

Delaware SILC SPIL GPS Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 7, 2024

Held via Zoom starting at 10:05 AM

Committee Members Present: Sandra Farina (SPIL GPS Committee Chairperson and SILC Representative), Blake Roberts (DE SILC Secretary and SILC Representative), Ashley Spinden (Representative, Division for the Visually Impaired), Mary Beth Parker (Community Hub Manager, Independent Resources, INC) and Debbie Bain (public, former DE SILC Executive Director).

Meeting Commencement

Today's meeting commenced at 10:05 AM.

Approval of Minutes

Mary made a motion to approve the April SPIL GPS Minutes; Blake seconded. Minutes were approved with no questions, changes or corrections.

Old Business

Update: SPIL Goals Feedback sessions (Sandra)

There were 2 participants in each of the in-person feedback sessions, 2 in each county. There were additional attendees for the virtual State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) goals public feedback session. There were 25 responses in writing regarding a question currently on DE SILC website asking whether the proposed SPIL goals are supported. There was no negativity from the public. Reason: Debbie pointed out that people who indicated "no" did not leave comments relevant to the SPIL goals. Sandra said that all respondents who indicated "no" are spammers. People who respond "yes" or answer "no" with provide comments relevant to the SPIL goals will receive a follow-up note.

Debbie commended the level of engagement by attendees of SPIL goals feedback sessions. Sandra responded that engaging people to be involved is challenging. Debbie also stated the value of learning from experiences (what could be done differently in the future). Sandra agreed with Debbie's points. Sandra will send the contractor (Qua Marketing) public feedback summary after today's meeting adjourns. A complete report on SPIL feedback sessions will be provided by the contractor in the future.

SPIL Timeline for May and June (Sandra)

The DE SILC Executive Director created a SPIL timeline for May and June. The final draft will be completed by the end of May. It will then be shared with all members of SILC after SPIL GPS Committee approves it. Approval by SPIL GPS Committee is anticipated at the June 4 meeting if no changes are necessary. Under the timeline, final draft of the SPIL will be posted on the website between June 10 and 20. If any changes need to be made to the SPIL, changes will be made by June 22. It will be approved by the entire SILC at the June 24 SILC meeting. Debbie commended Kathryn on her timeline. Debbie recommended that a Memorandum of Understanding with the Designated State Entity be created to ensure autonomy and compliance with assurances. After today's meeting, Sandra will send to the

Committee the goals with recommended activities. During today's meeting, Sandra also shared a list of SPIL activities created by Kathryn.

Announcements (Debbie)

On May 1, 2024, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) sent out a press release stating that Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, has been modified to strengthen protections in healthcare to prevent discrimination against people with disabilities. Debbie recommended that this fact be included in the SPIL. Sandra supported this recommendation.

Debbie also stated that in the April 30 Policy Roundup from ACL, annual disability statistics summary was published. Numbers are important. Debbie recommended that this data be retained by DE SILC. Sandra agreed about the importance of data.

Meeting Adjournment and Next Meeting

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:47 AM. The next SPIL GPS Committee meeting will occur on June 4, 2024 at 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Roberts, DE SILC Secretary