**MINUTES**

Louisiana Statewide Independent Living Council

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

October 3, 2013

**Council Members Present:**

Wayne Blackwell, Secretary

Gale Dean, Vice-Chair

Rocky Fuselier, Treasurer

Tara Warner, Member at large

Paige Kelly

Keith Menville

**Members Absent**

Rev. Mallery Callahan

Jeff Pellegrin

Amanda Vinson

Walker Estes

Mitch Granger, Chair

**Guests Present:**

Mark Martin, LRS Director

Brandon Burris, GODA Executive Director

Laura Meaux, SILC Program Coordinator

**Call to Order**

Vice-Chair, Gale Dean, called the Q2 FY-2014 to order at 10:18 am, followed by the pledge of allegiance and prayer. No quorum was present as Paige represents a state agency and is a non-voting member per Section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

**Introductions**

Mark Martin introduced himself as the Director of Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS).

**Approval of the Minutes**

Review of the July 11, 2013 SILC meeting minutes held since a quorum not present; there were no comments.

**Old Business**

1. Paige Kelly and Mark Martin announced the 2014-2016 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) was officially published by RSA this week.
2. Gale Dean announced the new RSA state representative for Louisiana is no longer Todd Miller, and is now Kimble Gray.
3. Paige Kelly requested information needed for the federal annual report, 704 Report, to RSA the following:
   1. As the DSU, federal reporting requires the listing of other disability councils and groups each SILC member is involved with or a member of.
   2. The Executive Committee approved the SILC Program Coordinator to request this information from each SILC member via e-mail and to request a response for reporting purposes.

**Budget Quarterly Update**

Treasurer, Rocky Fuselier, presented the final 2013-2014 budget compared with the budget of the following fiscal years: 2013, 2012, 2011, and 2010. Also presented was the 1st quarter 2013-2014 budget with expenditures made in July and August 2013 as September 2013 was not yet available. There were no comments.

**2014-2016 SPIL (State Plan for Independent Living)**

1. Program Coordinator, Laura Meaux, presented on behalf of the Executive Committee the timeline of the approved 2014-2016 SPIL, the mission statement, as well as the various goals and objectives. There are three (3) committees (Awareness, Initiatives, and Strategies) that the present members at this meeting selected to serve on in order to implement the SPIL over the next three years. Gale Dean stated that as a Center for Independent Living representative that has a majority of the information needed for SPIL implementation, one CIL representative should be on each committee.

Awareness Initiatives Strategies

Mitch Granger Rocky Fuselier Gale Dean

Paige Kelly Wayne Blackwell Keith Menville

Tara Warner

Not present, per Executive Committee approved SILC Program Coordinator to request each member selects which committee to serve on within a two-week timespan from today. The Executive Committee will review and assign members if needed.

1. Paige Kelly commented per SPIL Objective 1.1, ACS (American Community Survey) tool is used to determine underserved parishes.
2. Tara Warner commented per SPIL Objective 1.2, the potential youth SILC member was previously discussed in years back that a peer leader from LSU was a possibility. Also, the Youth Advisory Council has been newly instituted. Gale Dean also commented that perhaps LRS could provide a reference and obtain consent from the parents. Gale and Rocky Fuselier also attend youth transition meetings throughout the year.
3. Gale Dean commented per SPIL Objective 1.2, the orientation of new SILC members will be Wednesday, January 8th. This will be in Baton Rouge one day prior to the quarterly SILC meeting.

**Membership Search Update**

Program Coordinator, Laura Meaux, on behalf of the Executive Committee presented the current membership search update. As of today, there are four (4) new SILC appointees going before the Governor for appointment next Friday (per Brandon Burris, Executive Director of GODA below); there are two (2) expired members who have been reappointed for their second term; there are two (2) remaining expired members to be reappointed for their second term whose names will also go before the Governor next Friday for reappointment.

**Partners Updates**

1. GODA

Executive Director of GODA, Brandon Burris, presented the meeting held this past Tuesday with Boards and Commissions of the Governor’s Office and stressed SILC federal compliance and four names for reappointment should go before Governor next Friday. This process is outside of SILC or GODA’s control at this point. He also stated OCD is readdressing LTSS waiver system at a meeting held today at 2:30. This is open to the public. He, Liz Kearney, Director of Office of Community Programs, Rocky and Gale will be present to represent the SILC. Brandon and Liz are both members of the board of LTSS. GODA is currently focusing on membership also and brought 7 names before Boards and Commissions at the meeting held this past Tuesday. Their next meeting is October 29th and other meetings, such as DD Council, are also coming up soon. GODA is currently working on the GOLD awards, which was pushed up one month to early November due to renovations at the Governor’s Mansion. If there are any nominations please contact the GODA office.

1. Gale Dean asked if today’s meeting may impact proposals for managed care and Brandon stated that it may since they are planning to change many processes. There will be meetings and information in the near future that he will keep the SILC Coordinator and Executive Committee informed of.

1. LRS Director, Mark Martin, gave an update on LRS. There has been philosophical change from just a service provider and as a part of LWC (Louisiana Workforce Commission) are able to focus on people back in work. He’s going to look at all changes made previously now in order to do a programmatic review of new service processes. He is looking at changing order of selection of services for individuals with disabilities. During the 2012 legislative session, partnered with Second Injury organization and have place hundreds of consumers into gainful employment with the 1% of the $46 million trust of this organization. During the 2013 legislative session 2% will be requested and Mark asks for the SILC’s support and lobbying during this next legislative session and this bill. Also working with youth on transitioning to the workforce currently. There are three LWC job fairs coming up: Lake Charles on Oct. 22nd, Monroe on Oct. 29th, and Shreveport on Oct. 30th.
2. CILs
   1. Rocky Fuselier gave updates on SLIC including the following: Obama care is being looked at through different scenarios as this will require insurance to be offered for all employees working more than 30 hours. Otherwise, there is a fine of $2,000 per individual employee. Another law that may be coming into effect soon will require pay of time and a half.
   2. Gale Dean gave updates on New Horizons including the following: The same issues for SLIC apply to New Horizons. Roundup fundraising event was a success with about 200 people in attendance, a very good awareness event, and has a positive impact of $9,000 in funds. Managed care is discussed each day. Per the RSA guide, CILs to report consumer satisfaction surveys to their Boards and SILCs. Gale reported two surveys performed: 1) Transportation had 38% response rate and overall 99% satisfaction – 98% were satisfied with transportation services and 100% satisfied with services of improving IL skills; 2) Core services had 38% response rate also, but different mix of consumers, and overall satisfaction of 94%. Gale stated New Horizons will do some improving of presenting core services.
      1. Paige Kelly stated she will present on SLIC’s consumer surveys at next quarterly meeting.

**New Business**

1. LRS Director, Mark Martin, discussed the Rehabilitation Act S. 1356 and stressed there is a question within this bill of whether or not there will remain dedicated funding to people with disabilities. There is a lot of support for this bill.
2. SILC Program Coordinator, Laura Meaux, on behalf of the SILC Executive Committee presented highlights of this upcoming bill. The main issue with this bill is that LRS will no longer be the SILC’s DSU; DHH will become the new DSU under this bill if passed.

**Upcoming Events**

SILC Budget provides for 5 members to attend the NRA Conference held this November 13-15. Current attendance is as follows: Mitch Granger, Gale Dean, Wayne Blackwell, Tara Warner, and Jeff Pellegrin.

**Upcoming SILC Meetings**

1. January 8th 2014 new SILC member orientation to be held in Baton Rouge, time TBD.
2. January 9th 2014 quarter 3 meeting approved to be held in Baton Rouge at 10am to 2pm, including a new member orientation.
   1. Keith Menville commented that this meeting could also be held from 10am to 1pm and foregoing lunch.
3. April 10th 2014 quarter 4 meeting approved to be held in Lake Charles.

**Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned by Gale Dean at 12:50pm.