



TARGETED ACCESSIBILITY FUND OF NEW YORK

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Advisory Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2006

*** Approved by Board November 14, 2006***

Board Members Present: Patricia Knapp (Chairperson), Susan Zimmermann (Secretary/Treasurer), Charles Brennan, John Sutphen, Garnet Goins, Gregg Collar, Mary Burgess, and James Kittleman (PSC Staff). Members present via conference circuit were Juliana Janson (Vice-Chairperson) and Chris Duryea.

Others Present: Lou Piazza (TAF Manager) and Angelo Rella (Asst-TAF Manager).

- I. Patricia Knapp, Chairperson called the meeting to order. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded. The meeting took place at the NY Relay Center in Syracuse, NY allowing the TAF Board Members to tour the Relay Center at the conclusion of the meeting.
- II. Before the start of official business, Pat asked Lou to introduce Mary Beth Barber-Mothersell, the NY Relay Account Manager and Bill Jones, the NY Relay Center Manager. After the introductions, Mary Beth and Bill left to prepare for the guided tour of the facilities, which took place upon the conclusion of the Board meeting.
- III. The Board reviewed the minutes of the 5/9/2006 Board meeting. Having no changes, a motion was made by Charlie Brennan to adopt the 5/9/2006 minutes, seconded by John Sutphen and unanimously approved by the Board.
- IV. Lou provided a TAF status report. The April - June 2006 Assessment Summaries were presented. Charlie questioned why the Lifeline costs for the month of May and June were less than April's cost. Lou said he would do some research on those costs and would get back to the Board via e-mail. A motion was made by Susan Zimmermann to approve the status reports as presented, seconded by Gregg Collar and unanimously approved by the Board.
- V. Lou provided a TAF Administrative Expense Summary Report for the months of April 2006 thru June 2006. He told the board that the Treasurer (Susan Zimmermann) reviewed a more detailed summary and Susan reported that everything looked in order and she was satisfied. A motion was made by Susan Zimmermann to approve the expense reports as presented, seconded by Mary Burgess and unanimously approved by the Board.
- VI. Lou provided a status on the Telephone Relay Service (TRS). Lou informed the Board that, at the July PSC Session, the PSC approved and authorized the use of

Caption Telephone Service to be included with the existing NY Relay Services, effective January 2007. In July, Lou provided a summary of the Order along with a copy to all Board members. The Order directed TAF to negotiate with Sprint (NY's current relay Provider) on a rate and various other items. Lou informed the board that currently there is only one equipment provider (Ultra Tec) which provides equipment for that type of service, which goes under the trade name CapTel. Jim Kittleman said that Staff is currently in conversation with Ultra Tec about developing an equipment distribution plan, including the possible tracking of equipment being sold in NY, maintaining a priority list and utilization of an installment billing plan or credit card payment methods. Lou said that the Order left the door open on caption telephone service in the event that other forms of technology become available to provide this service. Lou is currently working with the industry Ad Hoc Committee prior to meeting with Sprint to negotiate a rate, at which time the Ad Hoc will present its recommendation to the Board, which in turn will submit its recommendation to the PSC for its approval. The expectation is that Sprint will file a tariff by the end of November, with a thirty day notice period.

Lou reminded the Board that, due to the competitive nature of relay services, and, as has been done in the past, those TAF Board members whose companies provide various Relay Services should recuse themselves from the recommendation vote.

As more develops, Lou will contact the Board Chairperson to set up a meeting to act on the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation. Barring any problems, TAF should have everything in motion to meet the PSC Order on service implementation.

- VII.** The next regular scheduled board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14th in Albany, NY – TAF/Pool Conference room.
- VIII.** John Sutphen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Charlie Brennan and approved unanimously by the Board. At that time the Board met to take a tour of the center.