# NC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes January 9, 2015

Country Inn & Suites, Burlington, NC

## Welcome/Mission /Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 by Keith Greenarch, Vice Chair.

## SILC Mission statement: read by Keith Greenarch

## Meeting Accessibility Reminders: read by Sandy Ogburn

**Introductions** were made around the room. Absences were explained and/or addressed; Mitzi Kincaid due to family medical, Joshua Kaufman due to medical, Kimlyn Lambert due to travel.

## Meeting Agenda:

Keith will be conducting the meeting this morning for Kay and will be giving the Policy Committee report for Joshua.

There were no other changes.

**Action:** The vote was unanimous to accept the agenda.

## Changes and/or corrections to the Minutes:

A motion to accept the minutes was called for

**Action:** (Sandy Ogburn/Teresa Staley) minutes accepted unanimously

## Chair Report Kay Miley, Chair

The chair report will be emailed to the Council by the SILC office next week.

## Executive Directors Report: Will Miller, Executive Director

During the Chair report we were going to discuss the dates of our next meeting in April. The management has requested that we move our April meeting one week back to accommodate another group coming in. That would mean moving the meeting to the 23rd and 24th. We want to be sure there are no major conflicts.

Mark Steele: The CIL directors will be in Atlanta at that time for a meeting. Are the 9th and 10th an option?

Will Miller: I think the hotel would be entertaining the same group, I don’t know if that would be a possibility.

The offer was made that we could use the meeting space for free but without having the CIL directors here I don’t we could have a full meeting. Are there any thoughts going forward

Keith Greenarch: Were we able to keep the original dates and they would accommodate us?

Will Miller: Yes, that is what is in our contract.

Keith Greenarch: then that is what we will do.

I would like to thank Debbie for all that is done to make this meeting possible. I would also like to thank each of you, all of our SILC members on this council. Without you there is no NCSILC, SILC office and no IL Program in North Carolina. Thank you for your involvement, all the ways you have been involved or can be involved, conferences, webinars, trainings etc. Serving on our SPIL committee, all these are important parts of what the council does, also the goal committee’s participation. Please continue to be involved and find ways to be involved we definitely need you.

Keith Greenarch – another item, new members we would like to recognize you.

Ricky Alewine – again my name is Ricky Alewine from Jacksonville, NC some of you I think was asking where this is. It’s close to Wilmington, NC in New Hanover County. I’m in graduate school and hopefully will graduate this May. Right now I’m currently teaching ASL in a community college in Jacksonville. I’m involved in this and am the Southeast representative for the North Carolina council for the Deaf plus the North Carolina Alliance for ASL teachers, so I have a lot going on right now. If I haven’t met you before it’s nice to meet you, if I have it’s nice to see you again. I wish a Happy New Year to all.

Barry Washington – I am very busy as well. I am from Forsyth County living in Clemmons. I am Executive Director of Whole Man ministries. We are taking the initiative to help house homeless veterans. We are working rehabbing 5 duplexes. I also work with the enrichment center helping those who have various disabilities to gain employment. There are so many other things I am involved in. I am also like Ricky in graduate school for rehabilitation counseling. I want to graduate in May as well. I’m happy to be here and happy new year to you all and my God continue to prosper you.

Executive Report continued:

Thanks to Ricky and Barry for joining us and welcome to the council, we are really glad to have you.

There are a few housekeeping items. Please remember to submit your reimbursement sheets. The sooner they are submitted the sooner you are reimbursed. There are forms are on the podium. Another thing that Kay and I have discussed is the need for a chair for Goal 6 committee; the Designated State Unit provides Independent Living services in the State. We have a vacancy in the chair position. I hope that someone would be willing to take that. Is there anyone who would be willing to volunteer to take that position?

Teresa Staley, I can try that position.

Will Miller: We will make note of that, thank you Teresa. Goal 6 is one of our SPIL goal committees. Thank you again, that is fantastic.

We will get more into membership later. Please keep recruiting members keep this in mind when you speak to folks in your local area. We need more members with disabilities represented on the council. Sandy Ogburn has produced a document for this purpose. We particularly are looking for veterans.

There is another opportunity for folks to be involved. That is as a SILC representative on the State Rehabilitation Council. The Governor’s office reached out to me and said that they are trying to fill that position. It is one that I have been representing the SILC council on but am not appointed. I have been appointed to the Commission for the Blind to represent the SILC. I think trying to do both would be too much, distracting me from the SILC council. Is there anyone who would be willing to represent the SILC on the State Rehabilitation Council? They meet quarterly around the state. Whoever represents us would give an update on those meetings at the SILC meetings as well as update them on the SILC happenings. Is there anyone here that would be interested in applying? Just give it some thought. Again, it’s like this with quarterly meetings.

Committee Chairs of our committees; please be sure that your committees are meeting. That is the major function of this council. To monitor, review and evaluate. If the committees are not meeting that requirement, our duty under the Rehabilitation Act is not being met. Please be sure the committees are meeting. If you are a member, be sure to attend and take part.

At the SILC office, we have signed our lease renewal. We conducted a search looking into more than 20 other options in Raleigh, considering them all and presented to the Executive committee. Everyone was in agreement that the best thing to do was stay put in our current location. The new lease will keep us at 505 Oberlin Rd. until February 1, 2018.

The 704 report has been completed. The SILC office contributes to the Part 1 of the 704 report along with The Part B center. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Division of Services for the Blind completed their portion of the report and it was submitted to RSA before the New Year’s due date. I emailed this report to all members in my last email. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

The SPIL needs assessment is underway. Rene is the chair of that committee and we will hear more about that later. I would recommend that you get involved. We need all the help we can get.

One thing I wanted to mention is that we have created a document at the office; Kathleen completed it in her spare time. She went to all the SPIL’s across the states and documented their funding sources. In the State Plan you have a resource table showing where funding comes from for the SILC offices, for the independent living services, operational funding and direct funding to independent living services. We now have a table that shows how all other SILCs are funded, how much funding they receive and what the funding sources are and the levels that go to independent living services. I plan to provide the document to the Goal 4 committee fulfilling a goal of that committee. I will distribute to the full council giving us a good guide of how we compare with other states.

Please be active so we can monitor, review and evaluate, this is your major duty as a council member. This has been repeated and needs to be repeated at each meeting, the ARRA funds are due to expire this fiscal year which will result in an overall reduction in funding to the state that will likely result in an approximate loss of $30,000 to each of the centers. This council needs to be aware of that and be thinking of ways the SILC could help offset that loss. Also the state Vocational Rehabilitation office has indicated that they would be receptive to a proposal for the use of I&E funds. This came out of a meeting that Keith had with Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke and Elizabeth Bishop. This council needs to develop that plan. I hope to be involved in that plan. I need help from the council on the content of that proposal.

We have an IL Summit to plan for 2015. We need members involved in that. We’ve heard from several members that maybe March would be a good time. The other option would be to hold it in September as we have in the past few years. Keep your eyes out for opportunities to get involved with that.

Thank you for being here and for your time.

Keith Greenarch: Before we move one, we have had a couple of members that have joined us. Please introduce yourself.

Oshana Watkins and Sandra Hicks both introduced themselves.

Keith Greenarch: I want to reiterate what Will said about the ARRA funds. This is very, very serious, this will cut services. The CILs do a lot with little money. We are doing everything we can to try to come up with ways we can supplement that. If you have any ideas or would like to talk with any of us further please get with me, Kay, Rene or Will, we can explain it better. It would probably take us ½ a day to explain the origin of how this came to be.

Another thing for new members, please get with your mentors, discussing committees and see where you might fit in best with your abilities and expertise. Get with Kay and let her know what on which committee you would like to serve.

# Standing Committee Reports

## Finance Committee Report Ping Miller, Chair

In the December 16th status call we had a review of the November P&E and the expenses were normal at $11, 553.39, we looked through the expenses including the travel expenses for the quarterly meeting and registration for on line courses for 5 members. We received a duplicate payment of the October P&E in the amount of $47,482.34 on Dec. 8 and as a result we used the balance of $23,741.17 towards November and December. Will spoke on the topic of moving into current funds and the Executive Committee met and passed the SILC budget and increased the budget to move into current funds awarded in 2014. Spread sheets were sent out to the Executive Committee.

There are some action items.

In order to get to the current year funds the CILs contracts need to be amended. The proposals were asked to be discussed at the January SILC meeting.

Rene, we had talked about in terms of looking at from a request was to get the spending each month and the status in accounting and see if invoice totals versus actuals. There were some action items from our last meeting on getting the SILC and Centers and how much is committed how much of the 425 is encumbered. Has there been any further discussion on that? Rene, could you follow up on those action items?

Rene Cummins: Yes I did send the table out and gathered all the information on the total of the contracts. Those totals do exceed, not a whole lot, but do exceed that figure that represents the Part B funds that are in the second year that we are trying to move out to avoid it reverting back the federal level. So with all the contracts in effect right now, we will get us into the current year budget that is sitting idle. That is where we want to be so from that point on, we will always have a partial budget and a full budget to draw from.

Ping Miller: So from a clarity perspective the SILC budget is the same as last year, $192,850.00

Will Miller: A quick question for Rene. The SILC office has not received any P&E reports. Will we receive them from the Centers?

Rene Cummins: Since we have to submit them to the contract administrator which is Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke, I think that if once Pamela receives them she could forward onto you. There is a bit of a lag time because we wait for approval. Once it has been approved it might be a smoother process if it would be forwarded to the SILC office.

Will Miller: Pamela, can you forward these to the SILC office?

Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke: We will make that a practice.

## Policy and Long term Planning Joshua Kaufman, Chair

Report given by Keith Greenarch, Vice Chair

Joshua was not able to be with us today due to an injury.

He wanted to be sure you were aware of the training on Thursday before the next SILC meeting given by NC Center for Non Profits on the role of board members. This would be very beneficial for all members to be here and participate. This is for everyone, including the board members from each Center for Independent Living.

The other piece of business was discussed at our last meeting. We talked about this in depth and could debate for hours. I don’t want to take a lot of time; I just want to recap the motion. The policy committee has spent time looking into background checks.

The original practice was due to a recommendation from law students at ELON College in regards to a risk management practice for Youth Leadership Forum, is that correct?

Rene Cummins: That is correct but that was a risk management analysis of that event. It in no way is related to a recommendation that we as a council apply this. Other major councils are not doing this.

Keith Greenarch: I think this came into questions because the membership committee ran into someone who had a background and needed to learn further what that was. I think Jennifer Overfield commented that she had a question about that because of a past prison record. That is one of the reasons that the policy committee took this up. I’m just reading from the minutes of our last meeting.

The motion is for whether we are going to do this or not. Is this a motion to decide if we want to do this or not. When it was brought to the floor, it was debated but no motion was brought forth.

Rene Cummins: I am on the Policy committee. There was not a motion to continue this practice. There is no united viewpoint or recommendation coming out of the Policy committee.

Keith Greenarch: I’m going to take a couple of minutes. Are there further comments?

Mercedes Restucha-Klem: Are background checks currently being done?

Will Miller: Yes, the SILC office initiated background checks. These are 3 reasons we started,

1. The concern of safety of our members from potential advocates who might have a record of violent crime in their past.
2. The concern of liability of the SILC council if there was a foreseeable risk that we put our members in.
3. To do our due diligence to put together a good packet with we endorse a candidate and send it to the Governor’s office.

This is why it was started but will defer to this council.

Keith Greenarch: Are there any other comments?

John Marens: the only issue I can think of is, I would assume that a positive background check for criminal history would not automatically deny the ability to serve and that the issue is really what kind of offense and whether that particular offense would be taken into consideration. If that is true, then I wouldn’t have an issue with it. I think it is wise to have this information when sending a recommendation to the governor.

Sandy Ogburn: I just want to say from the membership committee point of view. We have discussed numerous times and from what I understand the govern office does a background check also. Is this a duplication is this being a good stewards of SILC money when the Governor’s office already does this. In my opinion, if the Governor’s office check shows a violent charge then we are covered.

Will Miller: I have spoken with someone in the Governor’s office. They run the name through the Administration Office of Courts website. They just run the given name through with no variations. We run the Social Security number which would show prior names and alias. I think the potential to look beyond to other states if anything shows up. It is more detailed than what the Governor’s office looks at.

Rene Cummins: I would just piggyback on Mercedes and Sandy. I would not want our procedure to be a radical departure from other councils. This could be seen as a barrier when comparing the participation of councils. We are requiring so much more, I just see that as putting up a barrier up. If someone does have a criminal record, we know that there are an awful lot of people who because there is no place for them to go are being put into a criminal justice system by virtue of their disability such at a traumatic brain injury or a mental health disability; the fact that this shows up means we need to be reasonable to look at their story. It was proposed that we should be asking for specific kinds of references. We could achieve that from those specific references and not utilizing our SILC Part B funds to accomplish what the Governor’s office does for other councils. We don’t need to put out council in a different more stringent process.

Keith Greenarch: We are going to move on. I make a recommendation that we…

John Marens: It would be nice to hear from a lawyer.

Mercedes Restucha-Klem: It sounds like the Policy committee needs to make some sort of recommendation on an internal policy; ultimately this is not required by other councils. The Governors do go through their own process. Our members don’t have access to any petty cash, or any direct service provisions provided to clients. To what end is this information going to be used. The policy committee needs to make the decision on this. You are opening up yourself up for discrimination liability.

Keith Greenarch: I am going to table this vote and send this back to the Executive committee to discuss this; most of the members of the Executive Committee are on the Policy Committee. There are a lot of pros and cons to this issue. Anyone is welcome to look at the minutes of that and make any comments. Is that agreeable?

## **Membership Sandy Ogburn, Chair**

I want to thank all who attended the new member training yesterday morning. It was very informative with a lot of information. The PowerPoint has been sent out to everyone. Rene did an awesome job in developing the slide that will show the language chances in the law. When you see that email, please review and look at the changes. There are a couple of things that will change a lot.

Thank you to Debbie and Rene for the work that went into making that presentation.

Welcome to our new members, we do really welcome you here and look forward to your input and hope that we can help you to get acclimated and learn what you need to learn on this council. You have your mentors. Going forward if anyone would like to be a mentor, please see me and give me your name. The ones I have do have new members assigned to them. As we move forward with filling the four positions we will need more mentors.

The session yesterday I hope gave Barry and Ricky and Steve some good information I hope you kind of get a little bit of what your role will be. Do any of you have any comments?

Steve: As an Ex officio member I probably was asking the most questions. I appreciate your indulgence and I did learn a lot and got more information by asking questions that were important to me.

Sandy: We are a little on hold; we do have four positions open. We have six applications right now that we are holding. The Governor has requested that we appoint or submit an application for a veteran. He didn’t specify what kind of veteran. As you know we have been talking and trying to promote that. If you know of anyone, I am in the process of making a PowerPoint presentation for membership in general. I’ll be sending this out to the whole board for you to share with any organizations with whom you would like to present. I’m hoping this will be a good recruiting tool.

Keith: to be in compliance I do think we need a veteran with a disability and I do know we need members from the Eastern part of North Carolina

Steve I want to apologize, you’ve been with us so long and I know we just got your appointment letter. You have been filling in as an Ex. Officio, I didn’t mean to overlook you; I don’t even think of you as a new member. Would you like to make any comments?

Steve: Thank you Keith, yes we finally got the official appointment from the Governor. I did champion our new Director, Kay Vaughn that I retain this post as opposed to Chris joining us. I had to do some other negotiations and it was a good trade off. Being a parent of a son who just turned 18 and looking at this, it is also very special that I get to be in the field professionally but also as a personal position as well. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Keith: Oh Pam, you too, congratulations on being officially appointed.

Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke: I have been here forever. I am the Chief of Integration Services at DVR. I have been attending the meetings for a long time. I appreciate the great changes of the council and through the storm. It’s great to see that. I am the Ex. Officio now because Mark deserted us. Unfortunately the state is not allowing us to replace that position so I have taken on that role in addition to others. It’s good to be here at the table even though I have been for the last five years.

Keith: I want to say this too; also working with Pam is Gay. Gay always does a good job. She is Johnny on the spot with any information and kudos to Gay too. She is one of those behind the scene unsung people.

Break: 10:00 – 10:32

Keith: Come back to order. Please remember to sign in at the podium. There are also applications so please give one to anyone whom you feel would be an asset to the council.

I want to do something right quick. How many people in this room know about or have heard about the Administration for Community Living? If you haven’t, you sure need to familiarize yourself with them. That is who is going to be calling the shots. That is going to be our new administration. Rene is really the knowledgeable person on all the new rules and regulations or guidelines under the Administration for Community Living is the Independent Living Administration.

Rene is the chair of the SPIL, and that is the State Plan for Independent Living for you folks who are new. One of the responsibilities is the implementation of that plan and it is due every 3 years. We will submit that in 2016 and believe me that will be here quickly. That is why we are doing assessment of community needs. Rene is doing that for us and I will turn that over to her and that is also Goal 1 in our current spil

# SPIL Goal Reports:

Goal 1 Rene Cummins, chair

This is the first year we have had funding under Goal 1. We are now getting up and running with activities are happening. Two things that have happened in the network of Centers; the goal of this committee, is to develop and support your network of centers.

The network has come together as an association and we are working on having uniform practices and systematically putting that network together. In October, we had a retreat in Greenville, in December we joined the SE Center Directors Meeting in Atlanta.

At this point I have to say that I have information on expenditures that I had hoped would be through the end of December. If you look around the room, you would notice that we usually have all the Center directors here. Between family medical emergencies and deaths, none of the other directors were able to attend. I will not always be reporting on behalf of the other centers. It just happens that we have Benita for Shabazz Center and Mark from The Adaptables and we’ve decided that we must be the few the proud and the brave because we are the only ones that could make it this week. So what I can give you on all the goals for today represents at least through November and half of the centers for the whole first quarter. For Goal1 we have spent approximately 18% of our Part B funds when the expenditures come in for January, it will look more on par that we are more about 25%. I know from my center, some of those expenses from December are being paid in January. We are in the process of carrying out those activities.

I need members on Goal 1 committee. October 1 of 2014 started our year 2 and that is when we put the funding in for the other 2 ½ goals that were previously unfunded. If you would like to be on Goal I, I will be sending out an announcement for when that committee will meet. Anyone is welcome to join that call to decide if you would like be a part of this committee.

Keith: Thank you, Rene.

Goal 2 Gloria Bellamy, chair   
Good morning. If you would look under your notebook tab for SPIL, Goal2 is Leadership and Empowerment. Rene and Sandy did a wonderful job not just for new members but for seasoned members as well. Eventually seasoned members will be asked to conduct trainings. When we think of leadership and empowerment think first of this body coming to the Thursday sessions as something you need to do to take on your leadership responsibilities. This will empower you to move forward so that as seasoned members term off you will be ready to take more of the role. Get involved as Rene just encouraged us.

Under goal 2 our mind normally goes to the Youth Leadership Forum which is a star in our crown. I have to give Sierra and Rene the Center with the contract; you have done a wonderful job. It is a source of pride for all you have done.

Besides the Youth Leadership Forum our goal involves disability history training and independent living skills training as well. Because this body, the council does not provide direct services we have to rely on the reports from the centers to tell us how we are coming along with this goal. All the CILs directors have been busy juggling the budgets not allowing anything to fall through the cracks so the extent to which they have fulfilled the activities under this goal we are not really prepared to tell you fully at this point but we are going to ask Sierra to give us a report on the Youth Leadership Forum and Rene will give us some idea of where we stand on the other goal activities under this goal.

If everyone could follow along and to give our new members what the Youth Leadership Forum is and invite them to get involved.

Keith Greenarch: Just one quick note, we normally do this at the October meeting but we had an abbreviated meeting. Normally you would be hearing this presentation in October.

Sierra Royster: We are doing this in the New Year now. I am Sierra Royster and I work at the Alliance of Disability Advocates. We are the Center that gets the contract for the Youth Leadership Forum. We are pretty much the people that make sure we are meeting the contract guidelines and doing the final reporting part of it. The actual committee the Youth Leadership Forum is run by at least 5 young people that are from the community between the ages of 15 and 30 with disabilities and 4 mentors who were participants from the previous year’s event. They plan everything, the schedule, whose going to speak, how much we are going to pay. They plan out who are staff there, what we do with volunteers. They do all of it, we just make sure they are following the contract. The Youth Leadership Forum started here in 2008. We had one year off and I picked it back up in 2010. We hold it at NC State campus. We’ve moved all around the campus in the last couple of years. It’s an opportunity for 20 young people with disabilities between the ages of 15 and 30 to come and stay at NC State for a week. During that week the parents are not there. Their personal care attendants and nursing staff are not there. We provide any accommodation for anything they need. We provide all their meals. They stay in the dorm rooms and have room mates. During the days of the week, we teach skills, disability history, self-advocacy, communication, leadership. They set goals for themselves. They have to set individual goals and community change goals. We typically go downtown and do some sort of activity and where they are learning how to change the community to a more accessible community. We are going to be talking about how we did that this year. On Friday they present to their family and friends and anyone who is able to come and they talk about their goals and what they have learned and they are challenged to continue their goals after they leave.

It is a very long week. Our days go from typically 8am when our breakfast starts and they don’t have to be back in their rooms until midnight. You can imagine that is a pretty long day for 5 days in a row. We typically have a huge staff that is running everything in the background while the show is going on up front. At night we have fun activities like relationship classes, recreation night that we are going to talk about this year. This gives them experiences that they may not have had before, opportunities to socialize with other young people there. That is a quick version of the Youth Leadership Forum. The whole purpose is to bring young people together to learn about independent living, to learn how to be a self-advocate, how to be a leader in your community and have them go out and do that. You never really know because we don’t have a huge follow up team. This year we got a lot of feedback from past alumni. For us it’s a whirlwind of a week it’s great to hear those stories.

This is Nellie Placencia; she is co coordinating the Youth Leadership Forum with me this year.

A PowerPoint presentation was given showing pictures of participants and activities.

Quote from a delegate, “This is the first place I have ever felt at home with family”

This last year we had one large planning committee separated into four sub committees focused on forum, personal, accommodations and marketing.

We have five committee members and four mentors from prior year’s participants. These mentors were voted on to ask to come back and serve as mentors and serve on the planning committee.

We also have four Center peers from different Centers as well as three professional peers. One from NC Council of Developmental Disabilities, one from Deaf and Hard of Hearing and a community member. They worked all year to plan the 2014 youth Leadership Forum. Sierra and I worked as coordinators and the committees were meeting regularly and all went according to the contracts.

Quote, “Very well done”

We had a facilitator from Atlanta, Georgia. She acting like our MC introducing our speakers, making sure the events were running and keeping the energy up during the day. Our speakers were Mike Beers, Mary Olson from Montana, Stephanie Stanford from Kansas, Jerry Smith from Raleigh, Richard Watkins sharing sign language helping the youth learn to be around those who are deaf and hard of hearing, Cristina Branch from The Adaptables, Lacy Coward who was our chair, Joshua Strasburg who presented on budgeting and finances, myself and Matt Potter from Self Advocacy Ambassadors. We also had a lot of community representations by holding a resource fair for all our delegates. We had local and state resources, from Vocational Rehabilitation, Division of Services for the Blind, NC Council of Developmental Disabilities, Statewide Independent Living Council, Self-Advocates of North Carolina, Arts Access, North Carolina Assistive Technology Program, Disability Rights NC, Alliance of Disability Advocates, The ARC, Sprint Relay, and The Autism Society. We had a DJ who is a young person with a disability for a dance we had on Thursday night and the Triangle Alliance chorus performed at our banquet on Thursday night.

We had a lot of stuff going on with a lot of people and visitors. We had delegates who came from smaller outlying counties were able to see just what all resources are out there and available for young people.

There were a lot of great relationships that were formed. They are staying in contact through social media.

We had twenty delegates who came and stayed throughout the week. Delegates with disabilities such as vision loss, cerebral palsy, intellectual and other developmental disabilities, learning disabilities, autism including Asperger’s disorder, epilepsy, anxiety disorders, Charcot-Marie-Tooth Syndrome, ADHD, stickler syndrome, muscular dystrophy, dwarfism and depression. We had quite the variety learning about some that we didn’t know much about before. The age spam was from 15 to 23. They came from the following counties: Johnston, Pitt, Wake, Forsyth, Mecklenburg, Union, Franklin, Guilford, Orange, Granville, Craven, Columbus and Cabarrus. We had a large number from Wake County. We want to expand that and have sent the applications out to all the Vocational Rehabilitation offices. We have a member working to send them out to all the offices of Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This is a statewide event so we are throwing you a pitch. If you know of anyone that would benefit, please refer them to us. We would love to see this expand and receive as many applications from as many counties as possible.

A breakdown of the daily activities will follow.

Quote, “I’ve learned that there is nothing wrong about talking of your disabilities”

Monday we had a big welcome and getting to know their four different groups lead by a mentor and group leader. We talked about disability history and different self-advocates in history and their stories. We played our Guess Who game and had a cook out inviting the local youth group from Alliance of Disability Advocates who shared about the group’s activities. Mike Beers gave a comedy night. They had two different activities to choose from and they could’ve gone and played board games to unwind.

Tuesday was our self-advocacy presentations by Stephanie Stanford and how to communicate as a self-advocate and how to be assertive. The Speakers spoke as a panel talking about their own self-advocacy and independent living journey, their disabilities, and how they have overcome. That night was either the healthy relationship conversation or watch the movie X Men.

Quote, “My cup runneth over”

Wednesday we talked about team work and goal setting. What are their individual goal and their community goal? This was also the day of the resource fair helping them to see what is available to them. They talked about community change projects. This is great for those delegates who come from rural communities where there is not a lot of accessibility and how they could go back and really make a change with all the new skills you are learning. That night we had an adaptive fitness night where we rented out the NC State gym and had some gym time speaking of adaptive sports or they could attend the financial talk.

Thursday we planned out a huge scavenger hunt in downtown Raleigh, looking for ten locations that were accessible that actually have really good accessibility features. Like the sound cue on the crosswalk or going to the Museum of Science and finding the ramps and the accessible restrooms. My disability is anxiety and it was very stressful for me. The entire group stuck together and they all learned something different, they all did a fabulous job all the leaders and mentors did a great job. We had our staff placed around downtown at these different points so Rene stood outside the Capital building holding a flag by the ramp. This was also the day we had our travel training so we all took the public bus from NC State to downtown Raleigh. They got to learn about accessible transportation, how to load and unload on the bus. We also had accessible vans. Thursday night we had our banquet, the delegates were able to get dressed up and then attend a dance led by a DJ. Everyone was on the dance floor including those who use mobility devices.

Friday is where we left our mark literally, in the expression tunnel at NC State where students can paint or tag the tunnel. They were able to leave their mark. That morning was their time to plan out their presentation. It gave them a chance to talk about their goals. We had a fire alarm in the middle of it that we were not planning giving us an impromptu lesson of emergency preparedness. It was a great learning experience for everyone else and stressful for Sierra and myself. It was amazing to see these young people speak to their parents about what their goals. What they learned throughout the week and what their community change projects were. Everyone packed up exchanged contact info and went home.

We had a quick staff debriefing, cleaned up and went home and slept all weekend.

Quote, “I learned that you shouldn’t just hope for change, you should make change and advocate for change”

Sierra Royster: That was our fun week. Now the money, that is what it takes to pull this off. Everything we do is free for the delegates they have no cost in this. We ask them to bring money if they want to buy souvenirs or go to the C store. This is the breakdown of the money. The SILC gives $20,000, The Alliance of Disability Advocates has to do a match which is $18, 527, and we got a grant through NC Council of Developmental Disabilities for $3,000 which paid for the speakers. We went a little over that and had to dip into other funds. The Raleigh Mayors Committee for Persons with Disabilities gave us $1,300 and we got other donations from Duke Energy which was a great surprise. Nellie had applied for this in February and we received a check in June. CVS, Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship does a monthly plate donation which we received after speaking there, First in Families, Centers for Independent Living supported a lot of different staff to come and help out and Vocational Rehabilitation really helped out and anonymous donors. The total was $54,085.02.

Quote, “The powers that be, state level, should attend Youth Leadership Forum meetings, participate as an observer to become familiar with all the components of this worthy function”

That is what we always hope for anybody on these two slides is to come to the presentations on Friday. You should see Monday as the parents walk off and we are detaching them and see the difference on Friday.

The Centers for Independent Living sent staff or representative attend though out the week, the professional peers etc. We had tons of volunteers of alumni. All the time together was $15,600 if we had to pay the staff and that is a low estimate. If we were to pay the volunteer it would be $7,980. Basically I did that at 60 and I can guarantee you I worked more than 60 hours, I drove home every night but didn’t get home until 2 am and was back at 8 am.

We got some really great donations, Chipotle and Whole Foods donated a lunch to us, and we used tons of Alliance of Disability Advocates supplies which were really key as we weren’t in a classroom with any electrical equipment to make sure it was all completely accessible. We also had shower chairs which this year was a big deal; we had to get certain types. Stalls medical let us borrow a lift and another wheel chair, two pieces of brand new expensive equipment. $5,008.44.

From 2010 to 2013, you will see in 2011- $40,054, 19 delegates, 40 staff, 3 speakers; 2012 - $41,212 20, 19 delegates, 46 staff and 5 speakers; 2013 - $70,000, 20 delegates 53 staff and 9 speakers; This past year we had 20 delegates, 59 staff and 10 speakers at about $82,000. I want you to see those numbers we only bumped up the staff a few this year. Out of the number of speakers we only paid three, the rest come on their own dime, in kind.

Quote, “I learned more about disability history than I thought there was in the world”

The satisfaction evaluations are what we do at the end of the week. The delegate surveys done at the end of the week. There is an overwhelming need for more personal care assistance. We went into NC State last year and told them they needed to modify the bathrooms and lobbies, which were done. With that, if we don’t have the personal care assistance needed to transfer and assist we are not being as accessible as we can. We need a full time medical staff; we had to go get nursing staff to come in for certain hours. We need more time for certain sessions. The entire campus is not accessible we always see that there could be more accessible. We do our best to make sure it is as accessible as possible. We talked about organizations get to present. We had groups of people standing around one table wanting more information like the assistive technology table. Better outline for staff so they are in certain areas and know their job and are included and see the fruits of their labor.

The DJ has adaptive equipment who is 16 but a big time DJ doing all kinds of events.

The kids were calm during the fire drill and the parents were stressing out. Parents learned. This all happened during a presentation when all the parents were there.

2014 we have 4 mentors from Pitt, Forsyth, Guilford and Wake Counties. Two of those got to go to the APRIL conference with different disabilities.

The Shabazz Center is involved this year. The Presenters subcommittee is considering having some of the Center’s youth groups come in and present. This will help them connect to local centers.

Having a full time nurse, we need someone there to oversee the personal care assistance. The lady from maxim care dropped in almost every day. We need someone there like at 11pm. Luckily some of our staff are trained and was able to help. If there is a crisis that would happen then we would have someone that could take control. We’ve gotten to that point of a safety issue. We learned that we should probably staff areas instead of people; a lot of alumni have come in. We are hoping to use more local people to bring down our cost.

We want to increase donations and sponsors. So sustaining the NC Youth Leadership Forum, I need your help; I am really appreciative of the $20,000 you give us. We use it quickly. The Youth Leadership Forum is based on the philosophy that no accommodation should be paid for because then it would be discriminating. Delegate should have no out of pocket expenses. This shows them that when you go to work you don’t have to pay for your accommodations, which schools are supposed to provide accommodations. I need your help to meet the level of care and circumstances we are facing. I negotiated with Maxim to pay a certain rate that is going up $3/hour per personal care assistant due to rise of the cost of living. With the cost of living adjustment NC State’s cost are going up. Please remember in 2010 you gave us a certain amount of money and it stayed the same for 3 year. You now have $20,000 for three years. The cost doesn’t stay at the same level. If we have to incur those costs then we would have to cut back on what we are doing. We are only serving 20 youth which is not a huge number for the whole state. Training cost, this year we didn’t have training in December. We usually only have two and they are only for half a day. We have to pay travel cost, etc. Unexpected events, we were supposed to go to the cafeteria to eat and because of weather we had to get pizza because it was the safest thing to do.

Reimbursements for travel, the planning committee staff travels and we just weren’t able to reimburse everyone. If we did it came out of Alliance’s pocket. We are asking for $20,000 at a minimum. After all the costs were evaluated, we actually raised $15,000 last year and that doesn’t include a nurse and the cost of living increase. I would like to ask the SILC could make a motion or take it back to a committee if we could have $25,000, which would just cover the bare minimums. That would take it to a bare minimum, we would have to still raise money but it makes it a little more attainable. We have grown this program to this level and we are not going past 20 delegates but in order to support all 20 delegates we need to have more funding to do that. Something that just happened yesterday, one of our co-chairs wants to get more deaf and hard of hearing people more involved. If we have more people involved we would need to have more interpreters involved and that would raise the cost.

Jennifer Overfield: How many applications do you get right now?

Sierra Royster: We got 36 last year, 35 or 36 so we had to turn away people.

Jennifer Overfield: Who pays for the airfare for the out of state people?

Sierra Royster: That comes out of the money from The Council of Developmental Disabilities, but it did not cover all the costs. We asked certain people to chip in paying some of the expenses such as those traveling from out of state Centers.

Jennifer Overfield: Would those coming from the Centers who have youth program have their expenses coming out of the Part B money.

Sierra Royster: That would depend on what their Center pays. I get time off to compensate but don’t get paid for all the hours worked. I don’t know if Gloria’s center has the money but hope it would work. We try to save the DD Council for the pricier speakers because the contract does require a nationally recognized speaker.

Rene Cummins: I wanted to add that the event starts on Monday for the delegates but it also has a staff training day on Sunday so all those support staff and Personal Care Attendant it is a Sunday through Friday event. This makes sure all runs like clockwork. So it is really a six day event.

Sierra Royster: Mercedes asked about the contract. You write in the State Plan, I don’t know how it gets turned into a contract but it happens. The contract we have states we have to have a nationally recognized speaker.

One of our speakers from Montana is pushing a delegate. Her mother did not leave until 6 pm on Monday, she was supposed to leave at 12, an overbearing parent, I couldn’t even go into detail at how shocked I was. This delegate is smiling and dancing for the first dance in her life, she was able to speak out and get involved and this picture just screams Youth Leadership Forum.

Quote, “ NCYLF is like what home base feels like, you think about when you play hide and seek you can go to home base and you are safe, you know you can get what you need, replenish your system and they go back out and not get tagged, that’s what YLF is”

Gloria Bellamy: You did a fantastic job as usual. The committee recognized that more resources are needed. A great deal of time was spent during the last teleconference discussing ways to get ideas in the incubator so that once we get the guidelines and regulations so that the SILC can fundraise we can be ready to hit the ground running. At the same time we would like you to submit these success stories to the web with the quotes. It might do well to help us market the Youth Leadership Forum and to the Statewide Independent Living Council members in the room they need ambassadors. They only got 36 applications from across the state. That should make us really roll up our sleeves and find funding from outside sources. The committee would like to give you some input on resource building and ways to get other funding for this year’s event though our hands are somewhat still tied. We are asking for the success stories and asking everyone in the room to become ambassadors for this cause. Getting resources and volunteers for this year’s event. To tap on to our committee time look on the website and join us. The committee will entertain those but since you have this in writing please make sure I get a copy and it will become part of the agenda of the next teleconference. That is not all of Goal 2 that was just one part.

Rene Cummins: it will only take me two minutes. As Gloria mentioned there are 3 activities under goal 2. The Youth Leadership Forum is the big spectacular event. Also being carried out by the centers is the Independent living skills training and disability history and awareness. At this point of time at the end of the first quarter. We have spent 29% of that funding which is $250 for each activity for each center. We are about right where we should be with just a little bit ahead but on target for finishing out that goal.

Gloria Bellamy: Rene, we thank you and look forward to a link you are going to send us. There are a number of YouTube videos available that perhaps the committee could use and maybe link to our website. I like the Community Change project, maybe that is something all the SILC members would consider doing. We have events coming up so we have time to put clothes on ideas that may or may not cost us a lot of money, but we could do this as a council so that all the weight doesn’t shift to the centers whose resources are already sketchy. So let’s give some thought to it and I welcome you to our next teleconference.

Keith Greenarch: Sierra, taking your request into consideration I have talked to Ping, our Finance chair and they are going to take that to committee and last year there was monies that came from savings in the SILC office we will see if we can come up with all or part of that for YLF.

Jennifer Overfield: I know that we have taken a lot of time but I think this is important, youth is important. I think we could consider $5,000, I know that this is our future. I know that being at the Youth Leadership Forum myself as a group leader in 2012 that Sierra and the center has put in a lot of going to Costco and really do try to limit the cost. I would like to consider this.

Keith Greenarch: Duly noted, this will go through the finance committee and go through the budget. We can’t do that today but this will be considered in committee.

I just want to say that we talk about success stories and the youth is our leaders of tomorrow and this is an important movement in today’s society. Moving forward there are just more folks that will have disabilities. We need to have a good force left to carry the torch.

I like to tell positive stories. In our Center we had a consumer that went to the YLF and we did a story on her in our fall newsletter. That is archived on our website so you can go see her experience at YLF. She did also go to Albuquerque to APRIL conference, her experience there is in our winter newsletter. I want to add one more thing. She has now enrolled at Forsyth Technical Community College. My wife was fortunate enough to have this young lady in her class. She has blossomed into an outstanding student and I understand now she is enrolled fulltime and my wife has her again in another class. Kudos, I don’t know if this young lady would’ve done all she did if she hadn’t gotten the mentoring at YLF. I think that put the drive in her and from what I understand she is an awesome student. That is just one really good story. We need to put that on the website. Our center did put that in our newsletter. If you get the chance pull it up and read it. Prior to Youth Leadership Forum she had never left home.

Sandy Ogburn: Sierra and Nellie, I’ve heard you talk about this numerous times. I’ve had this happen to me and want to bring it to the whole group. What do you do when you approach that helicopter parent about Youth Leadership Forum and they shut you down?

Rene Cummins: There are a number of backups and Sierra has always known that she can call on me and I put on my Dr. of Phycology hat and I go speak to the parents. This year it was really unusual. We don’t usually have this many helicopter parents. Helicopter parent hovers even though the delegate has expressed the desire and motivation to be a part of this event and the parent won’t leave. We are revamping this so there is a nice even break so the delegate can start right away into the curriculum. We are looking for a new strategy to address this.

What you are saying about when they want to apply. Sierra talks to a lot of the families and a lot of these parents and she spends an inordinate amount of time talking and reassuring and all the accommodations and staff and that all will be in place for the delegate. Given a chance the blossoming of a young person can happen.

Sierra Royster: When someone is interested in applying and the parent says no, please have them call me. Helicopter parents are sometimes a disability for the young person. We make all kinds of accommodations for the parents as well. There are tons of ways I’ve make accommodations for the parents. I was on the phone with people on Tuesday to convince them to not come and get their child.

Keith Greenarch: I was reminded, we’ve talked about this before, and last year we were advised by Ping, that the SILC would receive a $2,000 donation from Duke Power. The donation has been received. Thank you.

## Goal 3 Kimlyn Lambert, chair

Growth and Improvement

## Part B Center Update Helen Pase

Helen Pase, the Director of our Part B Center is not here with us today.

Rene Cummins IS giving the report for Helen, DARC, Disability Advocates and Resource Center in Greenville, NC. We continue to attend expos, make presentations in the community and getting the word out about the center as much as possible. They now have a youth coordinator doing disability awareness presentations to 360, second grade students in one school in Pitt County. They have been able to connect the Youth coordinator to other schools. They are hoping to do this same presentation in Beaufort and Wilson counties as well. The youth group that the Coordinator has started at the center has 18 participants. They recently adopted an angel tree child and were responsible for providing holiday gifts for a 2 year old girl.

DARC still has ongoing problems of reimbursements being received in a timely manner. At this writing, which was Wednesday, January 8, the November invoice is still outstanding. We are in the process of submitting the December invoice. For a Part B center, it is really difficult to operate with two months of expenses outstanding. As a whole in their budget for the first quarter, they have spent approx. 19% of their budget, a little bit under their budget. This is understandable because of periodical expenses that hit in certain parts of the calendar year. The one problem is the amount of time spent waiting for reimbursements.

Gloria Garton from the Wilmington Center, disAbility Resource Center, read by Debbie Hippler

North Carolina Network of Centers for Independent Living submitted January 9, 2015 quarterly SILC meeting report.

The following report details the NC SPIL activities performed by the Centers for Independent Living

Goal 1 – provision of quality independent living services. The CIL directors gathered in Greenville in October for a planning and training retreat. All CIL directors were present with Benita representing the Shabazz Center. Additionally the SE Center Directors Association held their first gathering in several years in Atlanta, Georgia. The two day retreat provided opportunities for center directors and staff to gather for networking, and staff developing and general information sharing.

Goal 2 - leadership and empowerment of People with Disabilities

disAbility Resource Center is currently providing an 8 week curriculum on disability disclosure and self-advocacy in 3 out of 4 high schools in New Hanover County. The youth transition coordinator is presently in five classrooms each week presenting to students with disabilities. In October disAbility Resource Center participated in New Hanover counties first ever parent forum to help specifically for parents with students receiving services in either the gifted or special education program. This forum provided parents opportunities to share what they like, dislike and desire in terms of service being provided.

Alliance of Disability Advocates also continues to provide classes for local students. Plans are underway for the upcoming Youth Leadership Forum.

Goal 3 – growth and improvement of Independent Living services. As of November 30, the NC Centers have spent $99,647.73 out of $568,902. A detailed spread sheet was included with the email to the SILC members on January 7, from Will Miller to the members. Also we wanted it be noted that the NC Network did in deed spend all but $14.98 of the Part B funds in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. At the time of the last meeting in Greenville the amount was reported incorrectly due to missing information. The corrected spread sheet was attached to the email dated January 7 from Will Miller

Goal 5 – promote community based living, transitions into the community

disAbility Resource Center provided transition assistance to 6 individuals.

The Shabazz Center had completed 1 transition but the funds did not come from Part B funds.

## Lunch break: 11:55 - 1:00pm

## Goal 4 Oshana Watkins, chair

Support the operations of the SILC office

Kay chaired the last meeting because I could not attend.

Our goal is to support the SILC office; during the meetings we go over our activities. In November we looked at the Part B funds spent the two months prior to support the non-profit office. We reviewed the P&E report. Keith you stole my thunder because I was going to report on the $2,000 donation from Duke Energy. Ping, thank you so much.

Another one of our activities is the SILC identifies and reports annually on best practices of SILCs from other states. I believe we are having four board members go to SILC Congress next week, hoping to network and learn from other SILCs across the nation. I’m happy to hear Will report that Kathleen did a report compiling information on other SILCs; we will review this on our next call. We toured the Disability Rights and Resources in Greenville last meeting and I hope we have more activity going to other centers.

We hold the quarterly meeting and disseminate information and the website has a lot of information including minutes and the meeting times for all goal committees. This is provided in Will’s quarterly report.

We talked about our Facebook page and updating this.

Debbie Hippler: There were two Facebook pages. Information is now being placed on both.

Will Miller: We took the feedback from Goal 4 and updated the page with more current information. I created a Facebook account for work and have been using that and posting on it. If anyone here is on Facebook and would like to be my friend or LIKE the SILC Facebook page, please do so. We are trying to reenergize our Facebook presence.

Ping Miller: Do we have an account on Linked In which is the professional network?

Will Miller: No but we have talked about that.

Oshana Watkins: Please send out the link to this Facebook page to the council.

We included in our meeting, SILC staff attending various conference and meetings as well as the number of hits on our website.

Activity with sufficient funds - the SILC implements an IL Summit which did take place in 2014.

The NC SILC maintains representation of Youth with disabilities which has been done, 2 – 2014; 3-2015.

The SILC implements recruitment and member procedures. We talked about the Governor wanting us to reach out and recruit veterans.

The membership committee identifies and recommends potential SILC nominees. We provide orientation and training t o new members and assign mentors. This happened yesterday.

We are moving right along on Goal 4.

Keith Greenarch: Are there any questions on Goal 4?

## Goal 5 Kay Miley, chair

Rene Cummins will be reporting for Kay.

Among the Centers using Part B funds, there have been 8 transitions in the first quarter and we have spend right at 25% so we are right on schedule time wise. Those 8 transitions average $777.50 per transition. I know in the past I’ve contrasted that with the up to $3,000 per transition under Money Follows the Person. I do want to note that 6 of those 8 transitions came from disAbilty Resource Center in Wilmington and they have spent their entire $3,500 so they are now out of transition funds. There is a lot of activity in that area. Remember we didn’t have funding in year 1, so I know that a lot of the centers are just starting the outreach to institutions to find consumers who would like to return to independent living. I think these numbers are pretty outstanding.

Keith Greenarch: Thank you Rene.

## Goal 6 vacant, chair

The Designated State Unit provides independent living services. We do not have a chair for that. Teresa volunteered today.

Keith Greenarch: Are there any questions on the six SPIL goals?

Teresa Staley: Could you please tell me who is on the Goal 6 committee?

Will Miller: The members are listed on the website.

Next: Kelly Freelander has come to us today to seek the SILC’s endorsement of a report from the Medicaid reform stakeholder engagement group. Teresa Staley has served on this committee. The Committee has a report to present to the Council.

## North Carolina Stakeholder Engagement Group

Kelly Freelander: I’m so excited to be here. I am the local facilitator for the NC Stakeholder Engagement Group. This is a group of cross disability self advocates and family members who have gotten together since last year to figure out what they need and want from a state system, come up with some common goals and some common expectations and work to advocate for these especially as long session starts next week.

NCSEG – Teresa served on the SEG at the beginning for a six week period, she was part of the drafting of the report placed at your chairs.

NCSEG is funded by the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities. It is funded on the philosophy that a small group of individuals can really make a difference.

What we saw was, as the state was rapidly changing, as policy was rapidly being built and implemented, we saw a lack of true meaningful engagement of stakeholders and family members. Sometimes you would go to governmental meetings and see someone sitting at the table who really didn’t know what was going on and it wasn’t really their fault. They were just thrown into this system and expected to understand Medicaid, regulations, quality assurance, LMEO system. The goal of this initiative is to develop a cross disability group that we could educate and inform and get their true meaningful feedback to develop the report and have engaged and informed individuals that can help the state as they move forward.

As I said, this is an organization and currently the only one that solely consist of consumers and families. The group that makes the decision is solely consumers and family members with cross disabilities, intellectual developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health disabilities, addictive disease, caregivers and people who have disabilities because of aging.

We are really informed by standards and expectations for Medicaid and Medicare services. This is one time that the Federal Government is getting it right. They are requiring states to actively engage stakeholders. They are rejecting stuff from states being submitted because of superficial engagement; saying you didn’t give enough time and notice.

We are there to help educate the stakeholders and helping the state get their stuff passed.

We went to a lot of ally organizations and looked for people who are interested in, a. policy, b. emerging leaders and c. diversity, representing our state socioeconomically, location and racially. To develop feedback that we could give the state regarding managed care and to also be sure that the membership that was being trained would go out and educate others and create a grass roots organization.

We are more focused on what the consumers want from the system not so much on how they get it. If you look at the report in front of you there are 5 outcomes. They wanted no waiting list, they wanted to receive services when necessary as soon as necessary, they wanted integrated employment being able to work in the community for a fair wage, they want the ability to develop assets. There was a lot of frustration around the fact that they are almost penalized for getting a job because if they go over a certain threshold they would lose benefits. They wanted inclusive working opportunities not to be segregated, working in their own community around family and friends and live lives of their own choosing and they wanted an accountable system. They really wanted to be engaged, active. They were highly motivated and still couldn’t get the information they needed. We don’t even know what accountabilities are set up for the state. There are none being communicated to consumers or families. They want to make sure that the correct safeguards are in place to make sure that the programs provided are best practice, really benefit individuals and families and are accountable to the taxpayers.

We actually have a lot of large successes since we started. The report was finished last spring just in time for the Medicaid advisory reform panel. We had two members present to the Medicaid reform advisory panel. We were fortunate enough that their presentations were really great. It was downtown Raleigh. It was interesting because there were a bunch of doctors, lobbyist, policy makers but very few actual individuals or family members who were affected directly by the services. We have an individual with a physical disability; he went to this governmental meeting and couldn’t get on stage because it wasn’t accessible. They were referring to individuals with numbers so it was like Matt you are number 47. So they called 47 to come on up. He gave this amazing speech, if you are just looking for inspiration from a local advocate, he gave this rousing speech where he basically said, to some people this is income, to some this is going to be the basis of their business, to me this is my life. This is whether I get to work at the university, this is whether I get a sense of independence and I can have friends and family, this is whether I actually get to choose how I want to live. I am not number 47, I am Matt Potter and you need to remember that.

His comments were quoted quite a few times in the local papers and policy blogs and he got mentioned in a more formal way. That Medicaid advisory panel put together a legislative report and in that report, it was stated that any policy that was brought up for consideration during the long session should be help up against our outcomes and expectations as a scorecard. So the NCSEG as we go into the long session, as policy is presented, we are going to create a scorecard based on the outcomes and expectations in that report, and ask staffers to rate their own policies. We are then going to give them feedback, to make them think a little outside the box.

Right now is a frustrating time for advocates and a lot of people, but it is also a time of opportunity. We have a lot of different stuff going on that really allows us to make change from the very beginning. We have these home community based pools which Department of Health and Human Services has to submit to CNS by March. We have the innovation waiver right now which is having a work group and are looking at redoing the waivers for that. We have these gigantic policy changes and opportunities before us. We really feel that if NCSEG can get the outcomes and expectations as part of the conversation and consideration during the building of these new policies, it will be better for everyone in the long run.

Part of what we are doing is legislative advocacy and to really build the clout of the outcomes and expectations. The NCSEG is asking like minded organizations to endorse our report. An endorsement would basically be a vote of the council stating that they have read the outcomes and expectations and that they are in aligns with the Independent living philosophy. We are using that to show how cross disability and how universal these outcomes and expectations are. We want to be sure we have as much power behind our document before we present. Some of the endorsements we have received are from Disability Rights NC, Developmental Disability Council, Substantive Disorder Federation, The DD Consortium and many others are being presented.

That is why I came today to inform and to hopefully get your endorsement. We have a website that has all our materials on it. If you want to be a stakeholder on your own, it’s [www.ncseg.com](http://www.ncseg.com). We also have a mailing list, we send out 2 or 3 emails a month. If you are interested you can sign up for our mailing list or like us on Facebook. We are also looking for representatives from your organization for membership. Teresa did an amazing job during the creation of the document. We are looking for possible new members as we move forward, if you are interested or if you know of someone who would be a good candidate for membership you can email at [info@ncseg.com](mailto:info@ncseg.com). It’s on the report you have and that email will come to me and I will touch base. We wanted to be sure we didn’t have socioeconomic barriers and thanks to the DD Council there are stipends for participation. We will get rocking and rolling as soon as session starts next week.

Are there any questions or comments?

Steve Strom: Kelly, if we have time could we take a look at the website and see those five big outcomes so that if this body wants to endorse it they can see them.

The outcomes and expectations were displayed on the website.

Steve Strom: Did the stakeholder group take a position on privatizing or keeping the system public?

Kelly: They did not take a position because they didn’t want to get bogged down in how we get things accomplished but more in the outcomes. They had talked about it. They did not take a position. It limits the ability to pivot and to stay in the conversation. By focusing on the outcomes it keeps us in the game for the long run.

Gloria Bellamy: Where do you meet and how often? This is in case we know someone we want to recommend,

Kelly Freelander: We meet once a month in Raleigh but we do help with transportation and accommodations. We will meet once a month during the legislative session and will probably break for a month or two during the summer. We will start up again in the fall. The initiative is funded through October.

Steve Strom: What is the expectation of someone who joins the group?

Kelly Freelander: We have such a diverse group, we just want you to come and we will train you and really want you to utilize your training. If you are recommended for membership the first thing is a phone interview with me. Then it goes to the co chairs of the group. After that you would be coming to meetings. We ask that you are engaged when you come and you will be given homework for in between meetings. Right now the group was asked to go out and get endorsements and also to give information to their own community.

Thank you all for your time. I can be contacted at ncseg.com. I hope you will consider us for endorsement.

**Action:** Jennifer Overfield made a motion to endorse, Gloria Bellamy seconded. Full council voted to endorse the NCSEG outcomes and expectations.

Keith Greenarch: We will send this to the SILC office to write the endorsement.

Kelly Freelander: Thank you. I can take a copy of your minutes that state a vote was taken. That works perfect.

# Designated State Unit Reports:

## Vocational Rehabilitation Independent Living Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke

I know we have reached the afternoon slump after lunch and will make this as short as possible. Hopefully you received the signed report that was sent to the SILC office. I will take questions but not repeat the information. I want to say that first we were able to complete the 704 report, an annual report required by the Rehabilitation Services Administration. That report includes Part B services performance and how money was spent as well as the money spent by VRIL at the state level. Deidre Dockery worked on this as well as did Helen Pace sharing her data. The deadline was December 31 of this year. If you read the report, be aware of something that changed, that is the signature. When we entered the report into the RSA system I thought Keith would sign it but Kay actually signed it. For the first time when we entered the data we got notation that on December 26, four days earlier, and something in the system changed requiring the Secretary of Health and Human Services signature. We had to move some mountains to get that and it was done 2 days ago. You will see that her signature replaced the Director of Vocational Rehabilitation but the electronic copy has Eddie Weaver and Kay Miley. You will see two different versions. We need to be sure to watch for next year and hope they give us the courtesy of letting us know earlier. Most people enter the data before Christmas but we waited. We believe the information to be accurate.

As you know Erin is our housing specialist and is now leaving us. She and her husband have moved back to the Asheville area and she has gotten a new job. We are happy for Erin and I’ve heard, unlike Mark’s position, this will be posted. If you know of anyone interested, tell them to pay attention to the state website. That position includes the supervision of five people in the field and also the point person for two contracts with CILs. We are fortunate to be able to fill that position when freezes are still in place.

It is time to have RFA for the next cycle of The Youth Leadership Forum. This contract expires September 30, 2015. The new recipient starts on October 1, 2015. Deidre and I will get together and post this within the coming months. The Youth Leadership Forum will continue. We have to be open to the public and hope that Alliance of Disability Advocates will submit a proposal.

I want to give an update regarding Money Follows the Person, as we report on a year basis from January to December. At our transitions meeting the five coordinators and the two CILs are targeted this year a goal of 53 transitions. This is a lot of work and a hard target to meet but we made it with 57 transitions. The new target for this year is 60 so we are raising the bar and will be able to meet that and meet it well with the additional staff.

For those who were able to attend the conference in Greenville, Philip Woodward can mail you the video tape of people with disabilities featuring the technology they use. Shoot me an email and we will be sure to get the video to you.

## Division of Services for the Blind Deidre Dockery

We were able to have our annual training and were fortunate to have Will and Keith to come present at that. We were also able to have a presentation from Department of Transportation that correlated with what we are doing with Goal 6. We were able to get resources.

I have the numbers that have already been submitted. We are still involved with one case with Money Follows the Person and we are excited, we are almost to the point of transitioning this person out. He is completing all the trainings necessary to maintain medication and cooking all those things necessary. We participate even more in the prevention of institutionalization.

In terms of our mini centers, we still have two vacancies, one in Wilmington and one in Greenville. We were able to have 78 individuals participate in six mini centers. We are transitioning very well with the new case mange system BEAM. The transition is becoming smoother and smoother every day. I am very happy to have been able to extrapolate the information needed for my report.

# Discussion on Ex Officio Reports

## Disability Rights NC Vicki Smith, Director

Report given by Mercedes Restucha-Klem

You received a copy of our litigation report sent out last week. I can answer any questions regarding those. I think the most important one to point out is the notice on our website of the proposed settlement of Casey vs. Cansler, LS settlement ultimately this was a class action challenging the implementation of the support needs matrix and the funding processes for funding through the innovations waiver and the notice and appeals rights that are given when changes are made to the amount of money the individual is given in the waiver. The judge is reviewing the terms of the settlement so it’s not finalized but notice has been given and we encourage people to visit our website and review this notice so they can understand the changes.

We are having our listening sessions across the state. We are looking for input for the future of our focus when it comes to the topic of civil rights.

Are there any questions? I could go through each of the updated litigations but it’s all on the report.

Keith Greenarch: I have a question in regards to the innovation waiver. You said it is waiting for a judge’s ruling.

Mercedes Restucha-Klem: Yes it’s called a fairness hearing. It is scheduled for sometime in March.

Keith Greenarch: Do you forecast the outcome as far as the impact it will have on the innovation waiver consumers?

Mercedes Restucha-Klem: I don’t think that it’s going to , I think the terms out laid here, what is more at issue is the notice; who is going to be providing the notice to the class members. Ultimately we need to be sure we spread the word so everyone on the innovation waiver is aware there is settlement terms in place and they have the right to appeal any changes whatsoever to their budget. So no, I don’t know. We just all need to be aware and help all consumers know that it is required that they be given notice when changes are being made and what they are allowed to ask for. We are working so encouragement is given to ask for what a consumer needs not discourage.

## NC Developmental Disability Council Steve Strom

I provided a short update. I wanted to go over the initiatives that go along with the NCSIL’s work. The council just awarded a contract with Division of Adults and Aging Services on guardianship to look at alternatives to less restrictive options. That began January 1. There will be a continuation of what the Division of Aging was required to do by the general assembly, to put together an ad hoc committee to make recommendations. Many of these people wanted to continue the work and now with this grant they can continue the work.

There will be more work with the Clerk of Courts also taking a look at data collection for individuals with public guardianship as well as those who have private guardianship to provide more oversight, talking to advocates as well as clerk of courts about alternatives and taking a look at the model WINGS, Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders that other states have implemented. This is to have everyone involved in a guardianship decision to come together and have the decision that there are other alternatives. We want North Carolina to eventually go to that model. There will be many partners involved in that. AARP is weighting in on some pieces as well. It’s a very diverse group.

Disability Rights is also holding one of our grants related to adult care home transitions. When you have individuals living in adult care homes with intellectual developmental disabilities, it is not good placement. The Department of Justice has mandated the state get individuals with mental health issues out of adult homes and has to spend $39,000,000 to do that. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities were not included in that settlement but many of the services required to have an individual with mental health issues transition out would be very similar to someone with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They have already identified more than what the initiative required to do. This is to transition a group out and give us a blue print to see what would be involved. This is only the second year but the interest has been tremendous.

Kelly talked about the Stakeholder Engagement Group. One of the other things we are hosting a grant for is medical health. When you have coordination of all those providing services, when you talk about medical coordination for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, it’s very important to have a model. There is one called Care Homes. We have awarded Easter Seals a grant to develop a medical care home for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It’s really about supports, medically and coordination of all services needed. Easter seals will make recommendations to the general assembly.

We are always trying to take a look at leadership development across the state. We now have two leadership programs that we are accepting applications for, we have contracts with both. One is for self advocates and parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, called Partners in Policy Making. If you go to the Developmental Disabilities Council’s website there are applications there. There are no costs to the participants. It’s a national model teaching how to be a good advocate, teaching very effective ways to advocate. If you are a professional in the field we have a program called Advancing Strong Leaders, a model based of the University of Delaware and we will be accepting applications for this as well.

In 2015 the Americans with Disabilities Act will celebrate the 25th anniversary. There is a Legacy Tour Bus which will be here in celebration. Several cities have paid to have it stop in town. We are currently looking at May 2 – 4 in Greensboro with UNCG and Elon sponsoring. In Raleigh, our communication contractor, O’Neil Communications has scheduled it tentatively around May 5 and 6. We are trying to coordinate with the Collation Day of Advocacy hoping it will be around the same time. All the same advocates that are there for Advocacy Day would be icing on the cake to have the Legacy Tour Bus there at the same time. It will then be in Charlotte on May 7th and 8th. We will send out more information when dates and activities are firmed up. We would love to have participation from the Statewide Independent Living Council.

We would love to have you join us for our Council meeting. We meet quarterly as well. Our next meeting is February 12th and 13th at the North Raleigh Hilton off of Wake Forest Road. That concludes my report.

Keith Greenarch: Thank you Steve. I understand that Partners in Policy Making, that the deadline is coming up.

Steve Strom: Yes the deadline is the end of this month.

Mark Steele: Are you getting applications?

Steve Strom: Yes, we are, the applications go to our contractor in Charlotte who handles the program. We do see the occasional call to our office.

Keith Greenarch: We received an email that applications were behind.

Steve Strom: It’s always difficult around Christmas, when we get approval and put it out there. If you do have additional folks let us know. They will learn more about advocacy because of speeches and letter writing, helping them to be better to serve in an advocacy role later.

## Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Stephanie Johnson, Director

I want to apologize that you just got your report today. One of the first topics in my report has to do with something that just came out yesterday. Jan Withers our Director sent an email out to stakeholders regarding the General Assembly directing their program evaluation division to evaluate different occupational licensing boards and report any that they felt needed to be reviewed and possibly done away with. One of those boards of the twelve that were brought back is the NC Interpreter and Transliterator licensing board which has a huge impact on quality assurance of sign language interpreters in the state. Jan had sent out this email and I just did the excerpt of the email. There were two attachments, you have one in the packet or there are some on the podium with the handouts as well as being available through the SILC office. One is a copy of a response due to the General Assembly by January 2. A copy of the response from the board has been provided with the handout. The other attachment was 45 pages long. I didn’t copy that but if you are interested, it outlined what this program evaluation used to make their recommendations in regards to these twelve licensing boards. There is a committee with the general assembly that will be reviewing this report. If you are interested I have the link to the website and you can contact your representative if you would like to share your concerns with them. This is something that would be a concern to all who are interested in the disability community

The second item has to do with the National Deaf Blind Distribution program. I’ve reported about this each meeting as an update. We have been functioning under the understanding that this is a grant from the FCC which is renewal up to 3 years. We’ve come to understand that it wasn’t a grant but more of a study of the need for the equipment for the deaf blind and whether it can continue as a permanent program. They have not to date come up with permanent rules, or how to apply and be a part of this program. We are in the 3rd year, during this time 190 people have been served. They have been assessed for their communication equipment needs; they are all at different levels in this process. Equipment has been purchased based on their assessment and needs and training provided. We have several referrals that we are not able to get to at this point because we have to be sure we have the money to provide the equipment and training for those who have already been assessed. At this point we are holding some on a waiting list. We will see about the permanent rules from the FCC. One of the biggest challenges recognized in the two and half years we’ve been doing this is that the FCC is very clear that we are able to assess and purchase and provide training on the equipment, but what we have found is that the FCC is adamant that we are not to provide basic computer skills training. So a lot of the equipment that people need is computers but they don’t have the basic skills to use for their basic access. This is the greatest challenge. We have had to work with Services for the Blind to figure you how these people can get the basic computer skills to be able then get training on the communication access equipment. That has been eye opening as one of the major challenges.

The third area is that for some time now the Division has been in partnership with NC Emergency Management and NC Department of Public Safety to make the information available on readync.gov. This is to make sure that it’s accessible for the deaf and hard of hearing. I think it’s pretty much accessible because it’s captioned. We have been working to create video productions for the different emergency information on that website. We had to prioritize because there is so much information on this website, determining what is most pertinent. We have completed 4 productions which will soon be placed on the website. We are continuing that partnership and will translate and put ASL with other videos for that website.

The Division of Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing has been working in a recent collaboration with Department of Insurance. In 2010 there was a law passed that provides hearing aids for children up to age 22 through private insurance but the catch is, that self funded insurance companies where children who are dependents would be eligible for both ears. This has been where Department of Insurance has been getting a lot of calls because insurance companies won’t provide. There are also other kinds of questions because you have insurance companies that are not self funded where there are some regulations under this law that pertain to them. If they are in state there are loopholes. An opportunity has presented itself for our staff to partner with Department of Insurance staff to work together to get cross trained to make customer service more effective when it comes to working with these individuals who have been denied or are being told they don’t qualify. This is just in the beginning stages.

Many of you don’t have it in my report but the last thing is about support service provider training in Raleigh, provided by Ashley Benton the Deaf Blind Specialist in the eastern part of NC particularly in the Raleigh Regional Center and Marilyn Trader from the Helen Keller National Center, the SE representative, they will be providing this training limited to fifty participants because of the activities being done. This is in preparation for the NC Deaf Blind Associates Conference to be sure there are trained individuals to provide support for the conference. I just wanted to share that as an opportunity for anyone interested.

Keith Greenarch: Are there any questions for Stephanie. I would like to invite you to call upon your Centers for Independent Living Centers. That is something that we provide.

## North Carolina Assistance Program John Marens, Director

My report went out.

We have completed our annual report just as other agencies have to do to Rehabilitation Services Administration, the federal agency that oversees all the public rehabilitation programs. My program was also created by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and we also do an annual report. We also do a report to the state. That is what was sent out to everyone. I want to mention a couple of things. Looking at the folks we worked with this year, we opened 117 cases this year. It’s a little bit arbitrary in the sense that if we normally can’t resolve something quickly over the phone or we spend more than a couple hours on the phone or we have to do consultation with the agency involved and see that case through resolution, then we open a case. So you will see we had a little fewer than 1,500 contacts, people who contact us. We never count anyone twice. Most of our phone calls are related to issues or concerns of people. It’s rare that we talk to anyone just once. We usually do 2, 3 or 4 phone calls unless we are just finding a resource for the individual. I would also point out that like the other agencies do we do a consumer satisfaction survey. In terms of the issues that came before us, with we were able to resolve 81% of those cases in favor of the consumer. Our consumer evaluation showed 91% were very satisfied or satisfied with CAP services. If you look at the rest of the report you will see some of the major issues across the state with different programs. If you look at Vocational Rehabilitation over the past year the three top issues were training, communication issues such as no response or messages aren’t being returned and implementation, like I’ve had a case for 5 months and I don’t know what to do or there are conflicts or disagreements over plans.

In terms of Independent Living, you will see that the report shows the major issue recurring is in regards to vehicle and residence modification, the majority about vehicles. This is a systemic issue because in July of 2013 the policy was changed from regulations that allowed assistance in purchasing a vehicle for people with disabilities for modification. Prior to that for many years it was that they would be assisted up to 50% of the cost of the chassis when an individual needed a vehicle for modification. A decision was made in an arbitrary manner by the new administration, for nothing more than economic reasons, for this assistance to stop. There were a number of cases that had to go to appeal in order to resolve where an individual had that service on their plan but was told that it was no longer going to be provided. Most of those cases came to resolution in favor of the consumer. The issue now is that the policy still stands and does not appear to allow for exceptions. This is totally in violation of federal regulations. It is also in violations of federal regulations to say that a Vocational Rehabilitation agency will not provide a service based solely on the cost of that service that is written into the Rehabilitation Act. This is not just a North Carolina problem; it is happened across the country. There are many states that will not pay any money for vehicle purchase. I have been in contact with Rehabilitation Services Administration and also other Client Assistance Program directors across the country. We are trying to put our heads together to figure out a way to tackle this issue in the states that will not provide this service. What we will probably need is a Rehabilitation Services Administration policy directive, but right now Rehabilitation Services Administration is totally consumed with writing the regulations of the new WIOA law which is the reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act. They are putting pretty much every second into that and won’t have time to address this issue.

The other thing that may be coming down the road is that a lot of talk has been going on at CAPs across the country about the advancement of employment. This has been a bug a boo for Vocational Rehabilitation agencies and consumers for a long time. The problem is this, the way the regulations are written it states that the Rehabilitation Act exists to maximize their employment. I included in my report to the state “Points to Ponder” that the problem that exists for the Vocational Rehabilitation agencies we look at is the eligibility for coming to Vocational Rehabilitation as it stands is in contradiction to the advancement of employment mandate because if you are employed when you come to Vocational Rehabilitation, you are likely to hear you are not eligible. I think with the new WIOA regulations there is a lot more emphasis and we may be able to see some movement in this area. If someone becomes employed below their abilities and skills they have the right to come back to Vocational Rehabilitation and say I’m ready to do more and they should be eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services to advance in employment because they haven’t maximized their opportunities.

That is the conclusion of my report. Please feel free to ask any questions. I also have available, copies in large print. I also have one in Braille.

Rene Cummins: Just to comment, I’m very gratified to hear what you said about advancement in employment. I’m an ADA trainer out of Atlanta and have always thought that this was a violation of the ADA because under Title 1 of the ADA you are supposed to be covered for every phase of the employment process including advertising jobs, hiring advancement and employment. I’m thrilled to hear what you’ve said.

John Marens: Just to let you know Rene, in terms of what was written in that report, basically this came out of a problem of the definition of suitable employment. Suitable employment at one point in time was identified as any entry level work. A lot of people went on that definition. In 1992 the standards were revised and it basically said that entry level is the only appropriate goal if that is the only level the individual is capable of.

## State Rehabilitation Council Will Miller, Ex. Director

**State Rehabilitation Council of the Blind**

The SILC, under the Rehabilitation Act is required to have a representative on two councils. That is actually changed under the WIOA. We were required to have representative on the State Rehabilitation Council and State Rehabilitation Council of the Blind. I have been sitting on the State Rehabilitation Council to represent the SILC and then was recently appointed by the Governor to the State Rehabilitation Council of the Blind. I mentioned earlier in my Executive Director’s report, the Governor’s office of Boards and Commissions asked that we submit a member to be appointed as a member to the State Rehabilitation Council. No one has stepped forward but John Marens was generous enough as he sits on this council currently, is willing to report on the business of State Rehabilitation Council when here. I will take that under advisement with Kay. I was not able to attend the last State Rehabilitation Council meeting due to a sudden death in the family. We have heard from Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke earlier and I think the information shared is duplicative Vocational Rehabilitation.

The night before that meeting was the meeting of State Rehabilitation Council of the Blind, which I was able to attend. It was my first time there after my appointment. I wanted to learn by sitting and listening. These councils are a lot like this one. They meet quarterly and discuss the business of the agency. It takes a while to get a full understanding of how the agency works and how the meetings work. It was a good meeting and I got to meet the folks there. John Marens and Ping Miller sit on both of these councils.

One big item that the State Rehabilitation Council of the Blind had to discuss is the upcoming state plan and I was fortunate enough to be appointed as Chair of the State Plan Writing committee. I will keep this council updated because it’s certainly relevant to the SILC. Vocational Rehabilitation has their state plan and Division of Services for the Blind also has their state plan and they are all required to develop a state plan under Rehabilitation Act. It is interesting to find out that the Division of Services for the Blind after this next state plan will be a part of a joint state plan that includes all of Department of Health and Human Services. Am I correct John?

John Marens: I think it is the Department of Labor. It will include Vocational Rehabilitation, Division of Services for the Blind and all the Department of Labor, a number of organizations will be included. The intent is wonderful because instead of having all these piece meal state plans to help people get employed the intent was let’s bring them all together so there is a concerted, consistent, coordinated effort. Now getting there is going to be the fun part. The idea is a good idea let’s see how it plays out.

Will Miller: This will be the Division of Services for the Blind’s last individualized state plan. The concern expressed by a smaller state agency was, will we have a voice at the table? This will be a challenge going forward. The Division of Services for the Blind also submitted their annual report. I have a copy of that if anyone is interested in viewing this, I would be happy to share it with you. I will continue to attend the Council for the Blind meetings and will report back to the SILC.

Keith Greenarch: Thank you Will. I appreciate you sitting on these two councils. Before we wrap up, Will has spoken to the hotel manager still trying to work out the meeting for April. They have proposed the week before, trying to work around this group coming in. Would April 9 and 10 work? Please look at your calendar and see if that would work, then we could make the change with the hotel.

Steve Strom: When were the Center Directors going to be in Atlanta?

Keith Greenarch: April 23 and 24. Ok, the dates of April 9 and 10 look to be agreeable. I’ll entertain a motion to change the dates from April 16 and 17 to April 9 and 10.

**Action: (**Oshana Watkins, Ricky Alewine) unanimous vote.

Keith Greenarch: I am passing around applications for Youth Leadership Forum. I challenge you to take them home and put them in the hands of youth with disabilities and tell them about Youth Leadership Forum.

## Old Business: none

## New Business:

Rene Cummins: we have started the public information sessions because we are in year 2 and are preparing for year 3 when we will be writing the next State Plan for Independent Living. Mark and I are working on setting up the next information gathering session. It will probably be in the Winston Salem area. We are going to set this up for February or March so for more information to be provided.

Will miller: The SILC can provide travel expenses for these sessions, but we need to know what to expect so we can forecast that in the budget.

## Announcement:

## Keith Greenarch: Debbie put at your seats information that there is going to be a listening session on the transition of Independent Living to the Administration of Community Living which is under Department of Health and Human Services. This will be presented by ILRU so if you really want to learn and get some good information, listen in on January 27 from 1:30 to 3:00 eastern standard time. This bulletin came out from Rehabilitation Services Administration. It is free but you do need to register.

## Public Comments: none

## Meeting Adjourned at 2:40pm

## Next Meeting: April 10th at the Country Inn and Suites in Burlington, NC.

Attendees: P = Present / T= attending by Teleconference / A = Absent

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Members |  | Ogburn, Sandy | P | Center Directors |  |
| Alewine, Ricky | P | Overfield, Jennifer | P | Benita Williams | P |
| Barber, Deja | P | Staley, Teresa | P | Mark Steele | P |
| Bellamy, Gloria | P | Watkins, Oshana | P | Guests |  |
| Cummins, Rene | P | Barry Washington | P | Gay Joyner | P |
| Greenarch, Keith | P |  |  | Patricia Sites (DSB) | P |
| Hicks, Sandra | P | Ex. Officio |  | Mercedes  Restucha-Klem  (DRNC) | P |
| Kaufman, Joshua | A | Stephanie Johnson DDHH | P | Staff/Support |  |
| Kincaid, Mitzi | A | Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke VRIL | P | Will Miller | P |
| Lambert, Kimlyn | A | Steve Strom DD Council | P | Debbie Hippler | P |
| Miley, Kay | P | Dockery, Deidre DSB | P | Mark Lineberger | P |
| Miller, Clare “Ping” | P | John Marens CAP | P | 2 PCAs | P |
|  |  |  |  | Cath Dewitt | P |