



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

STATEWIDE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

Chairperson

Dawn Clark

Vice Chairperson

Secretary

Members at Large

Steve
Aalto

Executive Committee

600 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111

April 4, 2019

1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Introductions

Joe Bellil (SRC), Kate Biebel (MRC), Inez Canada (SRC), Dawn Clark (SRC), Naomi Goldberg (SRC), Alex Scarlis (public)

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Amendments:

- Robert Jones will review Federal Regulations to identify the appropriate name the Council should be using when referring to the State Rehabilitation Council (Advisory Council)
- The State Rehabilitation Council will compile information for Robert Jones regarding what the SRC expects from new members before they commit to becoming an SRC member.

Naomi Goldberg made a motion to except minutes with amendments. Joe Bellil seconded the motion. Minutes were approved

Old Business

Transportation Innovation Conference Request

Is there a policy in place to determine who can attend conferences using MRC dollars?

- Discussed issue of can SRC fund an ex-officio member of the SRC to attend a conference.
- SRC can only potentially fund appointed SRC members for conference attendance. The SRC Chairperson must agree the event is useful to the committee before the request is submitted to MRC.
- Until the Executive Committee gets verification of the process of meeting requests for attending conferences, the Executive Committee will make the decision to determine if the request will be resourceful to the committee they are a member of.
- This policy could be further clarified in the by-laws moving forward.

State Plan Committee Report

Regarding the FY2020 recommendations that the State Plan Committee has prepared to be submitted to the SRC on June 29, 2019, the following recommendations have been assigned to sub-committees as follows:

- 1) **Increase and improve the quality of employment outcomes for MRC consumers has been assigned to the Business and Employment Opportunity Committee.** The Chairpersons for this committee are Joe Bellil and Steve Aalto.
 - 2) **Continue to increase consumer awareness of transportation options and explore efforts to assist consumers with transportation Continue to promote job driven training's to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities** has been assigned to the State Comprehensive Needs Assessment Committee. The Chairperson for this committee is Richard Colantonio.
 - 3) **Expand staff training for QVRC working with people on the Autism Spectrum Disorder** has been assigned to the Business and Employment Opportunity Committee. The Chairpersons for this committee are Joe Bellil and Steve Aalto.
 - 4) **Procure other services on the state contract to avoid consumers paying upfront for services** has been assigned to the Executive Committee. The Chairperson for this committee is Dawn Clark.
 - 5) **Continue outreach to communities of ethnic and diverse backgrounds on vocational rehabilitation and other services that MRC offerings** has been assigned to the State Comprehensive Needs Assessment Committee. The Chairperson for this committee is Richard Colantonio.
- **Action items**
 - Joe will send an email to the Chair of each committee regarding the recommendations that have been assigned to the committee. The committee can agree with the recommendation as written or the committee can make edits before submitting the recommendation to the SRC.

New Business

SRC Membership

- Discussed strategies about how to strengthen SRC membership
- Discussed drafting materials for MRC and EHS websites that describe SRC, subcommittees, time commitment, and skill sets of potential members.
- Discussed assessing attendance of current appointed membership
- Discussed reaching out to MRC Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors to identify members for SRC, as identified in the by-laws.
- **Action items**
 - Kate/MRC will do initial drafting for vetting with SRC Executive Committee members at next Ex Com meeting
 - Theresa will create a chart of all gubernatorial members of the SRC.
 - Theresa will send Dawn all information on seven members who have not been attending meetings regularly.

- Dawn will do phone calls to appointed members who have missed meetings over last 18 months to assess status and interest.
- Kate will survey VR Counselors to identify potential members.
- Lola will gather information from the Consumer Satisfaction Survey Committee for potential members for the SRC and SRC Sub-Committee's

Possible Combining State Comprehensive Needs Assessment and the Consumer Satisfaction Survey Committee

Bill Noone reported that his department is in favor of combining the State Comprehensive Needs Assessment Committee with the Consumer Satisfaction Survey Committee. In order to cover both meetings in one, Bill asked that 30 minutes be added on to the end of the meeting. The State Comprehensive Needs Assessment Committee will need more time on the agenda so that they can continue to work on outreach and the focus groups.

Naomi made a motion to accept the 2 committees combining. Joe seconded. The motion carried.

Next meeting date: May 2nd, 2019