

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone (412) 350-6490*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 27, 2014

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Appointment Review

Jan Rea - Chair; Committee of the Whole

I. Call to Order

Council Members Present: 3 - Rea, Finnerty and Means

Council Members Absent: 11 - Daly Danko, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Futules, Green Hawkins, Heidelbaugh, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere and Russell Robinson

Council Members Phone: 1 - Baker

Invited Guests:

Invited Guests Present: Austin Davis, Executive Assistant, County Executive's Office

Council Staff Present: Joe Catanese; Stephanie Buka

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

[8098-14](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on February 6, 2014.

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

IV. Agenda Items

Appointments

[7990-14](#)

Approving the reappointment of Susan Davis to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board, for a term to expire on December 31, 2015.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[7991-14](#)

Approving the reappointment of Michael Enright to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board, for a term to expire on December 31, 2016.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

In response to a question from Council Member Means, Mr. Enright stated that he attended Penn State University and studied chemistry and later worked for Koppers. Mr. Enright described his own mental illness and how he has helped others by leading a recovery program at Peoples Oakland.

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

[7992-14](#) Approving the appointment of Denise Macarelli to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board, for a term to expire on December 31, 2016.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8051-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Timothy M. Hazel to serve as a member of the Property Assessment Appeals and Review Board, for a term to expire on December 31, 2016.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Hazel provided members with an overview of his experience serving on the board.

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

[8052-14](#) Approving the appointment of Dr. Rhonda Harrison to serve as a member of the Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2016.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Dr. Harrison described her background in education and her interest in serving on this committee. Council Member Finnerty and Dr. Harrison discussed special needs students and the importance of inclusion. Chairwoman Rea and Dr. Harrison discussed the plight of homeless children in Allegheny County, and Dr. Harrison added that she is involved in the Homeless Education Network.

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

[8053-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Dorothy Antonelli to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Ms. Antonelli described her experience as President of Neville Green, the Neville Island Community Advisory Panel and the Planning Commission for Neville Township. In response to Council Member Means inquiry, Ms. Antonelli stated that she attended Kent State University for two years and worked for the Marriott Corp. for 30 years as a Director of Catering. In response to another question from Council Member Means, Ms. Antonelli explained the relationship between DTE Energy, owner of the Shenango coke plant on Neville Island, and the Neville Island Good Neighbors Working Group.

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

[8054-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Chester Babst, Esq. to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8055-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Daniel K. Bricmont, Esq. to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8056-14](#) Approving the reappointment of David Cannon to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8057-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Jeanne Clark to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Ms. Clark reported that she was previously the Director of Communications for PennFuture. She stated that she works to help individuals and groups make efforts to pollute less and invest in clean energy.

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

[8058-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Dr. Michael Finewood to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8059-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Steven Hvozdoch to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

In response to a question from Council Member Means, Mr. Hvozdoch reported that the primary goal is to continue to meet attainment of national ambient air quality standards, particularly in the Mon-Valley region.

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

[8060-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Mark Jeffrey to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

In response to a question from Council Member Means, Mr. Jeffrey reported that achieving attainment with SO₂ (Sulfur Dioxide) is a priority, since a new standard went into effect last year. Mr. Jeffrey explained that U.S. Steel made a significant investment to upgrade the Clairton Coke Plant in order to help attain SO₂ standards.

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

[8061-14](#) Approving the reappointment of David P. Mazzocco to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Held in Committee

[8062-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Robert Orchowski to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Orchowski reported that he has served on this committee since 1996 and has 40 years of experience in the environmental field. Mr. Orchowski noted that the American Lung Association "State of the Air 2014" Report will be published soon and he believes that this reporting on air quality in our region is largely inaccurate. In response to a question from Council Member Means, Mr. Orchowski stated that he is not in favor of term limits.

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

[8063-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Joe Osborne, Esq. to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Osborne provided members with a summary of his background in environmental law and as legal director of the Group Against Smog & Pollution (GASP). Mr. Osborne stated that GASP is a member of The Center for Sustainable Shale Development (CSSD) which has drawn criticism, but it will provide for a certification process to ensure that the industry is meeting performance standards focused on the protection of air and climate, water and waste. Council Member Means commented on an article published in the Post-Gazette, four years ago, concerning the U.S. EPA's Natural Gas STAR Program. Mr. Osborne stated that the program, which is voluntary, aims to reduce emissions of methane, and that his article was encouraging companies to join, and he believes membership numbers in the program have increased since the time of publication.

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

[8064-14](#) Approving the reappointment of Councilman John Palmiere to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Palmiere expressed an interest in continuing to serve on this committee.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.