

# **Allegheny County Council**

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## **Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 13, 2007**

**5:00 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 5:10 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: John Mascio and Jared Barker*

**II. Roll Call**

***Roll Call:*** Present: Jim Burn, Matt Drozd, Michael Finnerty, Jan Rea, Joan Cleary, Council Member Susan Caldwell, Council Member Susan Caldwell, Council Member Bob Macey, and Council Member Rich Fitzgerald

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**3532-07** Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 18, 2007 Parks Committee Meeting.

**Action:** **A motion was made by Council Member Caldwell, seconded by Rea, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

**IV. Agenda Items****Ordinances**

**3515-07** An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the razing of an unsafe structure in Boyce Park.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Summary:** *Mr. Baechle provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would authorize the Director of the Allegheny County Parks Department or his designee to take whatever action necessary to accomplish the demolition, razing, or destruction of an outdoor restroom facility near Webelo Grove on Centerview Drive in Boyce Park. He said that the Controller has found that the restroom facility has no value and is, in fact, a hazard and a liability in its present condition.*

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

**3516-07** An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Ordinance No. 07-06, the existing schedule of facility and recreational rates and fees for the use of County recreational and park facilities.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Summary:** *Mr. Baechle provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would amend the existing schedule of facility and recreational rates and fees for the use of County recreational and parks facilities. He said that since the enactment of the*

*current fees the County has constructed a new snow tubing area in Boyce Park, to which there is no explicit reference in the existing schedule of parks fees. He said that this bill would amend the existing fee ordinance to include specific rates pertaining to the snow tubing area of the ski slopes at Boyce Park, including rates for adults, youth, and groups. This ordinance also includes a schedule of hours for the snow tubing area.*

*Mr. Fitzgerald asked Mr. Baechle if he had any idea what the cost was to run this operation. He asked if the fees would cover the cost of the operation. Mr. Baechle said that he did not know but will analyze the costs and get back to him. He said that his guess would be that it would not cover the costs. He said that most Parks operations do not cover costs except for the golf course. Mr. Fitzgerald said that the rates should be cheaper than commercial rates. Ms. Cleary agreed with Mr. Fitzgerald.*

*Ms. Rea and Ms. Caldwell said that they do not have a problem with pricing this the same or near commercial rates.*

*The Chair said that she believes they should approve this and maybe next year assess the entire parks fee structure to see if they need to make any changes.*

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

**V. Adjournment**

**Summary:** *The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM*