

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL
Executive Committee Meeting
May 17, 2023
Zoom Meeting/Convened at 10:00 AM

Members present: Mark Koterwski, Eric Weiss, and Tasha Jones. Others present: Mark Sternhagen, Patty Kuglitsch and Colette Wagoner (SILC staff). Julie Paluch was the interpreter.

Mark K thanked members for their participation today. He reported on the Program Performance being approved by Administration for Community Living (ACL)/Office of Independent Living Programs (OILP).

SILC staff was asked to review the proposed agenda for the June 29th meeting. Discussion followed on the Election of Officers agenda item. Eric reviewed the process utilized in previous years, of the Chair passing the gavel to Eric who then brings forward a proposed slate of officers for consideration. Each position is taken one at a time, offering a name for a given position and then taking nominations from the floor.

Eric noted the delay in the SILC receiving appointments and reappointments. He suggested that the proposed slate of officers should be those whose terms continue after June 30th. Tasha is the only officer whose current term continues after June 30th. Tasha acknowledged her willingness to continue serving as an officer, if elected.

There was a discussion of the number of SILC members who continue to serve after June 30, 2023. This includes six members, which includes three state agency representatives. Mark S expressed his frustration with the lack of appointments/reappointments, noting the unfairness to the SILC and people served by the Centers for Independent Living.

Patty agreed with all of Mark S comments regarding the SILC and the lack of appointments/reappointments made by the Governor. Patty affirmed Mark S's frustration and made similar statements. Patty wanted to ensure this is documented in the minutes. Eric acknowledged members' frustration and thanked them for sharing their comments and concerns.

Discussion continued regarding the members who continue to serve after June 30th including their voting/non voting status. Eric thanked members for continuing to serve and supporting the SILC, especially contributing their time to the SILC's executive committee. Eric offered to help develop a proposed slate; at this point Eric apologized for an unavoidable conflict and exited the meeting.

Comments were made about the SILC taking action. Mark K was asked as the SILC Chairperson if he would be comfortable with writing and sending a letter to the Governor to express the SILC's frustration about the lack of appointments. Members noted it is very dangerous for the SILC to continue without being fully appointed. Regulations outline that the SILC should be composed of members who represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds, and the majority of members must be people with disabilities who are not employed by a state agency or CIL. Mark K agreed to work with Eric on such a letter.

The executive committee agreed to explore interest of other SILC members and agreed to two variations of a proposed slate. One will be brought forward if appointments and reappointments are made prior to the next SILC meeting, and the other will be used if appointments and reappointments are not made in time. Mark K noted everyone's comments and asked if there was anything else or other business to discuss. There was no other business. There was consensus of those present to move forward with the meeting agenda as prepared.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10:52 AM.