

wCity of Pittsburgh/Allegheny County

Task Force on Disabilities

July 16th, 2018

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Minutes

Task Force Members in Attendance:

Paul O'Hanlon, James "Chris" Noscheese, Milton Henderson, Karen Warmen, Sarah Goldstein, Richard McGann, John Tague

Task Force Members Absent:

Joe Wasserman, Janet Evans, Steve Fowler. Cori Frazier

Others in Attendance:

Cody Buckholt, Richard Meritzer, Dominic Klonicki, Ryan, Dustin Gibson, Ali Abdullah, Alisa Grissman, Taylor Blice, Nicole Nagle, Kiersten Wong, Sharon Clark, Brea, Mya, Teresa DePace, Zach Fohl

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. O'Hanlon: I would like to welcome everyone to the July 2018 City County Task Force on Disabilities meeting, now we will go around the table for introductions and then introduce the audience.

Action Items: Review and Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Mr. O'Hanlon: The first item on the agenda is an Action Item which is the review and approval of the treasurer's report, after which I'm going to insert the approval of the minutes, but go ahead John.

Mr. Tague: I had sent an email out to the task force about our current budget. The funding for 2018-2019 is the same as it was last year at \$9,000. The final report for 2017-18 will be at the August meeting because I don't have the final bill from Hearing and Deaf Services. When that comes in I'll email the final report out to task force members. Unless there is questions that is my report.

Mr. O'Hanlon: Well if that's the case, do I have a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report?

The report was approved unanimously by the Task Force members.

Mr. O'Hanlon: Next is approval of the minutes. The minutes were emailed out to everyone, they're also in the back, I want to say thank you for the minutes they're exceptionally good. I'm

impressed they're very useful. Any additions or corrections to the minutes? Do I hear a motion to approve?

The minutes were approved unanimously by the Task Force members.

County Civilian Review Board proposal

Mr. O'Hanlon: Okay, next on the agenda is the proposal that was introduced in County Council to create a County/Civilian Police Review Board, we have someone here from the county to tell us more and have a discussion if needed.

Ms. Pares: Hi, I'm the Deputy County Manager for Allegheny County, so I'm not actually with the council but I did talk with them about this resolution, and I have print copies of it and it is also on the website, allegheneycounty.us, and if you go to the County Council page and look under legislation it will be there. At Council's July 3rd meeting, this motion was made and passed 8-6, and the motion was made indicated that council members DeWitt Walton and Paul Kline are authorized to conduct up to 4 public information sessions around Allegheny County, but this morning they still did not determine where they would be. I told them I was coming here this morning so I'm sure the locations will be accessible. So the purpose of these session will be to aide them in getting information to evaluate the potential to draft an ordinance for the creation of a County/Citizen Police Review Board. Up to 2 meeting will be scheduled for August and 2 for September, each of those meeting will be open to the public and should any ordinance be drafted from those meetings it is anticipated that it will be introduced no later than October 23rd of this year. Right now they are in a proposed mode for have an Allegheny County Citizens Review Board.

Mr. O'Hanlon: Any questions?

Mr. Tague: Is it going to be a citizen's police review board, because I think the city has two of them, one for the police, and another for... I just want to be clear.

Ms. Pares: This one says evaluating the potential for drafting an ordinance relating to the creation of a County/Citizens Police Review Board.

Mr. Noscheese: I'm really happy that they started setting up a review board, we tried that 30 years ago, it seemed like it didn't work out at that time. Police need more sensitivity training, for deaf people because there is no communication. We had that training 30 years ago but it just dissolved so it is about time we set it up again. I know that several department in several areas, are not coordinated, one department will have some training and others don't.

Ms. Pares: It is important to note that there are 106 police departments in Allegheny County and the county has no authority over those 106 municipal police organizations so we can't force them to do anything, even training, so that's the challenge.

Mr. McGann: I'm happy to make an announcement to all of you. Pat Henry and myself, 3 months ago, at different police stations in CIT and Resolve for an intervention training for different police stations every month. Patrick Henry and Ben Moonon, who sometimes comes, have been working hard on this issue, and I went and it was really wonderful. I encourage police

to understand peoples with disabilities whether it is someone with a wheelchair or with a white cane. So the police learned about communication, and in addition to if it was dark, the person isn't going to be able to see as well to lip read. So there is a variety of situations that the police need to learn about but it really a work in progress and we've been helping a lot in that area. So as I said, it is still a work in progress to be ongoing, but we need to voice a need for all of the disability communities.

Mr. O'Hanlon: To say a few things, I realize you are here speaking on behalf of us but my understanding of this ordinance is that it is very exploratory. It is saying that we should have meetings and public events to comment and it seemed important for the disability community to be involved because it seems so often that people with disabilities

The Oakland Ramp Crawl / ADA Anniversary

Voting subcommittee meeting

Recommendations from the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Task Force

PLI inspections of public buildings and accessible entrances

Vox Pop

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 and will stand there until the next meeting on August 20, 2018.