

Illinois Accessibility Task Force
September 30, 2010 - 1:30 p.m. – CDB’s Chicago Office
with Video Conferencing from CDB’s Springfield Office
MEETING MINUTES

Task Force Members in Attendance

Senator Pamela Althoff, Chairperson (representing the Minority Leader of the Senate)
Douglas Gamble (representing the IL Capital Development Board)
Vickie Simpson (representing the Illinois Attorney General)
Robert Sondgeroth (representing the IL Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools)
Debbie Davis (representing the Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities)

Task Force Members not in Attendance

Rep. Keith Farnham (representing the Speaker of the IL House of Representatives)
Senator Michael Noland (representing the Senate President)
Rep. Tim Schmitz (representing the IL House of Representatives)
Vacant (representing the IL Association of School Boards)

Guests in Attendance

Christine Scully, LCM Architects
Rick Cooke, DME Access, Inc.
Susan Weitekamp, ISBE
Shirley Anderson, AIA Illinois & ICC
Ann Ford, IL Network of Centers for Independent Living
Ruth Burgess Thompson, Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities

Senator Althoff called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Introductions were made.

Senator Althoff asked Mr. Gamble to introduce the guest presenter. Mr. Gamble apologized for the low attendance and thanked Mr. Cooke for giving of his time and expertise. Mr. Cooke began by explaining that his experience was not in elevators, but rather in lifts. He mentioned that there are two basic types of lifts; a horizontal platform lift and a LU/LA. For the purposes of this meeting he would discuss in detail the use of limited use/limited access lifts. A LU/LA is limited to travel of 25 feet or less and can carry up to 1,400 pounds. This goes into a traditional elevator shaft way. The next step is a full elevator which his company does not provide.

Mr. Gamble gave an example of a press box which is 14 feet in the air. Mr. Cooke stated a full plexi-glass type unit would be approximately in the high \$20,000's installed (without any construction costs). The internal type unit would be approximately in the low \$20,000's installed (without any construction costs). Mr. Gamble asked if a portable type lift is a possibility. Mr. Cooke stated that he is not aware of a safe portable lift that would be appropriate for press boxes.

Mr. Gamble asked about press boxes which are 25 feet in the air which would require a LU/LA. Mr. Cooke stated that option is basically a smaller, less complicated elevator. Mr. Cooke stated that a unit would be approximately in the high \$40,000's to low \$50,000's installed (without any construction costs). Mr.

Gamble asked if Mr. Cooke thought this would be lower than a full elevator. Mr. Cooke stated he doesn't provide that information, however he has heard that sometimes elevators are less than a LU/LA and sometimes the cost is more. The cost can vary widely due to options which can be selected.

Ms. Simpson believes that the costs of a LU/LA could be reduced since the design will include a LU/LA and the school is not going back trying to retrofit a lift in.

Mr. Sondgeroth stated a small lift with volunteer labor has cost approximately \$15,000 in his past experience.

Mr. Sondgeroth recommends that the committee follow the Federal guidelines. There was committee discussion of what requirements should be considered. Mr. Gamble stated there were 35 public comments. He stated from their perspective they would like to see the same as the Federal standards. The State of Illinois' position right now is all press boxes must provide access, regardless of size.

Senator Althoff recommends the committee follow the Federal guidelines. Mr. Sondgeroth and Mr. Gamble also agree. Senator Althoff would like to set a specific time frame that states the issues specifically of press boxes needs to be revisited within a certain period of time (say 3-5 years). Senator Althoff would also like the report to reflect that this committee would like to continue after the recommendations have been made to look at the entire accessibility code.

It was noted that the Attorney General's Office and Coalition of Citizens in Illinois have a different position on the final decision of the committee and this will be reflected in the final report.

The Task Force discussed meeting again once Mr. Gamble has prepared a rough draft of the report from the committee. No date was set.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.