



WASHINGTON

State Independent Living Council

WASILC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Doubletree Capitol Room
415 Capitol Way N. Olympia, WA 98501

Members Present:

Mark Leeper, Center Director Representative, Pullman
Jana Finkbonner, VR Tribal Representative, Bellingham
Keith James, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle
Davi Kallman, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Pullman
Ryan Nabors, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Tumwater
Sheila Turner, Parent Guardian Representative, Pasco
Kayla Victor, Private Business Representative, Vancouver
Arlene Itou, Ex Officio Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), Seattle
Cassi Villegas for (Rob Hines), Ex-Officio DVR, Olympia

Members Absent:

Michael Richardson, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle

Council Staff:

Kim Conner, Executive Director
Jim House, Disability Integration Manager
Nichole Kloepfer, Executive Assistant

Guests:

Kimberly Meck, Director, Alliance of people with DisAbilities
Kim Canaan, Program Specialist, UW Independent Living Program for the Older Blind (ILOB)
Patt Kosier, Director, Center for Independence

Call to Order: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 9:05 a.m. by Keith James, SILC Chair

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee(EC): Kim Conner**
 - The EC met two times since the last quarterly meeting.
 - The EC reviewed and approved the PPR (Program Progress Report) for submission. Rob Hines also reviewed and accepted the report as written. The report was submitted on 1.7.19.
 - Membership Committee: The EC serves as the membership committee. Davi vetted two candidates presented for recommendation yesterday. The Governor's office communicated with the SILC to remind us that:
 - The SILC should go through an equitable recruiting/vetting process yearly to fill the positions that term out each year (every year 3-4 people term out)
 - The Governor prefers that councils recruit and vet more applicants than positions that are open. Then make recommendations for open positions.

- The membership committee is refining the process starting with this past candidate vetting.
- The committee and staff will move forward with recruiting/vetting process for the upcoming recommendations. Ideally, recommendation should be made to the Governor's office after the July QM.
- Assurances & Indicators: Davi and Kim are working on updating and capturing the assurances and indicators which are policies and procedures for the SILC as prescribed by the WIOA. Once this is completed, reviewed and approved by the council, the policies and procedures will be combined in the membership manual. They plan to have this completed by the April QM.
- Council Survey results on October QM:
 - There were two responses to the survey. The EC decided to continue with the survey as it provides good feedback. Responses on the panels, reports and presentations were identified in the good to excellent range.
- SILC Congress Basket: Each year at SILC Congress, SILCs can put a basket together which is then auctioned. Do we want to put a basket together? If so, donations will be need to be made by council or other for the basket.

Action: Kimberly Meck with the Alliance will contribute a bag toward the efforts. Ryan has an ask out to the Potato commission.

Legislative Committee Report: Ryan Nabors

- Thanks to Keith, Kayla, Kim and Nichole for assembling the panel and legislative meeting efforts.
- The committee will be meeting next month.
- Jana's district representative interested in attending April meeting.
- Thank you cards in the back with addresses to send to legislative reps if wanted.

Action: Thank you cards will be sent to all legislators visited on behalf of the council. Email Ryan about legislative ideas for next January as they are starting the planning soon.

Marketing Committee Report: Kayla Victor

- Still in the process. Met Monday evening and will be talking to marketing consultant.

Youth Committee: Kim Conner

- The Youth Committee has been meeting monthly since April 2018.
- Hannah Langlie was the chair through September 2018.
- In September, the committee decided that they wanted to focus on education and health initiatives.
- The committee will first focus on education, specifically identifying gaps/barriers for students and service providers regarding options, opportunities, and accommodations for youth transitioning into higher education and/or job training.
- The purpose is to provide youth, schools, service providers, Work Source, etc. with information on barriers with potential recommendations on how to better serve youth with disabilities. The committee, so far, proposes the following:
 - Obtain county specific data for youth transitioning to post-secondary education and training through a statewide survey initiated by WASILC Youth Committee.

- Write paper on results and recommendations and distribute to schools districts, service providers, agencies, CILs, etc.
- Advocate and influence system policies.
 - Develop communication/marketing campaign to disseminate information.
- Shelia asked if there was an opportunity to educate parents of the process? Kim indicated that it was hope from the information that is gathered.
- Kayla asked if the youth committee was invited to the Council meeting. Kim indicated yes, conflict of schedules.
- Mark hopes the survey is not limited to basic service as noted in the youth committee charter. Also, recognizing it's not just youth it's any 504/IEP individuals transitioning to education or training.
- Keith noted that reaching out and sharing to external bodies is important and that is how we should educate others.

SPIL Committee Report: Mark Leeper

- Met a number of times via in phone and in person.
- The committee decided on substantial changes with a bridge year.
- The state plan is a complicated process. Focused on network of centers, peer-to-peer review, Part B and C distribution, grants and contracts.
- Kim had email conversations with Regina and Corrine with Administration for Community Living (ACL) indicating WA will be doing substantial changes to SPIL. Typically, this would involve a strike through in the document with those changes. However, it has been communicated that a side by side of old and new SPIL with color variations may be permitted.
- The new SPIL tool cannot be used with the substantial changes portion.
- Michael has done a great job facilitating the SPIL process. Mark wants to see more communication with SILC and CILS.
- There were 115 online survey responses, 60 attendees from 7 forums.
- The purpose of the forum questions was to start a conversation on topics such as housing, transportation, and peer support.
- The committee will be meeting Feb 5 in Ellensburg to continue to develop the SPIL.
- Jana asked if the committee was tasked to report out on SPIL milestones and accomplishments. Kim has been reporting out on the things accomplished with the SPIL. There was never a formal mechanism or committee to monitor.
- Mark noted encompassing themes, transportation, housing, and employment. Changes of the plan are still being navigated. There is difficulty due to changes at the federal level.

Action: Jana asked SPIL notes be sent to the Council to keep those on the Council that do not participate in the SPIL committee informed.

Action: Kayla asked if the CART summaries from last year's forums could be added to the data from the other forums and surveys for review.

SPIL Report- Kim Conner

- Kim updated the Council's on the SPIL's milestones under systems advocacy/policy, community engagement/partnerships, trainings/conferences, SPIL committee support and CIEP progress.

- Jim provided an update on CIEP per the SPIL and answered questions about CIEP, outreach, and emergency preparedness made in Southwest Washington.
- Kayla asked what working was being done around emergency management in Vancouver and who the contacts are. Jim will forward the information to Kayla.

Action: Jim will forward emergency management information about Vancouver to council.

Action: Jana would like to invite the EMS agencies to discuss what trainings are available.

Partner Updates:

Tribal Report: Jana Finkbonner

- Jana reported that with the government closure, progress has stalled.
- A month ago, there was concern about the Department of Education was funding less than last year. The Tribal VR indicated it was a typo. There weren't any big changes, following the program plan out.
- Attended "Great Minds at Work", a conference about functional community support.
- Medicaid money, (CRPs) through VR side are being offered to help prevent recidivism.
- The housing piece does not pay for services only referral.

Action: The summer canoe journey is July 2019, will distribute to Council when more information is available.

DVR Report: Cassi Villegas

- DVR included in the Governor's budget, if passes it will be budget matched but it will not help bring them out of Order of Selection.
- DVR will no longer audit CIL contracts, the contracts that are open are being evaluated for closure.
- The intent is to move toward the peer review model.
- There are fiscal and program pieces. DVR will stay with fiscal and CIL's will evaluate programs.
- This is only directed to Part B dollars. DSE will still have the obligations to follow federal regulations on spending.
- At the table to monitor process is the SPIL committee and the director.

DSB Report: Arlene Itou

- The legislative session just started and DSB is pleased that the Governor's request included their request for funding. It will allow them to restore and maintain services, no expansion.
- DSB has been in order of selection since Oct 1, of 2018.
- There are currently 70 people on waiting list. Seven people have been brought off the waiting list and being served as an exception. Jobs were in jeopardy due to loss of vision.
- Impacts of federal shutdown, within the Business Enterprise Program, blind vendors in 3 offices in Washington are struggling to stay open or have shut down.
- The sole proprietor of vendors have no income or back pay. Employees are also in the same situation. It could cause their businesses to close.
- Shelia asked if there was complete loss of vendor business? Arlene said it's a possibility in the long term.
- Kayla asked if these issues were communicated to the legislature and she said no but she will take the feedback to Business Enterprise Services.

- **Update:** Arlene inquired to Business Enterprise Services and they did notify the Governor's office and the relevant representatives of the state.

Blind IL Program: Kim Canaan

- Carrying on services as usual. Governor's decision package is exciting.
- The IL Blind Advisory group, a group of providers and stakeholders that talk about how we are proceeding in the future are developing a post closure survey to determine impact 6 months after closure how services.

WSRC: Keith James & Shelby Satko

- The WSRC is meeting Thursday and Friday this week, at the Doubletree. No report at this time.

Centers for Independent Living

Mark Leeper

- Over the last 3 years, centers of business have become increasingly difficult. Irons are still in the fire. It's been a busy time, it's state plan time as well. We must count all files through Medicaid as consumer service records, quite a process. Lots of difficulties in trying to make people and community knowledge into data.
- The WIOA act says the State plan is jointly development. Doubly busy with two states.
- Forums were held in Clarkston and Tri-cities.
- The Spokane CIL now has 6 board members and are working hard to shore things up there.
- Von's CIL is focusing internally at her center and working on their 704 reports. Using an old SPIL tool like the SPIL state plan. Little room to share stories with the legislature.
- Ongoing challenges are talking about what they do to the community and the legislature.

Kimberly Meck

- The centers potential move fell through. They still have to relocate. Many stressors around costs as moving is quite expensive. They want to avoid moving further out, as that would be less accessible to consumers.
- They have a Pike Place market table for outreach services, which led to five new customers.
- 52% of the homeless in Seattle are disabled; there has been a large increase over the last year. Kimberly continues to hammer those points home and be part of creating the solution.
- Those that are homeless with a disability are not getting the services they need. Training programs should be accessible. Lots of work around LGBTQ + and a small grant around disabilities, LGBTQ, and small consumer groups.
- Looking for a partner that will help with a realistic parenting class. Parenting support group for kids with parents with disabilities. Parents with disabilities are required to attend parenting classes; with staff that have no understanding of disability.

Patt Kosier

- CFI is rolling along. There are 7 staff out of Lakewood and 4 in Marysville, trying to hire 2 in Marysville. Other social services agencies have issues hiring as well.
- We have a robust youth program in both offices and working with Pre-employment transition services program in about 6 schools between the two offices and our summer

program benefitted from it. It will be in July, Tacoma, a week before the NICL conference.

- Still working on their 704 report.
- Lots of flux in staffing due to hiring lag and illnesses. There are two interns and one is working with the youth and the other with the RCF program.

WATAP: Kimberly Meck

- Has had some Council member changes.
- WATAP is still waiting for its full FY 2019 award. So far we have received \$42,895 so far which is 8.22%. We anticipate that WATAP's award for FY 2019 will be \$521,837
- Discussed the possibility of WATAP collaborating with the IL Centers to better serve individuals who are not being served by DVR and DSB due to Order of Selection and to think further about other creative collaboration especially around underserved populations, including in WATAP's efforts in AgrAbility and the AL TSA AT Decision Tree.

The next trainings provided by WATAP will be:

1. SeaTac: SeaTac DVR Office Bldg. 18000 International Blvd. Ste. 1000, SeaTac, WA 98188 Earhart Room – Lower Plaza
 - a. February 13, 2019 1pm-4:30pm: Introduction to Assistive Technology
 - b. February 14, 2019 8:30am-noon: AT for Transition
 - c. February 14, 2019 1:15pm-4:45pm: Mobile Technologies in the Workplace
- WATAP has been having conversations with DVR Leadership to discuss how best to meet the AT needs of DVR clients and are exploring a potential needs assessment for both DVR staff and DVR clients around AT service delivery.

CAP: Jerry Johnson

No report at this time.

Other: Reserved for other Partner update(s)

- Jana mentioned the Northwest Senior Services Board (NWSSB) advises the NWRC on senior and long-term care services planning, coordination, and management, pursuant to the terms and requirements of the Older Americans Act of 1973 (OAA), the Washington State Senior Citizens Services Act, Title XIX of the Social Security Act, and other programs assigned by the Legislature, Congress, or the Northwest Regional Council. They currently have board openings. More can be explored at <https://www.nwrcwa.org/nwrc-governing-board/nwssb-advisory-board/>.

Working Lunch

New Business:

- FFY18 PPR (Program Progress Report formerly 704 Report)
 - The report is attached and was submitted last week. No approval needed. If there is any feedback please let Kim know.
- Debrief on Legislative meetings. Highlights from the meetings include:
 - Senator Hunt- Conversation about potential funding's for future and how things are progressing. Discussed past CFI closures.
 - Keith and Ryan and Nichole did multiple drop offs and met with Representative Dolan.

- Mark said Senator Schoesler spent 25 minutes talking about farming, not a fan of form letters, personal thank you or letter is best. Rep Schmick, immediately went for ask, awkward because we couldn't provide all the information he requested budgetary.
 - Jim is in District 37, met with representatives and senator aides who said they would try and come to the reception.
 - Kimberly Meck visited 45 representative offices for King County. Intent was to get contact information. Get faces to names.
 - Had a great conversation with Sam Cho around straw amendments for ADA accommodations. Sam Cho – all for disabilities, ally in the legislature.
 - Kayla felt that the Council should visit their representatives 6 months prior to session starting and not to visit them unless there is an ask.
- Council and staff conference attendance: NCIL & APRIL
 - APRIL is Oct 24-28, 2019 in Grand Rapids, Michigan the intent is to send the youth representative and staff member. Staff need to know by April for paperwork.
 - NCIL is July 22-25, 2019, Washington DC.
 - SILC Congress is in February and was voted on in October 2018. Keith and Ryan are attending.
 - Shelia recommended herself for NCIL. Davi and Kayla would like to attend as well.
 - Kayla recommended Shelia and Kim to attend NCIL, if one staff and one council member are going.
 - Motion made by Mark to send one staff and Shelia to NCIL and seconded by Jana.
 - Keith suggested delaying the APRIL participants until the next quarterly meeting.

Mark made a motion that one staff and one Council member, Shelia Turner is to attend NCIL.

Motion: Mark Leeper

Second: Jana Finkbonner

Vote: Unanimous

- Legislative reception: Who is attending? Flyer *attached*
 - Kim, Shelia, Jim, Kimberly, Nichole, Keith, Kayla, Ryan

Executive Session

- Keith requested going into executive session to discuss performance and leadership of Director.

Kayla made a motion to go into executive session to discuss performance and leadership of council.

Motion: Kayla Victor

Second: Jana Finkbonner

Vote: Unanimous

Executive Session started at 1:36pm.

Keith made a motion to end Executive Session and call the Council meeting back to order at 2:08pm.

Motion: Kayla Victor

Second: Jana Finkbonner

Vote: Unanimous

No official decisions came out of the session.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:10pm.