**Minnesota Independent Living Council**

**Minutes**

**August 10, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

The Minnesota Statewide Independent Living Council (MNSILC) met on Thursday, August 10, 2023. The hybrid meeting was in person at ILICIL, 215 N Benton Dr, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379 and by Zoom.

**Call to Order/Introductions/Meeting Expectations:** The meeting was called to order by chairperson Robyn Block at 10:10 a.m. with a quorum present. The meeting expectations were reviewed.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Baker, Robyn Block, Stephen Larson, Larry Lura, Judy Sanders, Dr. Mohamed Mourssi Alfash, Paulo de Castro, Joe Dailey, Deborah Gleason, Tom Reed, Karen Larson

**COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Rosalie Eisenreich,

**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**: Ed Lecher **STAFF PRESENT:** Jo Erbes

**GUESTS:** Brad Westerlund, Anne Paulson, Linda Lingen, KiloMarie Granda, Monique Doward, ILICIL Staff: Cara Ruff, Abby Gertken, Meggan Caird, Angela Psyk, Donna Teicher, Whitney Roe, Trista Skalberg, Michele Pelka, Marsha Hagfor

**ILICIL Presentation –** Cara Ruff, ILICIL Executive Director, provided an introduction about the ILICIL history, services, and programs. Staff talked about each of their programs.

**Approve the Agenda –** Stephen Larson made a motion to approve the agenda. Brian Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2023 meeting** - Stephen Larson made the motion to approve the minutes for the May 11, 2023 MNSILC meeting. Judy Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**DEED/VRS Update** – no report

**SSB Update** – Ed Lecher reported that the Library for the Blind and talking books moved from Faribault to Minneapolis. SSB received an increase in funding from the state to hire additional staff for transcription services and to increase senior services.

**Update – SRC B** – Judy Sanders reported on the new committee structure of the SRC-B.

**Update – SRC G** – no report

**Election of Officers** – There was discussion about the length of terms of office for officers. The Policy and Procedure Task Force will review the current policy and make a recommendation.

Candidates for Chair were Brian Baker and Deborah Gleason. Each candidate talked about their background and their goals for the future. Robyn Block, council chair, opened the floor for nominations. There were no nominations from the floor. There was a vote by ballot. Brian Baker was elected chair.

Candidate for Parliamentarian was Stephen Larson. Stephen withdrew his name. Robyn Block, council chair, opened the floor for nominations. Judy Sanders volunteered. Judy Sanders was elected Parliamentarian by voice vote.

Candidate for Treasurer – Stephen Larson volunteered for the position of treasurer. Robyn Block, council chair, opened the floor for nominations. There were no additional nominations. Stephen Larson was elected Treasurer by voice vote. The treasurer is the chair of the Finance Committee.

Candidate for Vice chair – Deborah Gleason volunteered for Vice Chair. Robyn Block, council chair, opened the floor for nominations. There were no additional nominations. Deborah Gleason was elected Vice Chair by voice vote.

Candidate for Secretary – There were no candidates for Secretary. Deborah Gleason made a motion, seconded by Brian Baker, to elect a Secretary at the October meeting. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**Budget Review** – Stephen Larson, Treasurer, reviewed the proposed staff budget and the council budget for the FFY 2023-2024. It was suggested that with the next SPIL, MNSILC increase the allocation to the centers to avoid large carry forward funds. Stephen Larson made a motion to increase the staff budget by 5%. Brian Baker offered a friendly amendment to increase the salary by 10%. It was suggested that 50% of the salary increase would come from the travel line item and the other 50% distributed from supplies and training. Tom Reed seconded the motion. The motion to approve the salary increase passed by roll call vote. The increase will be effective October 1, 2023.

Brian Baker made the motion to approve the proposed budget for FFY 2023-2024. Deborah Gleason seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

**Committee Reports**

**Outreach Committee** – Joe Dailey reported that Brian Baker connected us with the Portland Community College and their youth program. Two CILs are working on outreach to college campuses. Appointments by the Governor’s office on Boards and Commissions may be completed by August 11th.

**Reports Committee** – Brian Baker reported that the annual report should be ready for printing by the end of December. There will be pages about Minnesota’s attendance at the NCIL Conference, description of MNSILC, MACIL and IL Net.

**Advocacy Committee** – Ed Lecher thanked Rosalie, Heather Stillwell and Heather Everson for creating the issue briefs and the work they did to schedule the meetings with congressional delegation. MNSILC will reach out to Access Press to publish the issue briefs.

**Executive Committee** – Robyn Block informed the council that Stephen Larson has stepped down as representative on the SRC G. Deborah Gleason volunteered. The Executive Committee recommended Deborah Gleason represent MNSILC on the SRC G. The council voted by voice vote to approve the Executive Committee recommendation.

**Next meeting/Adjourn –** The next meeting will be October 12, 2023. The meeting will be hybrid. The in-person meeting will be at State Services for the Blind. The council was asked to watch the You Tube video regarding 14C certificates and be prepared to discuss it.

Brian Baker made a motion to adjourn at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Gleason, Secretary

Recorded by Jo Erbes, Coordinator

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