

City of Pittsburgh / Allegheny County

Task Force on Disabilities

Monday, July 18, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Task Force Members in Attendance

Jeff Parker, Paul O'Hanlon, Milton Henderson, Aurelia Carter, James C. Nochese, Sarah Goldstein,

Task Force Members Absent

Joe Wasserman, Janet Evans, John Tague, Gabe McMoreland, Karen Warman, Richard McGann, Katherine Seelman,

Also In Attendance

Dawn Smidga, Barbara Parees, Rob Oliver, Sarah Kinter, Georganne Lingenfelter, Tracy Cummins, Jessie Mre, Amber Bahler, Robin Smith, Dustin Gibson, Ali R. Abdullah, Peter Roh, Michael Hansom, Emily Galfond, Ryan Schaitkin, Michael Hansom, Kori Eckstrom, Nana Kofi, Tamere Lester, Keyona Edmonds, Myliah Dorsett

Welcome and Introduction

The program started around 1:00 pm and began with the introduction of the Task Force members and individuals in the audience.

Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report and Minutes

Mr. O'Hanlon said they do not have a quorum for approval and is going to postpone the review and approval for May and June minutes. He said that Mr. Parker is going to give a treasurer's review but will not approve it. Mr. Parker said that he is not the approved treasurer and that Mr. Tague contacted him and said that, for the new fiscal year that they have a \$9,000 budget. He also said that, the review of the budget they would need to have \$7,150 to pay for the accommodations for the meeting that includes closed captioning and interpreters. He reported said that it will leave them with \$1,850 dollars of the remaining budget. Mr. Parker said that Mr. Tague said that the previous year's budget, the previous fiscal year ended with \$3,400 that has been assigned and encumbered for the special symposium that they're going to doing later this year. Mr. O'Hanlon closed the reviews of the treasurer's report and starts off the introduction of the interns on their projects.

Report on Code Review

Mr. Roh starts off his reporting of Code review which he has been working on. He has been reviewing the City's Zoning Code and been suggesting amendments to comply with the ADA and other applicable civil rights laws too. He stated that the goal is to make Code friendlier to the disability community, he reviewed the entire Zoning Code and made his suggestions for it. Mr. Roh mentioned that he is setting up a meeting with the Law Department attorneys and the Zoning board staff. He said that reason for it because he is a law student and needs his work to be reviewed by an attorney. Mr. Roh said that, once that is done will propose an official amendment of city Code.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked Mr. Roh what year he is in at law school, he answered that he is at his first year of law school. Mr. O'Hanlon asked what sort of changes that he is proposing on the Codes and how should it be altered. Mr. Roh said that when the Zoning board approves certain district they only piece of law they look to is the Code. He also mentioned that they should look federal regulations such as the ADA. Mr. O'Hanlon asked why they should do that and Mr. Roh answered saying that the Zoning Code does not have an ADA requirement in their Code when they voting on approvals.

Ms. Carter said that people with disabilities don't have access to the information and she asked if there is a way to get access for it. Mr. Roh answered said that there is a notice requirement in the Zoning Code and suggested that there are reasonable accommodations should be provided with those who have disabilities. Ms. Carter asked how will people know that and will they have a mechanism to ensure that people with disabilities will be able to receive this information. She mentioned that the reason why she asked that question because there are people with different types of disabilities such as visual impairments. Mr. Roh said that law has to be a little vague so it can account to all possibilities. He also said that and thinks that reasonable accommodations and her concerns are included in all the accommodations.

Mr. Henderson mentioned that the ADA is a legal document and asked if the city is out of compliance. He also asked, when their last update with their coding was. Mr. Roh said that he wasn't sure when it was updated because Mr. Meritzer never informed him. He also answered that, as far as he is informed and when he looked at the Code there was no language there that ensure what Mr. Henderson's concern. Mr. Henderson stated that law changes shouldn't they have changed their law and also asked if the law is out of compliance. Mr. O'Hanlon says that the ADA is a civil rights law and Zoning Codes doesn't address the civil rights. He also says that it does have to comply and ensure that it doesn't violate someone's civil rights. Mr. O'Hanlon said that there might be a special element so that, that they're strictly speaking out of compliance.

Mr. Nochese said he believes there is a solution. He said when someone applies to a permit for a building or another type of permit. He mentioned that the permit needs to have a checklist on specific items that are pertaining to the ADA. Mr. Nochese said that the items need to be added so the builders and other individuals that are getting permits are required follow the checklist. He said that is the only resolution that remains.

Ms. Goldstein thanks Mr. Roh for his work and was to look at the Zoning Codes and to make comparisons between that and the ADA to see if there is any gaps. She mentioned that she is with the City of Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations and said that she had received public accommodations and complaints about sidewalk cafes. She said that the cafes that are

supposed to extend to a certain limit based on the permit and have enough space on the sidewalk for people with disabilities to use the sidewalk space per usual. Ms. Goldstein said the Permit Department and the Department of Public Works (DPW) work together for that process. It is not just the Permit Department making those decisions. It is the DPW that approves the constructions as well. Ms. Goldstein said that the future interns will look at this issue and that commission has an interests in looking at that as well. She said that the DPW make decisions on where sidewalks and crosswalks should during constructions. Ms. Goldstein also mentioned that the bus stop should move to and will have to work with the Port Authority and it is much complex than what it says within the City Code. She mentioned that there are other city agencies that are working together to make these decisions. She said that Mr. Nochese's suggestion is important and useful for these agencies involved so they can have access to this checklist and will be part of the access. She said that if her Department is part of it then she will be happy to help.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked if there is anything in the area that needs to be changed. He mentioned one area which deals with commercial space that changes hands and often that there is one business in that space they moved out or went out of business. He said that the new business came in and did a lot of work by changing their look but didn't improve the accessibility features by having the barriers removed. He questioned that should they be required when they made the changes to make accessibility modifications. He also said that he learned that there are the change of use or whether or not the alteration dealt with an element. He mentioned the one step barrier where the store has a step. Mr. O'Hanlon asked what kind of alteration effect where that step is that triggers on removing it. He question if it the store's door be chained. Mr. Roh said that the barriers would have to be removed within a reasonable effect and suggests that it to be removed.

Mr. Henderson said that he is glad that Mr. Roh brought up sidewalk issue. He said that he drives an accessible van and his ramp deploys on to the sidewalk. He mentioned that there was a sidewalk café that had a chair that was blocking his van which was an obstruction to using the sidewalk for accessibility. Mr. Roh said that the sidewalk is city property and it has a right to ensure that Mr. Henderson has reasonable rights to use his right. He also said that in his opinion that it is a violation. Mr. Henderson said that this problem is overlooked in the Disability Community because people think that people don't drive because they're disabled. Ms. Galfond said that her experience with the ADA, she had ran into types of complaints and what she came across that anything that isn't permanent it is not clear in the law. She also said that it is not enforceable if the barrier is not permanent because the business owner would be called and would move the chairs for people. She stated that the way of a compliant is to deal with it.

Ms. Lingenfelter talked about bike trail on the south side works on the bike trail where there is an Irish restaurant that has their stuff permanently in the ground. She stated that she can't get passed it and would have to go on the road. Ms. Lingenfelter mentioned that she complained to Mr. Meritzer about it.

Mr. Parker said that the City of Pittsburgh put in protected bike lanes that obstruct access to curbs. He also said they put in designated bike lanes whether it is clear that they have access to the curbs and pile on that it obstructs access to it. He mentioned that it is the City of Pittsburgh project that is doing that and plans on continuing it.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked Mr. Roh what point would people like him would be invited to attend. Mr. Roh answered said that is question that Mr. O'Hanlon would ask Mr. Meritzer.

Report on Parklets and Playgrounds

Ms. Eckstrom starts off her introduction on her project on completing the facility and accessibility surveys which is based on current ADA guidelines. She said that Ms. Galfond updated the packets to make it current and include more things in it. Ms. Eckstrom said that she and Ms. Galfond discovered that the list of parks, parklets and playgrounds were using was very out of date and didn't include the majority of the parks that were in the city. She said she started to work with the high school interns been going out into fields to look for parks making sure that they exists and the information that they have was there. She said that they have the community centers and the senior centers completed. She stated that this is a slow process but it is a priority.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked Ms. Eckstrom if there are any parks that don't exist anymore. She said yes there was one in Lawrenceville which was dated in 2001 and since then development has paved over and now a parking lot. Ms. Eckstrom mentioned that she and the high school interns were not aware of it.

Ms. Goldstien asked Ms. Eckstrom who she does the facility surveys with. Ms. Eckstrom said that she is completing the surveys with Mr. Meritzer and other interns. She mentioned that it is based on the ADA guidelines. Ms. Goldstein also asked if they were completing with community center residence Ms. Eckstrom said that she is surveying the park by measuring physical aspects of it including facilities, buildings that are ADA compliant.

Ms. Carter thanked Ms. Eckstrom and the interns for working on the surveys. She mentioned that it has been long overdue since 2001 and her hope would be that the second phase of the work to be accessible. She said that there are many kids with disabilities that don't have the same opportunities like everyone else to make friends, have access to open space and to be included. The next step to look at the equipment to see if it is accessible for the kids to make sure that the same opportunities. She also asked if it something that will be at the county's radar at the some point.

Mr. Nochese talked about today's technology and amazes him about the craze on the Pokemon Go App. He said that it is too bad for the app that they could do the same concept as the Pokemon Go where they are on the phones, come across the barrier and could fill out the information on a app and send it so the information could be gathered to improve accessibility in the city. Mr. Nochese said that the technology now is so advanced and he watch these people playing Pokemon that are on a craze on finding these characters. He asked that if there is a way to use technology in some regard where they can come across the barrier and apply it to accessibility and have an app be created to send in information so it can be resolved. Ms. Eckstrom said that her department isn't working for something but recently attending an Oakland for all meeting. She mentioned that the Oakland for All meeting talked about, using technology and walking around the streets of Oakland that indicate barriers for more accessibility.

Report on One Step Survey

The High School Interns Mr. Lester and Mr. Kofi introduce themselves on the report on the One Step Survey. Mr. Kofi said that the One Step Survey is to make sure people with disabilities to have access to building. He said that it is also ensure their access to employment services and businesses. Mr. Lester said that he and the other high school interns went to neighborhood such as Shadyside, Highland Park, Homewood and Hazelwood. He said that they went door to door to

see if it is accessible for people with disabilities. Mr. Lester also mentioned that the places weren't successful.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked if any of the neighborhoods were considered being better or worse for others. Mr. Lester said that Homewood was better for people with disabilities. Mr. Henderson asked if they engage in the owners and told them about the One Step program. Mr. Lester and Mr. Kofi said yes that they spoke with the owners and they took measurements of their bathrooms. Mr. Lester talked about their first week and how they did measurements of the court building. Mr. Abdullah asked about how they are tracking the information and wonder if they made a list of the places. Mr. Kofi said that they recorded the addresses, places and zip Codes to see if it was accessible for the handicaps.

Ms. Galfond said that they are recording the information and now they are making a business directory. She said the directory would have what business are accessible/non-accessible. She said that if it is accessible and does it have one steps or many steps. Ms. Galfond also mentioned that in the future that they will be contacting the business about the One Step Program so they can be part of it. Ms. Carter thanked the high school interns on working on the One Step Program. She also said that she knows the Homewood neighborhood very well and people want to know what they are doing there while they are doing measurements around their neighborhood. Ms. Edmond said that in Homewood there are local people and business owners that love their community. She mentioned that the local people were wondering what they were doing in their neighborhood and they were very interested of what was going on. Mr. Nochese said that he is very appreciative on both Mr. Lester and Mr. Kofi on their involvement of the one step program. He also said that they would do a better job in job in the future and thanked both of them.

Report on Hospital Compliance Guidelines for the Mentally III

Mr. Schaitkin starts off his introduction on his report on the Hospital Compliance Guidelines for individuals with mental health issues or psychiatric disabilities on non-mental health visits. He mentioned that he is working with Mr. Meritzer on this project. He said that it hopes to increase the awareness of among the hospital administration on how to provide proper services for inpatients, outpatients, and emergency room care and all aspects of healthcare on how they are interacting with those patients when they come in to non-mental illness problems. Mr. Schaitkin mentioned that they're on the first step of the process and hope to collect information from the hospitals so they can contact with them to meet with the administration to see how they interact with patients with these types of issues. He also said that he wants to reach out with the community and how they are experiencing their visits with different hospitals to determine any disconnections. He also wants to see what type of accommodations that they would like to see to make a more comfortable visit for them while they go to different hospitals.

Ms. Goldstein said that she works at mental health and got complaints that people are treated as if they have a mental health issue when they have a physical disability. She asked does this stem from the idea that people are dismissing their physical issue while they have a mental problem. Ms. Goldstein also asked if it was emergency room only, hospital stays, integrate mental health or physical health. She asked Mr. Schaitkin what type of questions he ask the hospital. Mr. Schatkin said that Mr. Meritzer wanted to look into this project for quite a while. He also said

that they haven't spoken to hospital administrations yet and doesn't know what to expect in terms.

Mr. O'Hanlon said the Task Force and Mr. Meritzer worked with other interns worked on a Hospital Compliance Manual for people who are deaf and hard of hearing. He said that people who are deaf would go to a hospital and they didn't have any interpreters. He also mentioned that they would have to write down notes back in fourth which wasn't a good way. Mr. O'Hanlon said that it was the greatest need within the community around the deaf and hard of hearing. He said that people with mental illness it had the second toughest problem in the hospital area. Mr. Schatkin said that he is familiar with the guidelines and looked them over. He also said that it is a starting point on what they're expecting the outcome to be and able to come out with specific guidelines of accommodations to provide to hospitals so they could know what they are not responding to well. He also pointed out what the community feels that need to be addressed well. Mr. Schatkin said they're not only focusing on emergency room intakes but long term stays and inpatient/outpatient visits. He said that he contacted VA system, UPMC, West Penn Allegheny to set up meetings with the administration. He mentioned that, he is hoping to involve many people from different aspects of those hospital systems so they can get a comprehensive view that can be improved upon.

Mr. Nochese said that he is a part of the Hospital Compliance Manual guideline in the past and pointed out a new issue. He mentioned that his mother is hearing person while she is at the hospital long term she would ask for an interpreter but they would tell her no Mr. Nochese said that his mother is the patient and the interpreter is not for her but for him because he is making the decisions for her. He said that he is the power of attorney for her and that they need to allow him to have the interpreter there so they can discuss the situation with the doctors. Mr. Nochese said that the doctors said that he doesn't have the rights because he is not the patient but he is there to aid his mother. He said that this needs to be worked on so that the hospitals are aware that if it is a family member or visitors they have the rights to request for an interpreter. Mr. Nochese said that, it doesn't apply the rights to patient but it applies to other individuals that are involved with the patient. He mentioned that person would need an interpreter regardless of who they are. Mr. Schaitkin said that it is an interesting point but can't speak necessary on how it will play on the deaf and hard of hearing community. He said how the guidelines were unable to protect your rights as a visitor. He said that heading to these meetings with hospital administrations regarding mental health and psychiatric problems which is something that he wants to address is that visitors and guest of the patient. He believes he saw that in the guidelines for treating patient with hearing issues. He mentioned that he is not an expert on guidelines but it is something that he wants to address.

Ms. Carter asked while she was a part of the guideline in the past why it wasn't chosen to go the hospitals first and not interact in the community. She also asked if there have been things done before or just get the consumer perspective on how they been treated. Mr. Schaitkin answered that, speaking to Mr. Meritzer the decision was made to go to hospital administration instead of clientele first because he thinks it would be easier to work with them if they felt we were not trying to work around them to accomplish this. He also said that by getting their input on what the hospital administrations does and how do they use to accommodate their patients that would allow them to go back to the community. Mr. Schaitkin mentioned on what do these accommodations do in their practice and where the disconnect is. He thinks having the hospital input would give a good place to start on asking people with mental issues and working with the

hospitals instead of around them. Ms. Carter said that it is going to be critical and important not to wait until the last minute to get consumer involvement and individual participation. She also said she wants to put the plug and connect with the organizations that are part of the mental health community which will give the best information from the individuals and the organizations who support them. Mr. Schaitkin said that he is a mental health counseling student, he understands the need and thinks it is important to get an input on those who are in the community that are dealing with these related issues. He said that they are going to look at this.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked if Mr. Schaitkin is beginning this or transitioning off of this. He also asked if he is going to be working on this issue on going or a close out report. Mr. Schaitkin said that he is closing this out because he is finishing in four weeks as an intern. He stated that he and Mr. Meritzer contacted the three major hospital systems in Allegheny County area, set up one meeting and hopes to set up more before he leaves. Mr. O'Hanlon said that it would be useful to have survey results on mental health consumers on who they report are friendly or unfriendly hospitals to know what their reputation is in the community. He mentioned that because when Mr. Schaitkin meets with the hospitals to identify what is the best and what is the worst. Mr. O'Hanlon said that there are a lot of entities out there that may have some of this information already depending on what hospital it is. He also said he would encourage certain amount of outreach to identify what potential allies, to see what they have and it maybe can form the process. Mr. Schaitkin said that is part of the plan to get consumer feedback to the hospitals. He pointed out the ADA website has a survey for consumers to fill out to talk about their experience at the hospitals regarding those with hearing issues and will have the information be giving back to the hospitals for feedback. Mr. Schaitkin said that their main concern on how individuals with mental health issues being treated at hospitals not for mental health treatment. He said that they are trying to seek out that information later on and plans to talk to other hospitals on how to accommodate on those types of things. Mr. Schaitkin mentioned that Western Psych would accommodate better than a UPMC hospital better. Mr. O'Hanlon asked if the survey on the web is specifically toward the deaf and hard of hearing right now not for the mental health issues yet. Mr. Schaitkin answered saying that it is only for the deaf and hard of hearing and the mental health issues will be later on.

Mr. Gibson expressed concern reaching to the hospital prior to engaging to the community. He said that it allows to pin a narrative talking about hospitals on discriminatory practices and if it is painted by the hospital administration it would be a barrier to receiving good input in the community. Mr. Gibson asked if there are any steps in place to rectify these situation and what the precautions would be. Mr. Schaitkin said that he will mention it to Mr. Meritzer when they discuss it next. He answered the other question saying that they won't be collecting any identifiable information and would be anonymous so the community can fill it out. He also said that there wouldn't be a confidential issues.

Ms. Carter asked if there is a way the surveys will be linked to the county website so everybody can have access to. Mr. Schaitkin said that he will mention it to Mr. Meritzer so he will make it happen.

Report on Update on Police Committee Meeting

Ms. Hansom starts off the introduction on her report on the update on the police committee meeting from May. On her presentation she talks about the action items within the meeting. She said what she learned from meeting it discussed on the types of training the police needs to do

while they interact with someone with a disability. She mentioned physical, mental and hearing disability. She said that it is a good idea to have these types of training because the police need to know what type of things to do while they have to deal with people with disabilities. Ms. Hansom mentioned that she is on the autism spectrum and wants to police to know that she has a disability so they can understand what is going and how to approach her. She talks about one of the action items with Commander Kudrow plans on setting up a walk around with the disability advocates for anyone is interested in attending. She talks about another action items with Lt. Zett will send out emails of the dates and time for the next CIT training so the disability advocates would be a part of the training. She mentioned that Chief McLay will set up the idea of informal interactions between the officers and individuals with disabilities at the community events during the training. Ms. Hansom said that Ms. Hart and Ms. Randall will work together on creating a list of app that will improve communication skills. She said that this is good because it will help improve communication skills and how to communicate to people with disabilities. Ms. Hansom said that the disability advocates will create a description on how the DRC model will function in the bureau in the next upcoming meeting. She said that Lt. Zett will do some research to see if other cities will have any disability resource officer or function. Ms. Hansom said that the Disability advocates will compile concise disability information for the power points slides that will be submitted to Commander Holmes for approval and displayed on the TV screens of each of the police zones. She said that Ms. Hart will email the policy handouts she worked on when to call for interpreters. Ms. Hansom said that Ms. Hart and Ms. Randall will research on communication cards to use in the police cars for emergencies. Ms. Hansom said that Mr. Meritzer will create an introduction to the Pittsburgh Public Schools and the police force on the Start on Success Program. She mentioned that he will send out the emails to Commander Kudrow on the list of disability related events that has the calendars of available dates to set up the meeting. Ms. Hansom said that Sgt. Kroll plans on conducting a meeting and tour with 911 center. She mentioned that the advocates would need to do a list of those who are interested in going and upcoming dates for it. She also mentioned that the FISA foundation is going to send out a doodle poll for the upcoming police meeting in September.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked Ms. Hansom if one of the city Task Force members was at the meeting and she answered saying Mr. McMoreland was at the meeting. Ms. Carter said that Pittsburgh Public Schools on the start on success program should include the City Connections program which is a program for people with disabilities. She mentioned that Ms. Hansom did a good job on putting the update on the meeting together and thanked her and Mr. McMoreland for coming to the meeting.

Ms. Lingenfelter asked what are the dates and location of the meetings and Ms. Carter answered that the FISA foundation is helping on scheduling the meetings with the police. She mentioned that the meetings don't happen quickly and they go through using the doodle poll on scheduling it. Ms. Carter said that the meetings are located on the Zone 5 station which is located on the Northside.

Mr. Nochese said that the training should be provided once every two or three years to keep them in a loop. He mentioned that sometimes the police would take the training and would forget because they don't have to take it over and over. Mr. Nochese added that, they should do this training every two or three years so that they are more aware and sensitive of what is going on. He said he wants that in writing and whatever is best that they have to take this annually and over three years. Ms. Hansom agrees with what Mr. Nochese is saying.

Ms. Kinter asked if the CIT training is for physical and mental health disabilities. Ms. Carter said that CIT crosses over disabilities and there is a mental health disabilities. She mentioned that it talks about different disabilities in reference on how you interact and have a sleuth of different speakers that come in on focused areas. Mr. O'Hanlon thanks Ms. Hansom on her presentation, said that it is a very important project and they're very interested in it.

Report On Universal Design

Ms. Galfond starts off her introduction on her presentation of her Universal Design project. She said she had an opportunity to do a few design topics around the office and mentioned one on sitting on the city's Contextual Design Advisory Panel (CDAP) and it discussed the concern the notice on taking accessibility to an account in the beginning of their design process like adding a ramp or something small. She mentioned that they wanted to make sure the architects and designers understood that universal design and accessibility was important and not just something they need to meet standards. Ms. Galfond mentioned the reason for the universal design project was to produce a flyer and will be handed out at the end of the meeting. She said that the flyer is going to be handed out to the CDAP members and all the applicants that attend so they can understand that universal design can be incorporated in an esthetic way and not just involving having a flat floor and making wide enough. She also said that they would understand it is not only for physical disabilities and also about mental issues, deaf and hard of hearing and any type of issue that is relevant. Ms. Galfond asked if anyone had any questions or email Mr. Meritzer to add anything in the flyer.

Mr. Abdullah asked if it is she part of the one step program and Ms. Galfond answered that it is part of it. She also mentioned that it will be used for future development projects. She mentioned that working with the one step program she noticed there are a lot of applicants has been saying that there is 20 percent minimum accessibility requirements. Ms. Galfond also said that the applicants would say that they have an accessible bathroom and maybe they don't need an accessible entrance and don't have the money for it. She said if they have it in the beginning and that their design is accessible and incorporated into the esthetic of the building. She said if applicants have that then they don't have to worry meeting the minimum requirements and should have incorporating of the building as soon as possible.

Mr. Henderson mentioned to Ms. Galfond about new construction in the Shadyside, Bloomfield, Garfield and the East Liberty area and asked her if she looked at the designs. He also asked her if the people from the universal design are keeping up with the status when it comes the new construction. She answered saying that it is only for people who go to the CDAP meeting and it is not a requirement for new construction. Ms. Galfond mentioned that the point of the meeting is to have a conversation with the people that are involved in the city because they are aware of Zoning Codes and what are getting approved so that the applicants don't have to go into to PLI and Zoning. Ms. Galfond said she doesn't believe that every new construction comes into these meetings. She said it will be on the city website and should be involved in future facility surveys.

Mr. O'Hanlon asked what kind of things are brought in the group. He also asked if it was renovation jobs and how much is it new construction. She mentioned that it is majority of it is new construction. Mr. O'Hanlon asked if it is individual projects or neighborhood wide. Ms. Galfond said that there is all sorts of projects that were used in neighborhoods including Lawrenceville that are blocks wide.

Mr. Nochese wonder if there is some type of national level recognition of universal design or national or state level and how does it work. Ms. Galfond said that there is nothing legally that involves national design but the guidelines on the back is from the Center of Universal Design which is located in North Carolina State University which were the ones who created the program. Ms. Smith asked wondering if there is something that the Task Force could do on working towards requiring city and county requirement on getting universal design. She mentioned that it would help all the residents if they have the chance of new construction. Mr. O'Hanlon said that he is going to address that in the next section and believes the answer is correct.

Vox Pop

Mr. O'Hanlon started off the Vox Pop saying that the Task Force is planning on architectural event. He said that the Task Force had some money that wasn't spend last year and wanted to do a special project. He mentioned that they have a verge of scheduling it but it was postponed probably a month and a half. Mr. O'Hanlon said that the Task Force is bringing in a national architect who is a specialist in the area of universal design. He said that the Task Force have a serious of individuals of the access board that will talk about Code requirements for new urban communities that includes physical, hearing, autism spectrum related issues of design. Mr. O'Hanlon said that they're planning the event it would be scheduled for some time early fall. He said that the latest kind of wrinkle is that they are looking at the experts that are coming are going to address the question on what is state of the art in terms of accessible community design today. He mentioned that it is something that everybody does and it can be done at the works. Mr. O'Hanlon said that they are looking at identifying someone who can discuss taking the next step on ideas, how to make it reality and make it a process in the community. He said that he find about something too late to impact its direction, the public is informed long after the designs are done and too late to change where the direction is heading. He said it feels like he is window dressing when the decision is made. He mentioned that he is finding out the decisions are being made without looking at accessibility as an afterthought. Mr. O'Hanlon said he feels like he is fighting his way up stream on these decisions being made and have an impact on direction on where it is going. Mr. O'Hanlon says he is hearing about now and it is too late for it. He said that there is an event in the fall to address these things and will find a way to alter it. He said he wants to make sure to have the correct people right here and have it not just the disability community but within the development community. He said he wants to takes this on only not just an academic thing and just a practicum. He said that it will start to see a change in the community by changing the way we develop. Mr. O'Hanlon mentioned that there will be a meeting on August 1st to set up further plans for the event and asked if anyone is interested in going.

Mr. Henderson said that the Task Force should not be swimming upstream and be a part of everything that has been going on lately. He mentioned that they have been come too far and should not be treated like this. Mr. Henderson also said that they weren't a part of the Bicentennial parade and that they should have been a part of it.

Mr. Nochese said that they need to do something with the construction of new homes and feels that it is a time for them add accessibility to all homes. He mentioned that the homes needs to ready, should be built that way and doesn't matter if they have a disability or not. He said that he is getting older, may become a wheel chair user and if he wants to move to another place it should be already accessible. He mentioned that it is time for the construction of homes and

residents to be accessible, should be required and to start right now. He said that the new construction needs to be involved, be pushed on it that by the developers and for the accessibility. Mr. Nochese said that it needs to start as soon as possible.

Ms. Carter said she is glad there are moving forward things with the universal design. She said that she is still fighting in the Larimer neighborhood and said that it has been a struggle and is moving forward. Ms. Carter even pointed out that the Task Force needs to be a part of things that it relates to the City and County. Ms. Carter said she was disturbed about the peace summit and didn't know that if any members of the Task Force was invited. She also mentioned that when there is a peace summit it involves the quality of life for everybody. She stated as a City employee, the Task Force should be a part of things and not be left out. She closes her speech by saying that they should be a part of thing and not an afterthought.

Mr. Gibson said that he was a part with the peace summits on Tuesday and Friday. He said that the police commissioned conveyed the meeting with a few faith based leaders and they served with the US Attorney's Task Force on police community relations group. Mr. Gibson also pointed that they have a window for criminal justice reform which talks about policing that it is an extension of a larger system. He said that there have been a couple of reports come out on by Respectability USA to give language into tools to the fight that they're taking on. Mr. Gibson mentioned that 40 percent of the jails are stocked with people who have disabilities and 31 percent of the prison and that is the larger issue. He pointed out the policing in Pittsburgh they have a chief right now that is pushing the community policing and have the eyes of the nation with the national initiative on trust and building the community justice. He said that there a meeting happening every week for people including himself and people within the disabilities community that are out there in these conversations. Mr. Gibson pointed out that it needs a larger efforts for the disability advocates and that Ms. Carter put together things and Mr. McMoreland attended events related to it. He mentioned the CIT training that him and Mr. McMoreland attended and said that it wasn't too extensive. Mr. Gibson said that the training should not be a separate piece and access should be a part of their training. He mentioned that the training is a separate piece and it wasn't a good one. Mr. Gibson mentioned when you see situations like the Wilkinsburg incident with Bruce Kelly Jr. He also pointed out that these types of situations like that it is important for the disability community should speak out against it. Mr. Gibson said that particular situation as well as the state violence issues that were seen which is 42 percent people with psychiatric disabilities that were killed by police this year out of 570. He said it is more so about the narrative that is painted after the discourse which is basically pointing the blame on the individual with the disability rather than looking at the system that uplifted the situation.

Mr. Parker said that he agrees with that on another subject. He said that there were two representative from last month's meeting that gave a high level overview Power Point of the Complete Streets program that is coming forward in Pittsburgh. He mentioned that they left a draft of the Complete Streets policy and said that Mr. Meritzer told him that they had one meeting on the South Side and that one person with a disability showed up. Mr. Parker gave a suggestion to go to the City Website look up the complete street policy and make comments on it. He also said that the policy had very little about disability. He said he encourages the fact that more about people with disabilities and with the ADA and Access has to be involved in the guidelines that the complete streets are putting out there.

Ms. Carter said it cannot just be one meeting a year with the Mayor and the County Executive. She also said that it can't just be okay with one meeting and it needs to be continuously because everything is okay in one minute and the next they're being excluded.

Mr. Henderson made an announcement of the anniversary of the ADA and going to recognize the civil rights law and other celebrations. He said the reason of the civil rights act so they can educate them what the ADA has done. He also mentioned that there will be picnic that will include food fun and education. Mr. Henderson said that it will be located on the West Park which is on the North Side.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02. The next meeting will be scheduled next month on Monday August 16, 2016 at 1:00 pm in the first floor Conference Room of 200 Ross Street.