

# Allegheny County Council

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## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

5:00 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 5:02.*

### 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. Baechle was present from the Parks Department.*

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

*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 Klein

**Non-Members:**

## III. Approval of Minutes

[10817-18](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 meeting of the Committee on Parks.

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

## IV. Agenda Items

### Ordinances

[10789-18](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing use of property in the County's North Park for use by the Northern Allegheny County Senior Softball League.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title to the bill and Mr. Baechle summarized its provisions, noting that the term of the conditional use would be three years with a County option for an additional two years, with an annual fee of \$200 for a pair of fields, and additional fees in the event that other fields are used. Mr. Baechle indicated that the league incorporates 16 teams and approximately 220 participants.*

*Ms. Means expressed support for the league's activities and stressed the importance of exercise.*

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

[10793-18](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Gravitational 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. Evanto summarized its provisions, noting that this is one of three motion pictures and one television show currently filming in the County. Mr. Evanto indicated that Sony Pictures is producing the film at issue here, with up to 51 days of activities expected at the Hartwood Acres stables, with the possibility of additional filming at other locations in the park. Mr. Evanto noted that the stables at Hartwood were designed to resemble a Scottish village, which is precisely the setting that the film required, and that the applicable filming fees and facility rental fees.*

*In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto summarized the plot of the film, noting that it is somewhat similar to Rip Van Winkle to the extent that it deals with comedic situations that arise after an individual spends 100 years unconscious.*

*Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto, Mr. Baechle and Mr. McKain discussed how filming initiatives tend to arise locally, and Mr. McKain thanked Council for addressing filming requests in an expeditious fashion.*

*Mr. Klein and Ms. Means discussed a pair of the productions that are currently active.*

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

[10794-18](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing use of property in the County's Boyce Park for use by the Allegheny County Parks Foundation.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain and Mr. Baechle summarized its provisions. Mr. McKain noted that the Committee and Council members are already familiar with the Parks Foundation and Ms. Glotfelty's efforts, and that the Boyce Park management office use by the Foundation would be continued for an additional three years with a County option for two more years. Mr. McKain indicated that the Foundation would pay no rent, but does pay its own internet and telephone bills. Mr. Baechle noted that the Foundation at one time rented office space in the Oliver Building, but that the arrangement in Boyce Park is much less expensive and that the Foundation and the Park Rangers have developed an extremely close and productive relationship since the offices were moved to Boyce Park.*

*In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Baechle confirmed that the ordinance would extend the Foundation's use of facilities at Boyce Park, where they have been for a few years, and noted that the Foundation provides funding for the environmental assessments of the parks. Mr. Baechle expressed his belief that the environmental assessments have greatly aided in securing grant funding in the parks.*

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

**V. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:25.*