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## WASILC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2021

### **Council Members Present:**

Alyssa Adwell, Chair, Young Adult Representative, Renton  
Dion Graham, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle  
Donna Adamson, VR Tribal Representative, Mount Vernon  
Kimberly Meck, Center Director Representative, Seattle  
Mona Fuerstenau, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Vancouver  
Ricardo Funes, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Olympia  
Ryan Nabors, Advocate of and for Individuals with Disabilities, Tumwater  
Sheila Turner, Parent Guardian Representative, Pasco

### **Council Members Absent:**

Terry Redmon, Ex-Officio, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)  
Tricia Eyerly, Ex-Officio, Dept. of Services for the Blind (DSB)

### **Council Staff Present:**

Kim Conner, Executive Director  
Jim House, Disability Integration Manager  
Jolie Ramsey, Executive Lead

### **Guests Present:**

Mayra Colazo, Center Director, Central WA Disability Resources (CWDR)  
Leah Velasco, Center Director, Center for Independence (CFI)  
Joshua Hackney, Youth Transition Coordinator/Program Manager, (CWDR)  
Mark Leeper, Center Director, Disability Action Center (DAC)  
Mari Heusman, Executive Lead, Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC)  
Elizabeth Gordon, Executive Director, Governor's Commission on Disability and Employment (GCDE)  
Jeremy Norden-Paul, Executive Director, Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)  
Stacy Dym, Executive Director, The Arc of WA  
Tammy Woodrich—North Intertribal VR, Bellingham  
Heather Dawn Swanson—MSW Intern with CFI, UW

### **Call to Order**

Alyssa Adwell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02am

Land Acknowledgement read by Sheila Turner

**Motion:** Approve today's agenda as presented.

**First:** Ricardo Funes    **Second:** Kimberly Meck

**Vote: Favor:** All      **Opposed:** None      **APPROVED**

**Motion:** Approve the January 2021 Quarterly Meeting Minutes

**First:** Ricardo Funes    **Second:** Dion Graham

**Vote: Favor:** All      **Opposed:** None      **APPROVED**

**Motion:** Approve the March 25<sup>th</sup> 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

**First:** Ricardo Funes    **Second:** Kimberly Meck

**Discussion:** Ricardo Funes, "I want to amend the minutes and make a motion to correct that I abstain from all votes in the March 25<sup>th</sup> special meeting because I was only able to attend the last five minutes."

**Vote: Favor:** All      **Opposed:** None      **APPROVED AS AMENDED**

**Fiscal Report:** Ricardo Funes

- Reviewed budget expenditures FFY21 (10/01/2020—09/30/2021)
  - Due to WASILC staff teleworking, only 7.95% of the operations budget has been spent in Q1 and Q2
  - Due to COVID-19 and all meetings held virtually, only 6.12% of travel, per diem, lodging, etc. budget has spent in Q1 and Q2
- Considered ways to use funds to increase council members' knowledge base
  - Hire speakers, hold trainings, professional development

- Discussed forming a committee to brainstorm and plan ways to use extra funds on SPIL activities
  - Donna Adamson, Mona Fuerstenau, and Ricardo Funes will serve on the AdHoc Committee

**Motion:** Approve the Fiscal Report

**First:** Kimberly Meck                      **Second:** Dion Graham

**Vote:** Favor: All              **Opposed:** None              **APPROVED**

**Motion:** Form an AdHoc Committee to explore options of using extra funding on activities that are in alignment with the SPIL.

**First:** Ricardo Funes    **Second:** Donna Adamson

**Vote:** Favor: All              **Opposed:** None              **APPROVED**

### **Committee & Partner Updates:**

Executive Committee Chair Report: Alyssa Adwell

- Organized March Special meeting
- Communicated with OILP regarding SCIL closing their doors and how to guide resources and services back to Spokane region
- Signed on to Amicus brief and several Letters of Support
- Solidarity statement with the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community
- Council Membership recruitment continues through April 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Kim will send CM and CIL Directors info on recruitment to share **-ACTION**

Executive Director Update: Kim Conner

- Meet regularly with the Governor's office, ALISA, and GCDE and other state agencies and disability organizations to address homebased vaccines for people with disabilities
- Met with Governor's office, DDC, GCDE, and COM on increasing accessible housing units through the Housing Trust Fund
- Biden Administration redirected \$100 million to ACL
  - CILs will receive portion of the funds
- WASILC staff continues to do anti-racism work

- CIEP developing a white paper and marketing materials to support embedding an AFN coordinator within EMD

Youth and Young Adult Committee: Alyssa Adwell

- Youth transition survey
  - Survey has closed; committee is now in data analysis phase, and is determining how to present results
  - Will present survey results with full Council at the July quarterly meeting
  - Committee members worked on survey development and implementation for two years

Legislative Committee: Ryan Nabors

- Committee focusing discussions on affordable and accessible housing.
  - Explored how BIPOC community affected
  - Conversations with CFI and CWDR
  - Coordinate a coalition
    - Ryan Nabors and Mona Fuerstenau to have further discussion **-ACTION**
  - Recommendations:
    - Invite a panel of housing experts and people with lived experience to present at next quarterly meeting
- Donna Adamson said she would like to join the Legislative committee
  - Jolie Ramsey will add Donna Adamson to Committee listserv and send meeting invites. **-ACTION**

SPIL Committee: Kimberly Meck

- Committee met several times to discuss SPIL goals and to create recommendations to address continued IL services in the Spokane region due to SCIL closure
- Open public comment closes on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Then SPIL committee will meet to review any comments submitted. SPIL amendment will then go to Executive Committee for approval. Once approved SPIL will go out for signatures from WASILC chair, CIL directors and DSE Director

SPIL Monitoring Report for Quarter 2: Kimberly Meck

Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Preparedness (CIEP): Jim House

- FB5027 Senate bill related to language on public TV passed legislation. Governor to sign soon
- Stakeholder group meets biweekly. Ongoing discussions about emergency info
- Gave four presentations on COVID
  - Region 10 Interagency FEMA meeting
  - Emergency reports
  - IAEM planning meeting
  - PIEPC Conference
- Participated on AFN panel with the Emergency Preparedness Committee

AdHoc WASILC/DSHS Committee: Kimberly Meck

- Completed a draft MOU agreement with DVR
  - The MOU outlines rights and responsibilities of both parties, solidifying relationship between DSE and the SILC as an autonomous entity
  - Committee will meet with DVR in May to review MOU

AdHoc Part B Funds Committee: Ricardo Funes

- WASILC will receive additional funding through Part B
  - FFY 22: \$12,411 (in October); FFY23: \$16,547
  - Committee developed recommendations as they align with SPIL activities

Council discussed funding recommendations:

**Motion:** Move we begin with the Part B recommendation #2 [Statewide Needs Assessment] for the fiscal year 2022 Part B funds.

**First:** Mona Fuerstenau      **Second:** Donna Adamson

**Vote:** Favor: All      **Opposed:** None      **APPROVED**

AdHoc Bylaws/Policy Committee: Kimberly Meck

- Reviewed and proposed the following for approval to the Council
  - Budget Policy
  - Fiscal Policy
  - Budget Procedure
  - Fiscal Procedure Process

- Social Media Policy

**Motion:** Approve all five new policies with the caveat that policy 5 the social media policy, will be reviewed by Kim to make sure it doesn't conflict with any rules or regulations that may apply concerning WA open government rules and/or DSHS policies. And if any conflicts, Kim will present the policy to the EC for final approval of any changes.

**First:** Ricardo Funes    **Second:** Donna Adamson

**Vote:** Favor: All      **Opposed:** None      **APPROVED**

#### Ice Breaker

**Public Comment:** No comments

#### Centers for Independent Living Updates

Center For Independence: Leah Velasco

- Peer support groups held virtually
- Twenty-two consumers referred to the Pathway to Community Living program
- Pre-ETS classes have started, meeting weekly after school
- Food deliveries continue
- A grant from Partners in Disasters Strategies (PIDS) to support the help line
  - Helping Washingtonians statewide to register for the COVID-19 vaccine
- Marysville office is hiring for coordinators
- Youth transition summer workshop will be held virtually this year

Central Washington Disability Resources: Mayra Colazo and Josh Hackney

- Received additional contract (May 2021-22) with a local agency called Hope Source
- Received an additional \$25K grant through DOH to purchase backpacks for the homeless, disseminate info about the COVID-19 vaccine
- Received grant from Kittitas County for emergency preparedness
- Hired disability emergency specialist with funds
- With CARES Act funding, staff set up tents with information outside CWDR office and local stores

- Working with FEMA and their disability integration specialist to assess and discuss accessibility at vaccine sites
- Summer youth workshop

Five-week workshop open to youth in service area and will have both virtual and in-person options to attend

The Alliance of People with disAbilities: Kimberly Meck

- Advocacy work continues with the King County Disability Consortium
  - Group of 40-45 disability advocates and service providers meet to discuss issues affecting disability community
- Hosting first of two vaccine clinics at Kent Center on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 30<sup>th</sup>
- Partnership with Salvation Army
  - Street outreach team putting together bags to give out to homeless
- Exploring contract with Community Connections to do increase efforts to help people transition out of homeless shelters

Disability Action Center: Mark Leeper

- Working with Pullman group for an accessible garden
- Wheelchair accessible, parking
- Pre-ETS curriculum completed

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report

- Terry Redmon spearheaded DDA and CIL collaboration to work together

Tribal Report: Donna Adamson

- Most tribal members have access to vaccines
- Tribal VR collaborating with State VR to smoothly transition clients
- Tribal VR agencies submitting their 5-year grants soon

Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC): Dion Graham

- Recruiting former or current recipient of services and business labor representative on Council
- DVR seeking fiscal compliance manager
- Rural services panel on May 4<sup>th</sup> at quarterly meeting to learn barriers/challenges in rural areas

SRC Blind: Kim Conner

- Participation on SRC Blind Council as WASILC representative
- New Executive Committee for SRC Blind leadership
- Having additional training for SRC on their roles and responsibilities

**Center Development conversation:** Mark Leeper, Disability Action Center

- Supporting the development of a new Center in Spokane area
  - No access to CARES Act funding for Spokane area yet
  - Will work with OILP once funds are released

**Highlight Partner Collaboration Presentation:** Elizabeth Gordon- GCDE, Jeremy Norden-Paul-DDC, and Stacy Dym- The Arc of WA

Staff will send out panelists' contact information to Council for reference. **-ACTION**

### **New Business**

Determine October virtual meeting: October 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>

**Motion:** Motion that we have the October quarterly meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:00am

**First:** Dion Graham    **Second:** Donna Adamson

**Vote:** Favor: All    **Opposed:** None    **APPROVED**

NCIL Conference: July 19-30, 2021

- Sheila Turner, Donna Adamson, Mona Fuerstenau, Alyssa Adwell, Ryan Nabors, said they want to attend

**Motion:** Motion that the SILC members who are interested, please let staff know by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**First:** Kimberly Meck    **Second:** Dion Graham

**Vote:** Favor: All    **Opposed:** None    **APPROVED**



APRIL Conference: October 18-22, Orlando, FL in-person

- Ricardo Funes, Alyssa Adwell, and staff said they want to attend

**Motion:** Move that Alyssa Adwell, Ricardo Funes, and two staff members be allowed to attend APRIL Conference in October 2021.

**First:** Kimberly Meck **Second:** Ricardo Funes

**Vote: Favor:** All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

#### **Future Meeting Topics**

- Affordable/Accessible Housing presentation by the Legislative committee
- Panel Discussion ideas
  - The Arc of WA
  - Tribal VR
- Explore relationship with NAMI and mental health
  - Continue conversation of mental illness and people with disabilities
- Chief Seattle Club and Mother Nation

**Motion:** Move to adjourn today's meeting.

**First:** Donna Adamson **Second:** Sheila Turner

**Vote: Favor:** All **Opposed:** None **APPROVED**

**Adjourned at 3:57pm**