

Allegheny County Council

*119 Courthouse
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-350-6490*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Appointment Review

*Ed Kress, Chair
Committee of the Whole*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Invited Guests:

Invited Guests Present: Austin Davis, Executive Assistant, County Executive's Office

Council Staff Present: Stephanie Buka

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 1 - Ed Kress

Members Absent: 11 - Cindy Kirk, Sue Means, John Palmiere, Nick Futules, Chuck Martoni, DeWitt Walton, Paul Klein, Jim Ellenbogen, Denise Ranalli-Russell, John DeFazio and Sam DeMarco

Members Phone: 3 - Tom Baker, Bob Macey and Patrick Catena

III. Approval of Minutes

[10106-17](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on April 5, 2017.

A motion was made by Baker, seconded by Macey, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Agenda Items

Appointments

[10058-17](#)

Approving the reappointment of Anthony Ferraro to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Ferraro expressed his interest in continuing to serve on the board. Mr. Ferraro noted that the Health Department's food safety program has improved through stricter enforcement and posting consumer alerts when restaurants break food safety rules.

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Baker, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[10059-17](#) Approving the reappointment of John Scott to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board of Directors for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Scott told members that his farm is the largest and last remaining dairy farm in Allegheny County. Chairman Kress and Mr. Scott discussed how development has affected farms and how the farmland preservation program has helped ensure the protection of farmlands. In response to a question from Councilman Baker, Mr. Scott described a former county councilman as a dedicated member of the Conservation District Board and suggested that the new appointee be an interested and involved individual. In response to a question from Councilman Catena, Mr. Scott explained that the Southern Beltway would not have an impact on his farm since the majority of the beltway is in Washington County.

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Baker, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[10060-17](#) Approving the reappointment of John H. Thatcher to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board of Directors for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Thatcher described his background in engineering and interest in environmental affairs. He discussed the farmland preservation program and the designation by the state of Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) which serve as a tool for protecting farms and farmland from non-agricultural uses. He added that the permitting process has greatly improved under the leadership of Executive Director Jan Lauer. Mr. Thatcher discussed grant monies and determining how to best spend those funds.

A motion was made by Baker, seconded by Macey, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[10100-17](#) Approving the appointment of Oliver Byrd to serve as a member of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[10101-17](#) Approving the appointment of Lynn Sirinek to serve as a member of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Ms. Sirinek described her work experience as Vice-President of Philanthropy for Family Hospice and Palliative Care, which serves a 9 county region. She added that she is interested in lending her expertise to the advisory council.

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Baker, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[10102-17](#) Approving the appointment of Lisa M. Story to serve as a member of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Ms. Story reported that she is a certified counselor and certified in thanatology, which is the study of dying, death and bereavement. In addition, Ms. Story is the Executive Director of Hope Grows, a nonprofit organization located in Moon Township, which offers caregivers support and therapeutic respite activities.

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Baker, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.