NH SILC Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2026

Attendees

Voting Members

- Deb Ritcey, GSIL, Committee Chair
- Krystal Chase, Brain Injury Association
- Michelle McConaghy, NDHHS

Non-Voting / Ad Hoc Attendees

- Andrew Harmon, Council Community Member
- Nathalie Fortier, Future In Sight (Vendor)
- Lisa Beck, DSE
- Erin Hall, Brain Injury Association (Vendor)
- Ryan Witterschien, Council Chair

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the March 2026 Governance Committee meeting minutes.
Moved by: Krystal Chase
Seconded by: Michelle McConaghy
Result: Passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the July 2026 Governance Committee meeting minutes.
Moved by: Michelle McConaghy
Seconded by: Krystal Chase
Result: Passed unanimously.

Slate of Officers

The committee discussed the proposed slate of officers for the upcoming year. The following individuals have agreed to serve, subject to approval by the full Council:

- Ryan Witterschien, Chair
- Krystal Chase, First Vice Chair
- Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre, Second Vice Chair
- Andrew Harmon, Secretary

Deb Ritcey noted that Section IV of the bylaws allows for the appointment of an additional Council member to the Executive Committee should the Council choose to exercise that provision. Krystal Chase noted that this option could be considered during the development of future slates of officers.

Erin Hall also noted that the immediate past chair serves on the Executive Committee. Therefore, the most recent active chair would be Carrie Dudley.

Motion: To present the slate of officers as listed above to the full Council for consideration at the Annual Meeting in September.
Moved by: Deb Ritcey
Seconded by: Krystal Chase
Result: Passed unanimously.

Voting vs. Ex-Officio Council Members

The committee continued discussion from the previous meeting regarding voting membership requirements under the Rehabilitation Act and NH SILC bylaws.

It was determined that:

- Ryan Donnelly
- Michael Negrete (pending appointment)
- Josh Gehling

will serve as **ex-officio, non-voting members** due to their employment affiliations.

The committee reviewed the Rehabilitation Act requirements and determined that representatives of state agencies and additional CIL employees, other than a CIL Executive Director, must serve as ex-officio members without voting privileges.

The committee further determined that Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre will continue to serve as a voting member because she is not affiliated with a service-providing state agency within New Hampshire.

Follow-Up Actions

- Ryan Witterschein will speak with Michael Negrete and Josh Gehling.
- Deb Ritcey will speak with Ryan Donnelly.

Andrew Harmon asked whether ex-officio members could vote during committee meetings. The committee determined that ex-officio members may not vote during either full Council meetings or committee meetings.

Deb Ritcey stated that she will propose bylaw revisions to further clarify this provision.

Leave of Absence

The committee discussed the need for additional clarification within the bylaws regarding leaves of absence and the appointment process during such periods.

Deb Ritcey will draft proposed policy and/or bylaw revisions for review at the next Governance Committee meeting on October 7, 2026.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

Deb Ritcey recommended that the Governance Committee take ownership of the SPIL development process and delegate assignments as needed throughout the planning period. Ryan Witterschein expressed support for this approach.

Deb Ritcey will develop a timeline outlining key actions and milestones and present it at the November full SILC meeting.

The committee agreed that a collaborative approach will be essential to ensuring that the next SPIL is meaningful and effective for the upcoming three-year planning cycle.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.
Moved by: Deb Ritcey
Seconded by: Krystal Chase
Result: Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

October 7, 2026
8:00 a.m.