

Mayor Menino's PILOT Task Force
Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2009

The meeting commenced at 2:00pm on the 6th floor of City Hall.

Chairman Kidder briefly reviewed the PILOT Task Force Interim Report.

The Task Force discussed a proposal in Pittsburgh to assess college students a 1% of tuition "tax".

- Members felt the tax was unfair because it targeted only one area of the non-profit sector: colleges and universities.
- The tax does not take into account services and community contributions that schools provide.
- The tax could encourage perverse behavior from colleges and universities, including acting as a disincentive for schools to provide essential community contributions.
- The tax could end up as a long term public relations problem for Pittsburgh as people might view it as an extra burden placed on students who already have to pay a lot of money for an education.

The City made a presentation on the potential components of a PILOT payment: cash PILOT, community contribution credit, and property tax credit for taxable property used for institutional purposes.

General Task Force Discussion

- The top four hospitals and colleges should be studied to understand the values associated with community oriented programming.
- The Task Force needs to determine what the cap should be on the amount of community contribution PILOT credits for each institution, and further that the programs need to be carefully reviewed to ensure that they meet the qualifying community contribution criteria discussed in prior meetings.

Next Steps

- Invite other tax-exempt institutions to a future Task Force meeting to gain their feedback on PILOT topics discussed to date.
- Collect in-depth community contribution amounts from the top four hospitals and colleges: Mass General, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical

Center, Children's Hospital, Harvard University, Boston College, Boston University, and Northeastern University.