

SILC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 3, 2014- 3:30-4:30-pm

Members in Attendance: June Hermanson, Chairperson and Jim Brown, vice-Chairperson

Member Absent: Mary Olson

Staff in Attendance: Julie Clay, Karie Whitlock, Peggy Williams, Kathy Brook

Budget- Karie asked if there were questions regarding the budget format and narrative she had developed using a reader friendly format. June suggested that Julie ask Tom Osborn what he thought since he had suggested the new format. Karie will continue sending the narrative and spreadsheet she developed for March. Jim Brown asked if he could have the budget narrative re-sent to him. Julie mentioned the SILC has expended \$3,055 and has needs to spend approximately \$20,000 in the six months of the year. This will be discussed during the SILC May meeting.

Karie mentioned she will attend the May SILC meeting and present Budget 101. Julie will let her know time and location for this presentation.

EPP- Peggy reported that the MYTransitions request needed more details which June provided. The request is now in the Director's office. June also met with the Governor's office and they made no promises.

Candidate Survey- June spoke with Wendy Nicolai regarding the reasons that the Candidate Survey could not be disseminated. June brought up the fact that the RSA approved the objective in the SPIL, but now the DPHHS staff said it could not be disseminated. One strategy would be to draft a letter to the State asking for the reasons why the survey could not be disseminated. Does this mean that the SILC has to develop an amendment to the SPIL? If so, it will cost money to host a public comment event.

Jim Brown asked how the survey results will be used by the SILC. June answered that the information would let the SILC know what legislative candidates need to know regarding IL. The SILC can then provide needed information and education on IL issues identified by the candidates who want to learn more.

June asked Julie to have the SPIL Evaluation Committee meet to develop a proposed objective for the amendment completed before June 30. The proposed amendment needs to be publicized for thirty days to be reviewed by the IL community. Can we use the May SILC meeting as a forum for the public comments? Do we want to take the objective out of the SPIL or replace it with another objective?

Julie was asked to have a SPIL Evaluation Committee meeting before April 18 to discuss the options of replacing that objective or deleting it. If the current objective is replaced, a new objective needs to be written and approved by the SILC. If this can be done by April 18, it will allow the thirty day notice for public comment. Using the term “emergency meeting” may facilitate the process.

Nominations- Julie mentioned that Stacey Otterstrom, Governor’s Boards and Councils, reported that she had not received a letter of resignation from Melissa Kase. Julie forwarded the email which Melissa had sent regarding her resignation from the SILC to Stacey who said the email resignation was acceptable. The Nomination Committee met and recommended that the names of Robin Idol and Monique Casbeer be forwarded SILC for approval. Julie contacted both ladies to assess their continued interest to serve as members of the SILC. She heard back from Monique who is still interested. Bob Maffit said he would try and recruit people from Bozeman and Butte areas.

Julie asked for ideas regarding recruitment. June suggested that the Nominations Committee take the lead and brainstorm ideas for recruitment.

SILC Meeting- May 20-21, 2014

- RSA site visits (Summit- May 14-16 & MILP May 19-21) Corinna Stiles, RSA site reviewer will invite a SILC representative to each site visit.

Julie plans to be in Missoula from May 13-15.

Julie plans to be at the Helena site review on May 22.

- Change the SILC meeting date? Julie suggested that since the Helena site review with RSA is scheduled for May 19-21, the SILC meeting dates may need to be changed and moved to month of June. It was decided to keep the SILC meeting dates in place and Julie can complete the MILP State review on May 22.

Satisfaction Survey- June had requested Julie do some research with other states regarding their use of CIL satisfaction surveys. Julie asked the Region 8, SILC representatives to share their experiences utilizing and disseminating CIL satisfaction surveys. None of the Region 8, SILC representatives, developed and disseminated CIL satisfaction surveys.

June expressed her excitement that the Montana SILC is on the cutting edge and taking a lead to assess the need of CIL consumers. The regulations say that the SILC will determine the satisfaction of the CILs. Montana wants to model and have the SILC be engaged in knowing how well the CILs are providing services to Montanans.

Peggy suggested during the SILC meeting in May a committee could be formed to develop a new survey instrument. It was suggested that Mary Olson be used as a resource. The goal is to develop a comprehensive instrument by July 1, with the hopes of increasing the rate of return. Then the SILC can review this instrument before the August SILC meeting.

Town Hall Meeting- was on March 28 at various locations around the state. One of the topics of discussion was regarding services to people who are blind or have low vision. Discussion regarding funding for the CILs took place at 4pm. The public comment period was successful. The SILC will review the public comments and send the results of the CIL Equalization Funding language and Part C language. The final comments are due on April 4, 2014.

Next meeting will be Thursday, May 1, 2014.