

MTSILC Meeting Minutes:

April 16 & 17, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Summary

Attendees:

- **Council Members:** Tom Thompson, Mike Manhardt, Jean Schroeder, June Hermanson, Scott Williamson, Chris Johnsrud, Nicole Lowrance, Heather Giese, Julie Williams, Melanie Beagle, Savannah Smith (4-16-24), and Tami Hoar
- **Absent:** Hannah Thompson, Allyson Talaska
- **CIL Directors:** Sandie Dearman on behalf of Scott Birkenbuel, Tom Osborn, and Carlos Ramalho
- **DET Staff:** Hannah Stokes, Lacey Conzelman, Anna Gibbs, and Julia Arnold
- **Guests:** Eva Belatski and Brenda- Captioner

Budget Report:

- Presented by Hannah Stokes.
- FFY23 Budget: \$21,823
 - YTD Actual Expenses: \$15,897
 - % of Budget Spent YD: 73%
 - Current YTD Budget: \$5,926
- FFY24 Budget: \$21,823
 - YTD Actual Expenses: \$1,963
 - % of Budget Spent YD: 9%
 - Current YTD Budget: \$19,860
- Hannah Stokes additionally reported on administrative costs for personal services, SILC contracts for both general and Part B funds, and ARPA contracts. The SILC Board discussed with Hannah Stokes the upcoming SILC budget and the impact of the Honorarium increase will have on the entire budget planning.

Reports/Planning:

- Julia shared researched information regarding SILC poster for distribution to college and universities across state.
- Molly Kimmel joined the SILC meeting today and gave an update on the Rural Institute and its role and future planning for the Olmstead Plan.
- Review and discussion regarding Board terms occurred. Continued follow-up with Hannah Slusser from Boards and Appointments regarding accuracy of terms is necessary.
- Board members traveled and visited Summit's satellite office at BASE. Many participated in filming a short movie.
- Movie *Bottom Dollar* was shown and discussion on this movie happened with the SRC members who joined the showing.

Committee Reports:

- Policy and Procedures: report given by Tom Osborn. The SILC Board passed the bylaws amendment and presently the bylaws are up to date. The committee will begin work on the Policy and Procedures manual. It has not been updated since 2018.
- Review and description of the Committees took place.
- Olmstead Committee analyzed a survey published by the Department of Commerce. The Committee shared how important they thought it was to continue to expand the outreach of the plan to all State divisions. Discussion on this topic occurred.
- Julia Arnold reported on the IL Symposium. Discussion and suggestions were made.

Centers for Independent Living (CILs) Report:

- Summit:
 - Report given by Tami Hoar, Summit's Executive Director. She indicated that IL Program participation has increased since the pandemic. Money management/Budgeting classes, Living Well, Community Skills, CHEW (Cost Effective Healthy Eating Class) are going again. Tami shared a story regarding an individual who took the CHEW class and as a result successfully cooked a meal with friends during the Superbowl. She went on to discuss and share highlights from BASE. Additionally, last month Summit sponsored the movie, *Being Michelle*. After the movie the audience participated in a group discussion with the Innocence Project, a disability rights attorney, mobile crisis unit, a Missoula police lieutenant, and a Missoula judge to encourage on-going discussion and awareness. Tami Hoar also shared Summit's Ronan office is going to move to Polson in June and Summit continues to be in the several high schools.
- Ability Montana:
 - Report given by Sandie Dearman, Chief Program Officer of Ability. Sandi shared Ability is working with the Rural Institute on the U.S. Aging grant. Peers continue to develop podcasts, hold men's and woman's groups, Dungeons and Dragons groups, open social hours, and Living Well classes. Additionally, Ability will host 'Let's Talk Disability' in Butte and Helena. Camp has started and many requests are already coming in.
- NCILS
 - Tom Osborn, Executive Director of NCILS, reported the library project is sunsetting. Additionally, NCILS is planning on providing Living Well and community workshop classes at the Greater Good Health Clinic. The first-class begins in May. Additional classes are being offered in Havre and Great falls. Will be working with Money Follows the Person waiver program for regional coordination. NCILS continues to work with consumers on Medicaid redetermination issues.
- LIFTT
 - The LIFTT Executive Director, Carlos Ramalho, gave the April update. He shared that on March 3, 2024, LIFTT had a major flood, this sped up the move to their new location. He shared about the move, the size of the new building, and current and future uses for the new building. The grand re-opening for LIFTT will be May 10th. Closed the U.S. Aging grant with 11,000 vaccines given in all 18 counties. Purchasing two ADA accessible vans. Applying for new grants with the U.S. Aging Administration to continue to expand Community Health Worker services. Carlos shared that LIFTT is no longer a exclusively a Center for Independent Living but a center for public health. He shared LIFTT continues with the model of person-centered services. Continue to expand living well classes, diabetes prevention and management classes, the Doula program. LIFTT has

additionally applied for a grant from the Federal Government focused on Youth in Transition.

Motions:

- June Hermanson made a motion to accept the January 16 and 17, 2024 meeting minutes. Jean Schroder made the second and the motion passed unanimously.
- Julia shared researched information regarding SILC poster for distribution to college and universities across state. June made motion to print and distribute the poster in November 2024, the beginning of the new fiscal year. Mike Manhardt seconded this motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- June Hermanson made the motion to approve the rewording of Article 8.F of the bylaws, Mike Manhardt seconded the motion and all in favor vote was cast by the Board.
- Jean Schroder made the motion and June Hermanson seconded the motion to work to expand the Olmstead Plan to include all State Divisions in the bill language. An all-in favor vote was cast by the Board.

JOINT SILC/SRC Meeting

April 16 & 17, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Summary

Attendees:

- **Council Members:** Tom Thompson, Mike Manhardt, Jean Schroeder, June Hermanson, Scott Williamson, Chris Johnsrud, Nicole Lowrance, Heather Giese, Julie Williams, Melanie Beagle, Savannah Strauser, and Tami Hoar
- **Absent:** Hannah Thompson and Savannah Strauser
- **CIL Directors:** Sandie Dearman on behalf of Scott Birkenbuel, Tom Osborn, and Carlos Ramalho
- **DET Staff:** Hannah Stokes, Lacey Conzelman, Julia Arnold, Chanda Hermanson, Brook Hodge, Darrel Hannum, Celina Cline, Anna Gibbs,
- **SRC Members:** Corrine Moore, Doug McElroy, March Roberts, Barb Lowney, Gabrielle Broere, Lacey Keller, Brian Tocher, Joleen Weatherwax, Kendra Lewis, Eva Belatski
- **Guests:** Tiffany Costa, Joey Gaither

Reports/Planning:

- Scott Williamson asked Julia Arnold to read the 2023 SILC summary.
- Marcy Roberts gave the SRC 2023 summary.
- Chanda Hermanson and Travis Hoffman gave the legislative update. Discussion with both Boards occurred on topics including the elimination of 14(c) certificate holders in Montana, how those paying minimum wage still circumvent the system, policy and employment

proposals, the upcoming legislative year, potential educational bills that might be important to watch, Olmstead update, the legislative website, and Legislative day.

- Lacey Keller reminded everyone to get involved with the task forces. Several individuals had questions, and discussion on this topic occurred.
- Darrel Hannum and Tiffany Costa presented on Vocational Rehabilitation and Benefits planning. Questions and concerns were answered. Tiffany indicated she would share information that could be distributed to better answer questions and serve as reference for those who wanted the materials.
- Joey Gaither presented on the DD Qualification process. Numerous questions were answered. Joey indicated he would share his PowerPoint for the Boards to reference.