



State Rehabilitation Council

To the
Bureau of Rehabilitation Services



Meeting Minutes January 9, 2013 Webinar Hartford, CT

A regularly scheduled SRC Meeting was held via Webinar with Jim Quick (Council Chair), calling the meeting to order shortly after 1:00 PM.

Attendance:

Present

SRC Members: Thomas Boudreau, Ellen Econs, Michele Fontaine, Mary Pierson Keating, and James Quick

BRS Staff: Evelyn Oliver Knight and Christine Weston (webinar support)

Volunteers: Warren Stamp and Marisel Mandry

Excused

SRC Members: Sharon Denson, Roberta Hurley, Jan Hasenjager, Jerry Moran, Larry Robinson, and Victor Xavier

Absent

SRC Members: Tanisha Minnis, George Narvaez,

**Volunteers – Persons interested in the SRC, but not appointed as Members are considered Volunteers. Volunteers may attend meetings and work on committees, but may not vote on any action. When new members are sought for the SRC, Volunteers can be considered for membership.*

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1. **Review Minutes** - The 12/5/12 Minutes...there were noted changes. Mary K made the motion to accept the minutes and Michele seconded; the minutes approved unanimously.

2. **Treasurer's Report** – Jan Hasenjager was not available. Evelyn shared the Treasurer's report. Michele made the motion to accept and Mary seconded; the Treasurer's was approved unanimously.

3. **SRC Chairperson Update** – Jim Quick

- Welcomes and thanks new members
- Expectations – 2013 - have active committees and make a difference.
- Reviewed plans for the March 13 meeting (a full day- when we can review goals as well). The information to be reviewed with focus areas on how best to serve CT and ideas to move forward with the council. CT Hospital Association in Wallingford is presently the potential place for the day long council meeting. “Lives Worth Living” is the movie that needs to be purchased. Other ideas from council members around the upcoming meeting could be sent to Evelyn or Jim. There was also a suggestion regarding food/meals but may need to ask for a minor fee per participant – Evelyn will check into this. There are hopes of getting a facilitator - some names suggested.
- Transportation costs will be looked at for sending two SRC members to the national CSAVR and NCSRC meetings in April and November. Jim is unable to attend the April meeting and suggested someone go in his place (starting with the officers).
- The Information that Evelyn sends electronically is valuable. Jim also referenced NIDRR as resource.

4. **BRS Update** – Amy Porter was unable to attend, but Evelyn shared the following information on her behalf.

- DORS/BRS Staffing – BRS staffing is at a healthy level; recently hired counselors in Western region and will be posting a position for Interpreter Assistant positions For DORS, the new Human Resources Manager was recently hired.
- Enfield Office – Waiting for the lease to be signed, but have identified a “back-up location” if action on the current does not progress.
- Budget Cuts/ Impact on Partners – All of our partners are impacted in some way as a result of the Governor's budget. A follow up question regarding Independent Living was posed and Evelyn will forward this to Amy.
- What Recommended Topics Should SRC Discuss at Retreat – SRC should decide areas to focus areas for activities and develop a structure and direction to address the elements as warranted.
- Replacement of Ruth Howell's Position – This question was raised at the meeting; Evelyn will forward it to Amy.

- **SRC Update** –Evelyn shared the following information:
 - Vehicle Modification Consumer Survey – This survey is being reinstated for consumers who receive a vehicle modification from BRS to assess how consumers feel about the process and the vendor who modified the vehicle. A flow chart explaining the process to obtain a vehicle modification was shown.
 - SRC 2013 Annual Report – The draft report included a welcome letter from the chair, goals and mission of the SRC, committee goals and reports of progress; announcement of the Scholarship awardee, BRS acting director letter, a Department of Rehabilitation Services organizational chart, and BRS Statistics regarding the number/types of consumers and how resources were spent supporting these consumers.
The Annual Report appears to be very professional and the council noted that it was a great job. The final report will be sent along and posted on the BRS website.
 - CSNA – The draft of the CT Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) will be available for review soon; SRC members are asked to review it upon receipt.
 - State Plan – The draft of the BRS State Plan is due early April. The SRC’s section describing its interaction with BRS and recommendations for BRS to consider should be discussed at the March meeting to meet the April deadline.
 - Public Meetings – The annual public meetings in each region with its regional director and the BRS director to enable consumers to review the draft state plan and provide feedback. SRC members are asked to attend at least one of the public meetings. This is another opportunity for SRC members to observe BRS as it interacts with consumers.
 - Jim requested two elements (teleconference and website) be forwarded from Evelyn. *(Evelyn’s note: I don’t remember what this is regarding.)*

5. Committee Reports

Evelyn suggests that the committees meet before the March meeting as time will not be allotted for them to meet on March 13.

- Business Partnership – Roberta Hurley was unavailable and Ellen gave the report at the last meeting with no new information to share.
- Consumer Satisfaction – Jim Quick will remain chair of this committee. He reviewed the results from the SRC surveys of the offices for access and continuity of information. These documents will be sent to Amy Porter so she can review the information. Perhaps in March there can be a discussion of where to go next.
- Intercouncil/Nominations – Mary Pierson Keating will chair this committee and shared that there are two new applications available for review. The inter-council component was discussed. The upcoming United Cross-Disability Alliance Conference on 1/29/13 was discussed.

- Legislation, Policy & Planning – Chair of this Committee is Vacant. We discussed the two posters that had been considered to display in the regional offices. They are to be edited regarding with language so that “Rights” do not convey “entitlement” of services and “recruitment” of new SRC members – these will be disseminated once again for SRC comment.

6. Consumer Issues

No concerns were noted. There were no cases to review. Evelyn is hoping to develop a secure site for SRC members only to review Administrative Hearings outcomes. Then council members could access and review the information before a meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm – Next Meeting: March 13, 9:30 – 3:30

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Boudreau – SCR Secretary