

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

4:00 PM

Conference Room I

Committee on Parks

Joan Cleary, Chair; Jim Burn, Susan Caldwell, Matt Drozd, Mike Finnerty, and Jan Rea - Members

I. Call to Order

Summary: *The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM*

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Andy Baechle, Director, Parks

Summary: *Invited guests in attendance: Mr. Flynn and Mr. Baechle*

Council staff in attendance: Jared Barker and Joe Catanese

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Matt Drozd, Michael Finnerty, Jan Rea, and Joan Cleary
Absent: Jim Burn, and Susan Caldwell

III. Approval of Minutes

3231-07 Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2006 Parks Committee Meeting.

Summary:

Action: A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by Rea, that this matter be Passed.
The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Agenda Items**Ordinances**

2991-07 An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the razing of vandalized and unsafe structure in Harrison Hills Parks and South Park

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary: *The Chair read the title and deferred to Mr. Baechle, who summarized the bill.*

In answer to a question from Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Baechle indicated that the County would incur no costs as a result of the ordinance.

In response to a question from Ms. Rea, Mr. Baechle indicated that choosing park buildings for demolition is largely a function of what time and resources are available.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Baechle indicated that there are historical preservation issues attending the destruction of Maitland House in South Park.

Action: A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by Drozd, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Enactment No: 18-07-OR

3022-07

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing County Policy for the rental/lease of Exhibit Buildings at the South Park Fairgrounds.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Chair read the title and deferred to Mr. Baechle, who summarized the bill.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Flynn indicated that the administration would be willing to work with Council to establish a practice for approving long term tenants in the exhibit buildings.

Action:

A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by Drozd, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Enactment No: 19-07-OR

3091-07

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing the use of County Land by the North Hills Council of Governments for the purpose of using a parcel of property in North Park as a Leaf Composting Area.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Chair read the title and deferred to Mr. Baechle, who summarized the bill.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Baechle indicated that the contract was being renewed two years after it expired because it had originally been administered by Public Works, and Parks only just became aware of its existence.

Action:

A motion was made by Drozd, seconded by Finnerty, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Enactment No: 20-07-OR

3133-07

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the use of County property by the Harrison Hills Park Council of Friends.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Chair read the title and deferred to Mr. Baechle, who summarized the bill.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Baechle indicated that the purpose of the nature center would be to have school children in for presentations, as well as to get the County's three naturalists, who work in other parks, into Harrison Hills.

In response to a question from Ms. Rea, Mr. Baechle indicated that the Council of Friends is part of the County, and that it therefore is not necessary to insist that they secure their own insurance against any potential liability.

In response to a question from Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Baechle indicated that the County would maintain the outside of the building, and the Council of Friends would maintain the inside.

Motion to approve (Finnerty, Rea)

VV

Action:

A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by Rea, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Enactment No: 21-07-OR

V. Adjournment

Summary:

The meeting adjourned at 4:35.