralph Iannitelli for position on council – seconded by Regina Connor – all motions were approved**
- **Jalen’s appointment letter is dependent on parental consent as he is a minor**

## **RI LIONS – RALPH IANNITELLI**

- **The Lions have set up a finance committee due to receipt of funds**
- **Donating funds for NFB for their services – committee must approve**
- **Lions are willing to pay for technology for SBVI – specifically IL/OB**

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- **Laurie requested that the meeting times be moved from 4:00 to 3:00 and run until 4:30**
- **Meeting dates were also moved – 06/11/18; 09/10/18; 12/10/18**
- **Motion to move meeting times made by Regina and seconded by**

**Barbara – motion approved**