

**MINUTES**  
**January 27, 1999**

- Location:** United Cerebral Palsy  
4638 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA
- Members Present:** Judith Barricella, Chairperson, Ruth Walter Brenyo,  
William Coleman, Al Condeluci, Paul O’Hanlon
- Members Absent:** Linda Dickerson, Richard McGann
- Others Present:** Marshall Gordon, Liz Healey, Theresa Lomperski, Teekie  
Smith, and Joyce Redmerski (for the financial report only)

The minutes of the December 8, 1998 meeting were approved with this addition: a discussion was held regarding taping the Task Force meetings. Taping the meetings was agreed upon with the understanding that the audio tape is to be used for the translation of minutes only. The audio tape is not for distribution.

Judy Barricella indicated that ADA, Inc. was requesting the endorsement of the Task Force in the development of a public forum/town meeting involving the Pirates’ stadium. Judy indicated that this had been a previous topic of interest and felt comfortable giving the okay to Theresa Lomperski to proceed with plans. The Task Force agreed. Theresa will be the conduit of information between the planning process and the Task Force, keeping Task Force members informed. Theresa indicated that the architect (HOK) was on a fast track, so something could be developed as early as March or April.

Teekie Smith offered her assistance as the contact person for Allegheny County. Teekie indicated that to-date the county does not have a person in an official position as the ADA Coordinator. She is currently acting as the ADA Compliant Officer. The Task Force supports her in this role and would like her to attend meetings regularly. Teekie indicated that it may be appropriate to bring issues before county personnel in their operations meetings as they arise. In the event Theresa receives calls regarding issues within the county’s jurisdiction she is to forward them to Teekie.

Paul explained the proactive versus reactive nature of the Task Force. He also reviewed how the Task Force is funded and requested that Teekie ensure that the funding continues and is dispersed on a timely basis. Teekie agreed.

Joyce Redmerski presented the financial report. She indicated that the DD Council has extended the grant to September 30, 1999. In addition, a review was made by HSDF funding. There is nothing negative to report; everything is in order. Task Force member expenses were discussed as being reimbursable. The DD Council money may be used for Disability Agenda 2000 meetings. Expense Report forms are available from Joyce.

Theresa Lomperski responded to Bill Coleman's question regarding accessible parking spaces on Wm. Penn Avenue, outside the old Alco Building. Theresa indicated that in order to regain designated accessible spaces on this street it is necessary for the tenants of the building to petition the City of Pittsburgh, Department of Engineering & Construction, Director, Fred Reginella. Theresa gave Bill the address for such a letter.

A decision was made to address the limited amount of parking available for people with disabilities in the downtown area—particularly van accessible parking in City of Pittsburgh and privately owned parking ramps due to low clearances. Private ramps include Oxford Center's. Judy Barricella indicated that she could not use a free parking pass during First Night to park in any of these lots because of low clearances. It was noted that the City of Pittsburgh Parking Authority has obligations under the ADA as well as 504. Therefore, van accessible parking must be provided. Paul O'Hanlon presented the idea of a cooperative agreement with adjacent surface lots to provide van accessible parking. Theresa will create an issues list and circulate it among Task Force members. Judy will compose a letter to the Parking Authority with copies sent to the Mayor and County Commissioners.

The Task Force voiced an interest in being involved in the evaluation of the Convention Center renovation. Theresa will contact City Planning to determine how the Task Force can get involved.

The Task Force would like to encourage people with disabilities to run for an elected position on the County Board. Teekie will send Theresa the Home Rule Charter for distribution to members. Teekie indicated that the yearly stipend is \$9,000 plus some expenses. The Disability Agenda 2000 mailing list, other mailing lists, and contacts with organizations will be used to distribute this information to the community.

A "Meet the County Executive" forum was discussed. It was agreed that this would be a great idea. Mid-April is a target for such an event. United Cerebral Palsy on Centre Avenue was suggested as a possible location. It was suggested that 3-4 questions be developed and included in a letter of invitation to participate in such a forum. The event is to present issues to the community and to determine each candidate's thoughts and objectives for improving Allegheny County for people with disabilities. Questions to be forwarded to Theresa for discussion at next Task Force meeting.

Marshall Gordon and Liz Healey presented an update of the Disability Agenda 2000. A student intern may be hired to assist with the project. Liz thought it might be a good idea to bring sector chairs together by March to discuss progress and product. The idea of public meetings was raised to gain more input on issues, after all sectors have had a chance to meet and develop objectives. The intent is to ask interested people to address sector issues. Marshall will work with the Task Force on developing an event. Paul and Al will assist in this effort. Marshall will keep the Task Force members up to date on sector meetings by distributing meeting notices. Task Force members are invited to attend any and all meetings.

Al distributed information on the Human Services Leadership Coalition. Some discussion followed.

Projects and programs were discussed for the year 1999. One idea was an accessible home show. Another was assisting the URA HAPI program with a brochure. Al motioned to hire the Commonwealth Mentor Group to coordinate a housing conference. Ruth seconded and the vote was unanimous. Judy Barricella abstained from the voting process. Minority outreach, raised at the December 8, 1998 meeting will be considered an event for the year 2000.

STAFF NOTE: This Task Force meeting was not recorded due to mechanical difficulties.

STAFF NOTE: The Task Force meeting schedule published in the December 8, 1999 minutes is no longer valid. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 1999 from 1 to 3 PM. The location is UCP of Pittsburgh.

Meeting adjourned.

The following are meeting handouts. These handouts are included as an enclosure to these minutes for Task Force members not in attendance only.

- Task Force Budget
- Disability Agenda 2000 Progress Report
- Human Services Leadership Coalition (2)

