

# **Allegheny County Council**

*County of Allegheny  
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## **Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 12, 2007**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room I**

## **Committee on Health & Human Services**

*Mike Finnerty, Chair; Joan Cleary, Brenda Frazier, Bob Macey, and William Robinson - Members*

**I. Call to Order**

**Summary:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM*

**Invited Guests:**

**Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee**

**Dr. Bruce Dixon, Director, Health Department**

**Henry Miller, Health Department**

**Summary:** *Invited guests in attendance: Dr. Dixon*

*Council staff in attendance: John Mascio and Jared Barker*

**II. Roll Call**

***Roll Call:*** Present: Joan Cleary, Brenda Frazier, Michael Finnerty, Council Member Bob Macey, and Council Member Bob Macey  
Absent: William Robinson

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**3534-07** Motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2007 Health & Human Services Committee Meeting.

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

**IV. Agenda Items**

**Ordinance**

**2485-06** An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, suspending all needle exchange programs instituted by the Allegheny County Board of Health and/or Health Department until such time as the effectiveness, legality, and utility of such programs are demonstrated.

**Sponsors:** Vince Gastgeb

**Summary:** *The Chair provided the Committee with a summary of the bill. He indicated that on September 1, 2004, the Board of Health unanimously passed a motion requiring that the needle exchange program develop formalized operating regulations. He said that at this meeting, Dr. Dixon expressed concerns that without operating principles in place, the program could get out of control, and he noted that there were no statistics available. He said that the operating regulations have not yet been implemented for the program, although such regulations have been approved by the Board of Health and submission to Council for final approval is pending. He said that they are awaiting these regulations to be submitted by the Chief Executive for Council approval.*

*Dr Dixon said that the regulations are a reflection of existing procedures.*

*The Chair reminded the Committee that the use of County property by Prevention Point*

*Pittsburgh was authorized by Council under the terms of Ordinance 11-06-OR, passed on May 17, 2006. He said that authorization, however, was temporary and expired on May 31, 2007, and would have to be re authorized.*

*The Chair said that since Council has yet to receive the regulations, he would recommend holding the bill in committee. Since all bills not acted on by December 31, 2007, will expire as per Rules of Council, he said that the bill could be reintroduced in 2008.*

**Action:**        **Held in Committee**

**V.      Adjournment**

**Summary:**      *The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM*