

**CITY OF PITTSBURGH/ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
TASK FORCE ON DISABILITIES**

**July 25, 2002**

**MINUTES**

- Location:** United Cerebral Palsy  
4638 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA
- Members Present:** Paul O'Hanlon, Chairperson, Al Condeluci, Rich McGann, Bill Chrisner, Jeff Parker, John Tague, Aurelia Carter, Liz Healey, Milton Henderson
- Members Absent:** Linda Dickerson, Ruth Brenyo
- Others Present:** Chuck Keenan, Jorgene Seleyo

The meeting was called to order by Mr. O'Hanlon at 10:10. Mr. O'Hanlon gave a brief history of the Task Force from 1994 to the present. He noted that the Task Force has recently been expanded from 7 to 13 members and that in order to reach this total, the committee must appoint one more member.

**Introductions:**

Each member of the Task Force introduced himself/herself and gave a brief description of what they do and for whom they work. A general discussion of what each member of the Task Force saw as its role followed, with Mr. Tague saying that he envisioned its role as a voice for policy issues and Ms. Healey stating that it was a means of promoting diversity within the community. Ms. Healey went on to say that the Task Force should use the Mayors Office of People with Disabilities in Chicago as an example and should work to unite the various networks within the disability community into a single voice.

**Financial Report:**

Mr. Condeluci presented the financial report to the committee. He stated that the Task Force is allocated approximately \$24,000 per year from Allegheny County through the Department of Human Services. Currently, the Task Force has approximately \$2000 left over from FY 2002 and, on July 1, 2002, was allocated another \$24,000 for FY 2003, bringing the total funding available to the Task Force to approximately \$26,000. Mr. Condeluci explained that the budget covers work used to support Task Force activities and meetings, including travel, meals, and interpretive services, and costs associated with the implementation of Disability Agenda 2000.

**Future of the Task Force:**

The members discussed the future of the Task Force, with an idea that the Mayor and County Executive should hold a press event to re-introduce the members to the public, especially since the membership has been expanded to 13. Ms. Healey suggested that this event could be held in

place of the recently cancelled Governor's Committee on Employing People with Disabilities, which was to be held in Pittsburgh this year.

### **Role of the Task Force:**

The members talked about the current and future role of the Task Force as it related to City and County government and to Disability Agenda 2000. Mr. Tague stated that the role of the Task Force should be to advise the Mayor and County Executive on policies that affect people with disabilities in the area. He suggested that it be comprised of a Chair and Co-chair to make sure that meetings take place. Mr. Chrisner also suggested that subsequent meetings be scheduled at this meeting so that they can put on members' calendars.

Mr. Chrisner and Ms. Healey stated that the Task Force needs greater feedback from the various subcommittees that comprise Disability Agenda 2000 so that the members know what is being done. They suggested that each subcommittee submit a report to the Task Force on a periodic basis.

For those who were not aware of the relationship between the Task Force and Disability Agenda 2000, Mr. O'Hanlon explained that the latter was an outgrowth of the former. Disability Agenda resulted from a need to include the greater community (beyond simply local government) into the disability movement when they might not normally be involved in it. He explained that the Task Force fostered the creation of Disability Agenda 2000 and that it serves as the umbrella group that oversees all of its subcommittees.

### **Election of Chairperson:**

Mr. O'Hanlon explained that he has been the appointed chairperson of the Task Force since Judy Barricella resigned, but that he feels he is no longer the best person for that role given the greater demands of his new schedule and the time needed to schedule and prepare for Task Force meetings. Mr. Condeluci described the role of the chairperson as one who manages the meetings and activities of the Task Force with support from the City ADA Coordinator. He also went on to say that he feels that the chair should be a person with a disability.

Being newly appointed to the Task Force, Ms. Carter asked if it had by-laws, since she felt that they would add structure to the committee. The members noted that they do not currently have by-laws and that, since members serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and County Executive, they may not be able to write by-laws. The committee discussed that in the place of by-laws, a mission statement could be developed. It was also suggested that the Task Force issue an Annual Report to the Mayor and County Executive. Mr. McGann suggested that by-laws and a formal structure will allow the chair to better run meetings, set meeting dates, and formulate an agenda for those meetings. All agreed and decided to work on this at an upcoming meeting.

The Task Force returned to the election of a chair, with an approved motion to elect both a chair and a co-chair. The committee discussed the duties that would be part of chair's position, including serving as a liaison between the committee and governmental leaders, serving as the spokesperson for the Task Force, and working on the structure and mission of the committee.

Mr. Chrisner also suggested that the Task Force appoint a Secretary/Treasurer to be responsible for financial tracking and reporting at meetings. Together, he stated, the Chairperson, Co-chair, and Secretary/Treasurer could form an executive committee. All agreed that this office should be created. Mr. Condeluci nominated Jeff Parker for the position of Secretary/Treasurer, who

accepted the nomination. No other members offered nominations and **Mr. Parker was unanimously elected Secretary/Treasurer.**

After resigning his position of Chairperson, Mr. O'Hanlon was asked to serve as Co-chair by the committee. He accepted the committee's nomination and **Mr. O'Hanlon was unanimously elected Co-chair.**

Mr. O'Hanlon nominated John Tague to serve as Chairperson of the Task Force, who accepted the nomination. No other members offered nominations and **Mr. Tague was unanimously elected Chairperson.**

Milton Henderson was also asked to serve as Member-at-Large, which he accepted. No other nominations were offered and **Mr. Henderson was unanimously elected Member-at-Large.** Together, the Chairperson, Co-chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Member-at-Large will comprise the Executive Committee of the Task Force.

The Task Force decided to meet monthly on the last Tuesday of every month from 10:00 A.M. to noon for the remainder of the year at a downtown location. Mr. Keenan suggested that the Task Force meet at the Conference Room at 200 Ross Street and would check on the availability of the room when he returned to his office. Due to potential scheduling conflicts among members, two meetings were tentatively scheduled for September 2002.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Mr. Condeluci passed out a number of flyers for events in the coming months. They are included as attachments to the minutes.

Mr. Chrisner reminded all members of Three Rivers Center for Independent Living's Walk and Roll event to be held on Saturday, July 27, 2002 at their office.

Mr. Condeluci also gave all members Expense Report forms and gave explanations to all members on how to use them. A copy of the form is included as an attachment to these minutes.

The Task Force decided to send copies of all approved minutes to the Mayor, all members of City Council, the County Executive, and all members of County Council. Mr. Keenan will be responsible for sending minutes to those listed once the Task Force has approved them.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

THE NEXT TASK FORCE MEETING:	DATE:	August 27, 2002
	TIME:	10:00 A.M.
	LOCATION:	200 Ross Street First Floor Conference Room

Subsequent meetings are scheduled at 10:00 A.M. on the following dates and will be located at 200 Ross Street unless notified otherwise.

Tuesday, September 24, 2002 or Thursday, September 26, 2002 (tentative dates)  
Tuesday, October 29, 2002  
Tuesday, November 26, 2002  
Tuesday, December 31, 2002