**State of Connecticut**

**Department of Aging and Disability Services (ADS)**

**Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB)**

**State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) to BESB-- Special Meeting**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

## **January 23, 2020**

**Members Present:  Mr. Alan Gunzburg, Mr. Gary Allen, Mr. Scott Baecker, Mr. Nathaniel Barnes, Mr. John McNickle, Ms. Enaida Mendoza, Ms. Eileen Rose, Ms. Dawn Russell, Ms. Kendra Valente**

**Others Present: Mr. Brian Sigman, Ms. Mary Burgard, Ms. Lisa Tanguay, Mr. Daryl Pease, Mr. Alan Sylvestre, Mr. Samuel Pride, Ms. Beth Rival, Ms. Mary Silverberg, Mr. Stephen Thal, Ms. Randa Utter, Ms. Eileen Akers, Ms. Leslie Warren (Interpreter), and Ms. Kathy Strauss (Interpreter)**

**Members Absent: Ms. Amanda Billiot, Mr. Michael Bartley**

**Welcome and Introductions: Mr. Gunzburg, Chair of the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m. Mr. Gunzburg acknowledged the presence of members of the Advisory Board for Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired who were in attendance.**

**Public Comment: None**

**At the request of Chairman Gunzburg, and hearing no objections from the membership, the State Rehabilitation Council entered into recess at 10:45 a.m. to allow time for the Advisory Board for Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired to reconvene their meeting to complete deliberations on the BESB Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) draft section of the Unified State Plan.**

**Chairman Gunzburg reconvened the State Rehabilitation Council meeting at 11:09 a.m.**

**New Business**

**BESB Vocational Rehabilitation Section of Unified State Plan For Action:**

**Chairman Gunzburg stated that the members of the SRC have been present during the deliberations of the Advisory Board for Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired and therefore had the opportunity to hear what the 5 public comments were as well as Mr. Sigman’s response to each of the comments. He further stated that the members heard the proposed addition to the draft state plan that the Advisory Board had passed.**

**Discussion took place on the Advisory Board’s recommendation to make a change in the wording to Goal B, Objective 2 Strategy to include “worklife balance” in parenthesis in the sentence to read “……life skills programs (including worklife balance) and related career development programs.”**

**Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Mr. Baecker to adopt the change approved by the Advisory Board for Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired to add “(including worklife balance)” to the Strategy section of Goal B, Objective 2 in the BESB Vocational Rehabilitation Section of Unified State Plan. Motion carried with two opposed.**

**Motion: A motion was then made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Ms. Russell to adopt the BESB Vocational Rehabilitation Section of the Unified State Plan as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Baecker, seconded by Mr. Allen to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.**

**Next meeting: March 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**