

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

4:15 PM

Conference Room I

Committee on Parks

*John Palmiere, Chair;
Patrick Catena, Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk, Bob Macey, Sue Means and Anita Prizio,
Members.*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:15.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or designee(s)
Andy Baechle, Director, Allegheny County Parks Department

Mr. McKain was present from the Office of the County Manager.

Mr. Evanto was present from the Department of Administrative Services.

Mr. Baechle was present from the Parks Department.

Mr. Barker was present from the Office of County Council.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 3 - Sue Means, Anita Prizio and John Palmiere

Members Absent: 4 - Patrick Catena, Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk and Bob Macey

Members 1 - Paul Zavarella

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

[11226-19](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2019 meeting of the Committee on Parks.

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

IV. Agenda Items

Ordinances

[11224-19](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Netflix Productions LLC to use certain County-owned real and personal property in connection with filming a motion picture.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain summarized its provisions, noting that various filming projects benefit the County both in the form of publicizing the region and stimulating the local economy. Mr. Evanto described the filming project, noting that filming would begin in October and run through February of 2020, and the production was re-written to be set in Pittsburgh, and is an action picture starring Jason Momoa. Mr. Evanto indicated that some interior and exterior shots would be filmed in the Courthouse and City-County Building, with other filming in North Park and on the Clemente Bridge. Mr. Evanto noted that the filming in the buildings would be scheduled such that it does not interfere with the public's use, and indicated that the project would employ approximately 380 individuals in the area and spend roughly \$1.6 million on hotel rooms, with additional expenditures on catering, rental vehicles, and the

like.

In response to a question from Mr. DeMarco, Mr. Evanto noted that replicas of the grand staircase and an interior of the City-County Building would be constructed on a soundstage, and that the action sequences would be shot there.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that Netflix would pay for insurance and the County's out-of-pocket expenses associated with the filming, and Mr. Evanto noted that there would also be filming permit fees paid.

In response to a question from Ms. Prizio, Mr. McKain, Mr. Evanto and Mr. Baechle noted that the initial plan was to film at Hartwood Acres, but that this had changed for the time being.

In response to a question from Mr. Futules, Mr. Evanto summarized some of the out-of-pocket expenses that could be anticipated.

Mr. Zavarella expressed support for the project.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Evanto discussed why productions tend to prefer filming in North Park, noting that it is slightly easier to control the environment there due to access limitations.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27.