



APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

New Mexico Statewide Independent Living Council Quarterly Meeting 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. January 25, 2016 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation – Santa Fe, New Mexico

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome/Call to Order

Sarah Michaud

- Ms. Michaud called meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.; requested a roll call and introductions.

II. Introductions

Others in Attendance

- Michael Murphy-Independent Living Resource Center
- Audra Hudson-Choices
- Adrian Apodaca-DVR
- Katie Bridgewater - DI
- Fanny Pearce- DI
- Tim Carver - San Juan Center for Independence
- Linda Kerby - Choices

III. Roll Call

Katie Bridgewater

Norbert Archibeque – Present
Curtis Chong - Absent
Ken Collins –Arrived after roll call at 12:27 p.m.
David Hinkle - Present
Sarah Michaud - Present
Albert Montoya - Absent
Jim Parker -Absent
Larry Rodriguez- Present

Ms. Michaud began the meeting with introductions; she noted that a quorum was not achieved and that all business-action items/election process-requiring a quorum will have to wait for Ken Collins's arrival; she further asked the members to take a few minutes to review the minutes. Upon review, she asked if there were questions or comments; she noted that a date correction for the December 2016 SPIL hearing needed to be made on Page 3 of the November 16 minutes to December 11, 2016; Ms. Michaud then asked Katie Bridgewater to give the SILC Outreach Update while waiting for a quorum.

IV. SILC Outreach Update

Katie Bridgewater

- Obligations were met by holding four (4) SPIL Public Hearings in Farmington, Roswell, Las Cruces, and Albuquerque. Further, DI is working with Wendy Fontenelle to explore holding a public hearing targeting the Pueblos.
- The new SILC display and tablecloth was presented at the meeting.
- Another SPIL Public Hearing will be held after the quarterly meeting and the new display will be onsite.
- The DRAD event is January 26, 2016 at the Roundhouse; Fanny Pearce will be setting up the booth and display; Katie Bridgewater will be dismantling the booth and display.

Action Item: Katie Bridgewater will report to the Council regarding the results of efforts to hold an additional SPIL Public Hearing specific to the Pueblos.

Sarah Michaud noted that Ken Collins arrived at 12:27 and that a quorum was reached. She asked Council members to go to their packets to review the following action items:

V. Action Item – Approval of the January 25, 2016 Meeting Agenda

Motion made by: Larry Rodriguez, seconded by: Norbert Archibeque; the agenda was approved.

VI. Action Item – Approval of Minutes from August 14 2015 Meeting

Motion was made by: David Hinkle; seconded by: Larry Rodriguez; Minutes from were approved.

VII. Action Item – Approval of the Minutes from November 16 2015 Meeting

Motion was made by: Larry Rodriguez, seconded by: Norbert Archibeque; the minutes were approved with a notation that the date correction be made for the December SPIL Hearing in Las Cruces.

VIII. Action Item- Election of New Officers

Election of Chair: Ms. Michaud thanked Albert Montoya, Ken Collins, and Larry Rodriguez for coordinating the nomination of officers; the nomination for position of Chair included Norbert Archibeque, Albert Montoya, and Curtis Chong. Since Norbert was the only member present, he was asked if he would accept the nomination. He declined. Ken Collins wanted his name included on the nomination list. Ms. Michaud informed the group that they have the option of approving Ken Collins's election by acclamation. A motion was made to approve by acclamation by: Larry Rodriguez; seconded by Norbert Archibeque; Ken Collins was approved by acclamation as the new Chair. Mr. Collins abstained from the vote.

Election of Vice-Chair: Ms. Michaud asked Norbert Archibeque is he would accept the nomination for Vice-Chair; he accepted. She then asked for a motion to approve the vote by acclamation to elect Norbert Archibeque Vice-Chair; Motion was made

by: Larry Rodriguez, seconded by: Ken Collins; Council approved, Mr. Archibeque abstained.

IX. SILC Chair Report

Sarah Michaud

- Chair has been working on preparation for the Quarterly meeting, and preparing for the public hearings. Concerns were raised regarding the low turnout attendance at the public hearings. SILC Coordinator is interested in holding a public hearing specific to the Pueblos to support inclusion of all voices into the SPIL process.
- Assisting with SPIL presentation today at DRAD.

Group Discussion: Tim Carver asked if advertisement for the SPIL was the same as years before. Ms. Michaud replied that the SILC has done public hearing announcements in the paper as usual and she pointed out that Choices in Roswell did good outreach but still, no one attended. The hearing in Albuquerque was in conjunction with the Pre-Legislative Forum in hopes of attracting participants. She also pointed out the good turnout in Farmington with the support of the San Juan Center. She's not sure what changed this year in terms of hearing turnout. David Hinkle made the statement that maybe the past hearings had hit the mark and nobody has the need to complain. Ms. Michaud responded saying that was a great way to look at it, but she still gets complaints regularly.

Action Item: SILC to look at other options for gathering community input to ensure inclusion.

- Ken Collins and Sarah Michaud were at the Pre-Legislative Forum to stay current on legislation and to have feedback on the MCOs, the freeze on changes disallowing consumers to select their provider of choice, etc. Even though there is apparently a letter of direction about this freeze, no one can produce it. Consumers are being told that they can't change providers.

Group Discussion: Ken Collins remarked that this concerned him because of the ILCs that have the PCO; he felt there were grounds for legal action against the Department of Health regarding consumers not being allowed to change providers. Sarah Michaud said that there are 20-30 options consumers have the right to access under the MCO, including employment-related supports or mental health supports and various specific therapies that no one accessed the past year. There's concern that this reflects their having to give up hours in order to access the services, so they're not utilizing what's available to them. Sarah Michaud said it's better to get a prescription for needs, and that it's better to have too much documentation than not enough even though it's too bad to have to go that route. Michael Murphy said that when you hand over your medical needs to a for profit company, that's what you get, that these companies are given a pot of money to provide services and what's left over they get to keep, so it's not hard to see how they can become restrictive with their services. Then the ILCs are restricted, so this sort of thing is actionable. We as PCS want our people, but if they want to change providers, they should be able to do so. Not being able to change is infringing on consumers' rights. Ken Collins said he would like to see the

SILC be a part, in some way, of pushing this issue in support of Disability Rights New Mexico. Someone asked if DVR could make inquiry to the Governor's Office on behalf of the SILC. Adrian Apodaca answered no in this case, probably not. Sarah Michaud said that perhaps SILC could register its complaint on its own behalf, having the right, as per the SPIL, to make comment about our concerns even though we can't direct. David Hinkle asked if it would be appropriate to draft a letter to Disability Rights New Mexico stating that under the Statewide Plan, we're the monitors and we're concerned about the matter. We could then copy the Governor's Office and DVR. Norbert Archibeque said a timeline needed to be set for this letter to go out and it was decided that the letter should go out two weeks from today's meeting, which would be by February 8th.

Action Item: Letter to Disability Rights New Mexico to be drafted and sent by Ken Collins by February 8th.

- Completed the data compilation for the SILC's portion of the 704 report and that was turned over to Davis Innovations who submitted it to DVR.

The SILC board members thanked Sarah Michaud for her hard work as Chair and for doing an excellent job. Sarah Michaud told the members that the Governor reappointed her for another term as a SILC board member.

X. SILC Coordinator Report

Katie Bridgewater

- Ms. Bridgewater reported that the SILC's portion of the 704 Report was given to Anna Vigil, and that it had originally been sent to Adrian Apodaca and Amber Fox.

Group Discussion regarding the 704 Report: Katie was asked if there were any changes to the report this time around. Sarah explained that there were some changes, for instance bringing on different board members since last report, so it would look different from the last report but that the services and agencies would be similar. Adrian said he was working with Lorie Gulley to help out with this reporting because all the knowledge about this report went with her when she left. Given the learning curve at DVR about this matter, he is making every effort to get it submitted as they work through the process.

- New SILC Display was presented: DI received training from the vendor regarding how to set the display up and take it down.
- DRAD booth tomorrow: Ken Collins will staff the table in the morning and David Hinkle in the afternoon.
- Website update: Latest news information was posted. Anyone is welcome to submit items for posting consideration. DI continues to update the site
- Davis Innovations staff met with Anna Vigil, Lorie's replacement, this past week, to introduce ourselves and see how we might assist her as she transitions into her new position.

Group Discussion: Norbert asked that the following action items from last meeting be addressed at this time and then added to the Agenda for future meetings. Katie went through the action items from last meeting and gave status:

- 1) Davis Innovations would create a separate page with Action Items for future meetings.
Status: Done
- 2) Davis Innovations would get a quote for a new and smaller display which we felt would not represent the SILC well enough, so we moved some funds around to procure the display we are showing you at the meeting today. Status: Done
- 3) Katie will provide the Adaptive Sports non-profit with a list of the ILCs; Status: Done.
- 4) DVR asked that financial statements be gathered and submitted all at once. Status: Done. (It was not determined whether or not electronic signatures would suffice).
- 5) Katie Bridgewater was to scan and send brain injury handouts to the entire Council.
Status: Done.

Action Item: Davis Innovations will include action items on the Agenda from here on. Someone then asked is Davis Innovations had the capability of laminating photos for the display board.

Action Item: Katie will look into this and let the board know the costs associated with laminating photos for the display board.

XI. State Agency Reports/Updates

a. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Adrian Apodaca

- DVR is starting the RFP process for all ILC contracts. In the coming months, DVR will probably do one RFP to make it easier for all concerned, by July 1.

Group Discussion: Ken asked if the DVR budget was flat and why DVR didn't increase the SILC budget? Adrian responded by saying that they did, that the 200,000.00 transfer should have been completed in the last week or so for the ILC portion. Michael asked if that 200,000 was for this year? Adrian responded it was. There was a group discussion about how the oil and gas industry downturn was affecting possible budget decreases. Adrian added that DVR is going to try to go for a full match this year but he hasn't talked to Paul Aguilar about whether it's fruitless to request a full match given the oil industry downturn. There was some general discussion about how this economic loss in New Mexico could be countered with possible additional tax at the pump, or legislative change of tax codes, etc. Sarah asked DVR to make the SILC aware of what's going on with the LFC, and also said that as per the 704, the SILC needs to have a good idea of how any extra funding would be used.

b. New Mexico Commission for the Blind

No Report

XII. CIL Reports/Updates

a. Choices-Roswell, NM

Audra Hudson

- State Fair involvement;
- Influx of children's services; got invited for the first time to participate with DVR, school system, and adoptive parents, and much more involved with CYFD;
- A coalition for service providers has been started in the area and Audra went to meetings last month- one in Carlsbad and one in Artesia;
- Got an update on the Property that's coming up in Artesia; hopefully it will come up in June;
- The Lea County office is being affected by the oil industry downturn; people are leaving, so we are waiting to see how this affects the future.

b. New Vistas

Sarah Michaud

- We've been working with transition and since the last meeting had long time employee Sarah Grace retire. It's very sad to see her go, but our crew has stepped up and we're working hard with the Kiva Class, which is one of our transition groups. In fact, we had 13 members of the class at DRAD today and they mentioned how glad they were to be able to network at the event;
- We just started a Tai Chi for Arthritis class that's been going on for a week and a half with approximately 10-12 in each class.
- We are looking to see how we can weave more transition into our services and how we can work with students; our Las Vegas office has taken on disability sport and advocacy services as well as coordinating health fairs and doing some work with parents on parents' rights for youth with disabilities.

Group discussion: Ken asked if the Tai Chi for Arthritis was open to people with brain injury? She answered that the classes are open to everyone, that they are not restricting the class in any way. Ken said he hoped meditation could be incorporated into activities for people with traumatic brain injury to help with mindfulness.

c. ILRC

Michael Murphy

- Looking for ways to gear up on the youth transition side;
- We have a couple of job openings: one for an IL Specialist in our Albuquerque office, and one for an IL Specialist in our Socorro office;
- Things are going well, very positively.

d. San Juan Center for Independence

Tim Carver

- Continue to work on Centennial care and Medicaid programs;
- Currently working with New Mexico Law and Poverty and Disability Rights New Mexico; we're seeing people drop off the system for no reason. Part of the problem is that the Gallup and Farmington Income Support offices are under corrective action so many of our applications are being handled by Rio Rancho and Bernalillo. This creates problems;
- Working with Senator Heinrich's office on behalf of a veteran to get benefits; the lawyer working on it didn't get him anywhere and now wants a share of the money;

- Our staff continues to be on different boards to promote IL;
- Our Pueblo office hired a new receptionist the IL Specialist, Paul Frederick is helping expand the program;
- Our Youth Transition Day is to be held at San Juan College because we've outgrown our Center for this event;
- Working with the City of Farmington and the Farmington Fire Department to create a map to determine where persons with disabilities are located and what their special needs are in case of an emergency; trying to convince the MCOs to provide current lists of people who would need help in those emergencies;
- Continuing our monthly activities: had a great Christmas party attended by 150 and we continue to let other non profits use our event room for free;
- Tim Carver wants to thank Davis Innovations for the good job they are doing to run the SILC as it should be run, so San Juan Center wants to state our appreciation.
- Elders First activities: Ken reports that he sent photos of the historic meetings he had with the administration of the Navajo Nation who toured the Zuni Adult Daycare program; the interim Director of the Navajo Nation Department of Health came to tour the facility. The Zuni program uses a social model as opposed to a medical one. Now other Pueblos are copying the Zuni model to help keep seniors out of nursing homes;

SJCI/Gallup

Ken Collins

- Gallup Center just had a three-day PTSD training; we had 3 of our staff attend.
- Mr. Collins wants POISE to represent learning that is focused on what is important for people with TBI.

f. Abilities Center

No Report

XIII. SILC Discussion/Recommendations from CIL Reports

The new Vice-Chair, Norbert Archibeque, asked the CILs present at the meeting if there was anything the SILC could do for them and what the unfunded requirements of the Centers are:

- Tim Carver answered that it was important for Legislators to know the human side behind the need for funding, and to assign someone to keep an eye on the calendar for LFC meetings when DVR's going to be on the agenda;
- David Hinkle asked Adrian Apodaca if there was any money available for the Centers to which Adrian answered with having talked with Paul Aguilar about having DVR do what the Commission for the Blind does: Use their income money for Social Security reimbursement to fund ILCs and then use funds for ILC to match the rest of the federal money. He said he was working on that concept with Paul to see if he'll go for that, which might free up money to provide more ILC funds in the future. He continued by saying that funds that come to VR are actually tied to VR.
- Michael Murphy talked about order of selection and asked Adrian Apodaca about that status; Adrian reported that while still in order of selection begun in 2010, over the

- last couple of years all categories opened up and now there's no affect on consumers, that DVR is increasing services and expecting to spend more this year than in the last four. Michael said there are still 5 counties with no services.
- Tim Carver said that they are finding themselves doing jobs that they are basically not getting paid to do. When asked if this program was needs driven, the answer was yes, but that the results of the survey would confirm that.
 - Ken said that there are 3 or 4 people a week who need procurement money for things like rental assistance, and that so many needs are going unfulfilled.
 - Michael Murphy added that they need a fund for housing costs and Ken added that there are substantial housing needs for repairs.

XIV. SILC Discussion/Recommendations

- Sarah Michaud recommended that Ken Collins make contacts with ACL, DVR, and DOH to request meetings as the SILC puts together the draft SPIL by the end of June.
- Norbert Archibeque has requested to be included in these meetings.
- Ken Collins will reach out to NICL.
- It was suggested that someone reach out to Lorie Gulley to ask for guidance in an effort to get the SPIL prepared.
- Norbert suggested expanding Davis Innovations' (DI) role with the SILC; Sarah commented that this would have to come as a written directive and then the contract with DI would have to be renegotiated.

Action Item: Ken will make contact with ACL, DVR, and DOH, to request a meeting.

XV. Scheduling of Quarterly Meetings 2016

- **May 20, 2016 in Albuquerque at ILRC, from 10:00-4:00pm**
- **August 12, 2016 in Gallup from 10:00-4:00pm**
- **November, 2016 location and date TBD**

XVI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **1:56 p.m.**

Action Items from January 25, 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Action Item: Katie Bridgewater will report to the Council regarding the results of efforts to hold an additional SPIL Public Hearing specific to the Pueblos.

Action Item: SILC, as a body, to SILC to look at other options for gathering community input to ensure inclusion.

Action Item: Letter to Disability Rights New Mexico to be drafted and sent by Ken Collins by February 8th.

Action Item: Katie will research the costs associated with laminating photos for the display board and report back to the Council.

Action Item: Ken Collins will make contacts with ACL, DVR, and DOH to request a meeting.