

# **Allegheny County Council**

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## **Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 10, 2006**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

## **Committee on Appointment Review**

*John DeFazio - Chair; Committee of the Whole*

**I. Call to Order**

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

**Invited Guests:**

**Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee**

**Shawn Fox, Executive Assistant**

**Summary:** *Invited Guests Present: Mr. Flynn*

*Council Staff Present: Joe Catanese, John Mascio, & Jared Barker*

**II. Roll Call**

**Roll Call:** Present: Chair John DeFazio, Joan Cleary, Matt Drozd, Michael Finnerty, Brenda Frazier, and William Robinson

Absent: Jim Burn, Susan Caldwell, Rich Fitzgerald, Dave Fawcett, Vince Gastgeb, Chuck Martoni, Rich Nerone, and Jan Rea

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**2570-06** Motion to approve the Minutes of April 6, 2006 Appointment Review Committee Meeting.

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

**IV. Agenda Items****Appointment**

**2542-06** Appointment - Approving the appointment of Billy Jackson to serve as a Member of the Allegheny County Arts Board for a term to expire three years from the approval of this appointment.

**Sponsors:** William Russell Robinson

**Summary:** *Mr. Jackson provided the committee with a summary of his background and qualifications. Mr. Robinson asked Mr. Jackson about his involvement with the arts beyond his own expertise. Mr. Jackson said that he sat on many boards and participated in various panels, plus he taught at Pittsburgh Film Makers and does residency work at various schools.*

*Ms. Frazier asked him what he viewed his role to be on the board. Mr. Jackson said that he hoped to bring a minority perspective and to encourage support of the arts in black and white communities.*

*Mr. Robinson said that he has great respect for Mr. Jackson as a person and for his diligence and hard work in the arts, and said that his experience would be invaluable to the county.*

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

**Resolution****2431-06**

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, directing a working group to create a draft appointment term tracking policy for Allegheny County to be presented for review to Council and the Chief Executive within forty-five (45) days of passage of this resolution; with the expectation that the Council and the Chief Executive will review the policy and act upon its recommendations within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the policy.

**Sponsors:** William Russell Robinson

**Summary:**

*Mr. Robinson provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would allow for the creation of a five member working group to draft a policy regarding the tracking of appointees to the County's 32 current active boards, authorities, commissions and committees. He said that the reason for doing this is to allow for the standardized and efficient administration of this increasingly complex task, as well as to simplify the task of discerning diversity within appointed entities. He said that the bill in no way intends to truncate the Chief Executives appointment making authority.*

*Mr. Flynn said that over the past 6 to 9 months the Division of Computer Services has been working on writing an appointment tracking software. He said that all the data has been entered and the project is about 90 percent complete. He said that they are fine tuning the mechanics of the package to create various report capabilities.*

*Ms. Frazier asked if this system would be available to council. Mr. Flynn said that it would be available on the web site to council and to the general public. He said that council would have the ability to run various reports from the system.*

*Mr. Robinson said that the effort is not geared to provide council with more opportunities to select appointees. He said that it is meant for informational purposes only.*

*Mr. Drozd asked if the system could track the effectiveness of a board. Mr. Flynn said that would be more of an operational issue, not a tracking issue.*

*Mr. Robinson suggested that the bill be held until the end of summer in order to allow Mr. Flynn to complete the remainder of the project.*

**Action:**

**Held in Committee**

**V. Adjournment****Summary:**

*The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM*