

Meeting Minutes [Approved]

Date: December 5, 2024
Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm
Location (Zoom): www.HawaiiSILC.org/zoom.php
Location (In Person): J Walter Cameron Center
95 Mahalani St
Wailuku, HI 96793

Attendees:

- Patrick Gartside (SILC Chair, Executive Director of Work Now Hawaii)
- Phillip Ana (SILC Vice Chair)
- Judy Guajardo (SILC Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator with Na Hoaloha on Maui)
- Brian Hauser (SILC Member, Advocacy Coordinator, Aloha Independent Living Hawaii)
- Cheryl Matthews, Ex Officio Member (representing Lea Dias)

Absent:

- Sam Nagasawa (SILC Secretary, Deputy Director, Aloha Independent Living Hawaii)
- Catia Garell (SILC Member)
- Linda Lambrecht (Excused)

Guests:

- Annette Tashiro (State Rehabilitation Council)
- Becky Hoopii (ASL Interpreter)
- Daintry Bartoldus (State Council on Developmental Disabilities)
- Evan Nakatsuka (State Rehabilitation Council)
- Heyab Berhan (ACL Office of Independent Living Programs)
- Kapua Pickford - (Community Children's Councils)

- Rowena Dagdag-Andaya (Maui County Office on Aging)
- Lauren Kato (Work Now Hawaii)
- Olanda Bryant (FEMA Office on Disability)
- Riley Dettman - Hawaii Association of People Supporting Employment First)
- Shaylin Sluzalis (The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies)
- Shana Wailana Kukila
- Vesta Morris (President, Maui Deaf Friends)
- Derrick Ariyoshi (City & County of Honolulu, Elderly Affairs Division)
- Mikey Tomita
- Edward Ahern (ACL Office of Independent Living Programs)
- David W Tallant III
- Karen Alohilani Hue Sing (Maui Wheelers / Adaptive Maui)
- Jeffrey Morris
- Lori Tshako (Maui County Office on Aging)
- Nani Watanabe (State Council on Developmental Disabilities)
- Fay Gorden (ACL / Region 9)
- Christina Valensuela - Executive Office on Aging
- Donald Sakamoto - CFADAR

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:11am by Patrick Gartside.

2. Approval of Minutes November Meeting

- a. Brian Hauser made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Phillip Ana, approved by Council.

3. Welcoming remarks

- a. Patrick Gartside welcomed attendees and provided an overview of SILC's mission and goals, and the mission and goals of the State Plan for Independent Living.

4. Community Reports

- a. Access to Independence of San Diego: Absent, written report provided.
- b. Aloha Independent Living Hawaii: Absent, written report provided.

- c. Hawaii Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Cheryl Matthews presented on DVR's services, including the number of individuals served, types of disabilities supported, and employment outcomes.
- d. State Council on Developmental Disabilities
 - i. Daintry presented on DD Council's work, including:
 - 1. Collaboration with SILC advocating for housing development for people with disabilities.
 - 2. Follow-up on concerns about emergency preparedness at the Front Street apartments after the fire.
 - 3. Collaboration with ADRCs (Aging and Disability Resource Centers) to host quarterly meetings for the disability community.
 - ii. Comments and Questions
 - 1. Attendees asked clarifying questions about acronyms used in DVR's report.
 - 2. Melissa asked whether DVR's report included programs like the BEP program.
 - 3. Donald asked about the status of the HOLO card for bus access for people with cognitive disabilities.
 - 4. Derrick expressed appreciation for DD Council's partnership with disability networks and ADRCs.
 - 5. Vesta raised concerns about the lack of disability independence events and resources on Maui.
 - iii. Elderly Affairs Division, City & County of Honolulu ADRC: Derrick Ariyoshi presented on EAD's pilot program for on-demand rideshare transportation for older adults with disabilities.
 - 1. Brian emphasized the need for technical assistance from ACL on supporting partnerships between ADRCs and CILs, and ILSPs.
 - 2. Donald asked about EAD's funding sources for the rideshare pilot program.

3. Donald suggested inviting EAD to future meetings of the Catholic Charities Transportation Group.

5. Guest Presentation

- a. Edward Ahern and Heyab Berhan from ACL spoke about the importance of partnerships, especially in light of ongoing recovery efforts.
 - i. Emphasized the importance of collaboration between aging and disability networks and thanked the community for their support of older adults and people with disabilities following the wildfires.
 - ii. Emphasized the need for authentic collaboration and a focus on the needs of the people being served.
 - iii. Encouraged the community to continue nurturing partnerships and emphasized that ACL is committed to supporting their success.

6. SILC Reports

- a. Community Needs Report
 - i. The report highlighted the results from a community survey which identified the most significant needs in disability services, aligning with the work of the SPIL. (Disability services, Employment, Housing, Transportation)
- b. SPIL (State Plan for Independent Living) Committee Report
 - i. The SPIL committee is working on making recommendations for adjustments to the State Plan, including adjustments in reported service areas, and identifying additional key partners.
- c. Engagement Committee Report
 - i. The engagement committee is focused on increasing membership, ex-officio membership and participation in SILC.
- d. Executive Committee Report
 - i. SILC is hiring a part-time executive director and part-time administrative staff, the job description and information is posted on the website.
- e. SILC Activities Report
 - i. SILC has been active in the community, participating in various events and meetings.

- ii. They have been working on issues such as accessible and affordable housing, emergency preparedness and response, and have been meeting with stakeholders to understand the needs of people with disabilities.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. FFY25-27 Contract
 - i. The contract is still under review and has not yet been issued.
 - ii. SILC is waiting for registration with SAM.gov.
- b. Spending Policy - Credit Card for SILC
 - i. A motion was made to approve the Spending Policy and obtain a credit card for SILC.
 - 1. Brian Hauser made a motion to approve,
 - 2. Philip Ana seconded.
 - 3. Motion was approved by the Council.

8. New Business

- a. Housing Group

SILC is working with the Housing Accelerator Program through Medicaid to address the need for supportive housing in the community.
- b. Transportation Group

SILC is forming a transportation group to work on advancing equitable access to transportation.

9. Announcements

- a. A Zoom recording of Councilmember Brian Hauser's presentation at the Traveling Mini Conference and DD Council Legislative Forum is available on the SILC website.
- b. An AI-generated podcast-style discussion about the State Plan for Independent Living is available on the SILC website.
- c. Donald Sakamoto has been asked to work together on the Transportation Group.

Motion to adjourn was made at 12:00pm by Brian, and seconded by Philip.