

## **Public SPIL Committee Meeting - Q&A Section with Responses Monday, February 16, 2026**

**The following is the transcript from the Q&A section of the 02.16.26 webinar of INSILC's SPIL Committee meeting. This function is used by attendees not just to ask questions, but to make comments and chat amongst themselves. INSILC has reviewed the transcript and answered questions below while leaving commentary unedited. For questions about this document, please email MFoddrill@IndianaSILC.org.**

jarom hawker 02:11 PM

Once the jails have that information what is the plan to ensure they are utilizing that information, and if they are not how do inmates reach out to bring up concerns they have?

- **We are working with Nicholas Stellema from the Indiana Department of Corrections on next steps.**

Jackie M 02:12 PM

Why are they both not being handled the same way

Teresa Torres 02:13 PM

The question, I think, is WHY you've set it up as a webinar, after so many people have requested the ability to see others on the call.

- **ACL and our TA have both suggested that we use the webinar format for INSILC's public business meetings.**

Teresa Torres 02:14 PM

Where is this document on your website?

Karin Willison 02:25 PM

Why didn't you advertise these subcommittee opportunities to the public so more people could apply?

- **We invited the CILs to share the opportunity with their staff and received enough participation to make the groups our target size so posting the opportunities to a wider audience was not necessary.**

Chris Hollingsworth 02:28 PM

How can this truly be a public meeting if the business you are voting on is not available to the public? Also I do not feel it is appropriate to vote on an issue without getting public comments on the issue prior to the vote?

- **Indiana's Open Door Laws require the meeting to be viewable by the public. INSILC seeks public comment on issues such as the SPIL, but is not required to get public input on every item on the agenda of its business or committee meetings.**

Karin Willison 02:28 PM

I would have been interested in serving if I had known about it

jarom hawker 02:29 PM

From the content of the conversation there seems to be concern of the transparency of INSILC on the website. Are there any plans to ensure better transparency to both INSILC, CIL's, and the general public?

- **INSILC will continue to post all items required by Indiana's Open Door Laws and ACL. We welcome other suggestions on improving our transparency.**

Brianna 02:32 PM

when we had our cil director meeting it was mentioned that you would look into alternatives to spending money on a consultant for this. did that happen?

- **Yes. The workgroup is considering AI as well as paid consultants to complete the plain language SPIL.**

Teresa Torres 02:34 PM

SPILS aren't supposed to just be WRITTEN, they are supposed to be DEVELOPED. But only AFTER the SILC has actively engaged the state's disability community. That means more than the handful of people that actually participated in your listening sessions and town hall meetings.

Teresa Torres 02:36 PM

WAIT - ARE YOU ACTUALLY SAYING THAT ACL TOLD YOU TO HOLD YOUR MEETINGS IN A FORMAT THAT DOES NOT ALLOW THOSE WHO ATTEND TO SEE ONE ANOTHER????????????????

- **ACL and our TA have both suggested that we use the webinar format for INSILC's public business meetings.**

Teresa Torres 02:36 PM

How, exactly, would letting people see who else is at the meeting interfere with all of this vibrant business that you're addressing???

- **ACL and our TA have both suggested that we use the webinar format for INSILC's public business meetings.**

Teresa Torres 02:37 PM

Please be sure to answer THAT question,

Teresa Torres 02:38 PM

Katie, are you saying that the SPIL committee meeting isn't a meeting, it's a webinar, but the webinar with information for the public was a meeting?

- **Although the phrasing of this question is confusing, both INSILC full Council meetings and SPIL Committee meetings are public, hosted as webinars on the Zoom platform.**

Liz Gideon 02:39 PM

You were able to get enough people from within your network and so didn't "have to" expand your search? I find that very concerning that you weren't actively trying to bring in more people

Teresa Torres 02:40 PM

So, Mike, your intent is to only do that which you are REQUIRED to do, not what would address all of the concerns about lack of transparency

- **INSILC will continue to post all items required by Indiana's Open Door Laws and ACL.**

Teresa Torres 02:43 PM

HOW DOES JUST SHOWING NAMES AND FACES INTERFERE???

- **ACL and our TA have both suggested that we use the webinar format for INSILC's public business meetings.**

Chris Hollingsworth 02:44 PM

She did not ask about public comment she asked about seeing all the attendees!

Tammy Hollingsworth 02:44 PM

I'm curious why members of the work groups who were voted on were not shared with those in attendance at this meeting? I understand that the committee members had a list, but why can't we know who are on those work groups? It seems that knowing who they are would help us to connect with people that might be able to make change that people with disabilities need or want. It further concerns me that there really is no plan to publicize the names of people who are working within silk so that the p

- **The workgroups are not public. They fall under Indiana's Open Door Laws for workgroups: time bound, short in duration, single task focused. Comments for the workgroups can be sent to the SPIL Committee Chair or the INSILC Executive Director.**

Teresa Torres 02:44 PM

THANK YOU, Chris. Perhaps I confused them by speaking plain English.

Teresa Torres 02:45 PM

NO YOU DIDN'T ANSWER, MIKE ANSWERED A QUESTION THAT I DIDN'T ASK.

Chris Hollingsworth 02:47 PM

5 people is not a comprehensive public comment session.

Liz Gideon 02:49 PM

Back to the issue of not widening your circles to recruit more diverse opinions on your work groups

Teresa Torres 02:50 PM

not everybody is participating by computer, or know how to use the button option. THAT's one of the reasons that it's helpful to SHOW FACES.

Liz Gideon 02:53 PM

Doing it in the next cycle sounds disingenuous. How will you widen your circle? And how does limiting the applicants to a smaller circle fulfill anything other than a quota? I'm just very surprised that there wasn't more effort done to engage the disability community to ensure better recommendations for better service

- **INSILC is always working to expand its outreach efforts as well as refine its feedback methods to make sure we are indeed engaging the disability community to get recommendations for better service.**

Chris Hollingsworth 02:53 PM

Is there a reason that you cannot act and work beyond what is required when it comes to releasing information and taking comments. The laws you are speaking of are minimum requirements not maximum requirements.

- **INSILC will continue to post all items required by Indiana's Open Door Laws and ACL.**

Arthur Bumfield 02:55 PM

I agree with Chris. all of the meetings I've been at so far are citing regulations but that doesn't automatically stop people from going further than that.

Brianna 03:00 PM

the meeting with ACL and the format it was in shows that the format can work. everyone was very respectful of others talking, making appropriate comments, etc. and it was good to see who was there and participating. how can we move forward as a disability community without connection?

- **INSILC will work with members of the IL Network to schedule more feedback sessions with ACL.**

Liz Gideon 03:03 PM

that's not true. in a meeting the host/s have the power to mute attendees

Brianna 03:05 PM

there are many reasons that seeing people on the call would be helpful. people with auditory processing issues (like myself) often use a combination of visual cues, captions, and the audio to understand what someone is saying. also, as chris said, these meetings have the potential to facilitate discussions beyond insilc, spils, and everything else.

Liz Gideon 03:13 PM

I hear what you're saying Julie about being able to conduct business. But, again, in a meeting, the hosts can mute attendees. The hosts can bounce attendees who are disruptive. I know this is true because I've done it. What that guy said (sorry, I forgot your name) about establishing hierarchies and controlling things is 100% true. I cannot speak and need to chat

jarom hawker 03:14 PM

I would like to offer a word of caution here, the term, "... making things to accessible." was used. We live in a system where accessibility is being actively removed from citizens.

Brianna 03:21 PM

change never happened because people were happy and comfortable with how things were, and the powers that be never gave us any rights without a fight or two

Teresa Torres 03:21 PM

MY MIC IS STILL OFF

Teresa Torres 03:22 PM

i'm trying to reesond

Liz Gideon 03:22 PM

Teresa is not unmuted

Teresa Torres 03:22 PM

my mic is turned off

Jackie M 03:22 PM

turn on her mic

Teresa Torres 03:22 PM

I CAN'T BE HEARD

Teresa Torres 03:23 PM

i would really LOVE to respond to Cierra's questoin

jarom hawker 03:25 PM

That is over a year, not only does it not meet goals in a timely manner, it does not equate potential changes in policy or current events that can or will change during that period of time.