

# Allegheny County Council

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



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 14, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room 2

## Committee on Appointment Review

*Jan Rea - Chair; Committee of the Whole*

## I. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.*

## Invited Guests:

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

*Council Staff Present: Stephanie Buka*

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 3 - Rea, Michael Finnerty and Sue Means

**Members Absent:** 12 - Tom Baker, Barbara Danko, John DeFazio, Jim Ellenbogen, Nick Futules, Amanda Green Hawkins, Heather Heidelbaugh, Ed Kress, Bob Macey, Chuck Martoni, John Palmiere and William Robinson

## III. Approval of Minutes

[8926-15](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on April 16, 2015.

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

## IV. Agenda Items

[8860-15](#)

Approving the reappointment of Kurt Kondrich to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2017.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Kondrich explained that he is the Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council for Early Intervention, and he provided members with a picture of his daughter, Chloe, who was born with Down syndrome, shaking hands with the Governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf. Councilwoman Means thanked Mr. Kondrich for his service and asked if the advisory group had any requests. Mr. Kondrich responded that the group now meets on a monthly basis and holds an open comment period which has proven beneficial. He added that he speaks to legislators on a monthly basis so that they are aware of and can lend their support towards individuals with mental health/intellectual disabilities.*

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

[8862-15](#)

Approving the reappointment of Chester Babst to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2015.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[8900-15](#) Approving the appointment of Brandon Coney to serve as a member of the following Authorities: Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority and the Residential Finance Authority, administered collectively through the Finance and Development Commission, for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Coney provided members with a summary of his background and qualifications. Councilwoman Means asked about the possibility of a conflict of interest since Mr. Coney is employed by BNY Mellon. Mr. Coney replied that if such an instance were to arise, he would have a professional responsibility to disclose such a conflict and recuse himself from voting.*

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

[8901-15](#) Approving the reappointment of Deborah Lange to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[8902-15](#) Approving the reappointment of Donald Newman to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Newman described the purpose and development of the Allegheny County Conservation District. In response to several questions from Councilwoman Means, Mr. Newman replied that he has served on this board since 2012, having served as the treasurer and now as chairman; there are nine (9) members which serve on the board without compensation; there are eleven (11) staff members; and the agency is financially sound with a 1.2 million budget. Mr. Newman explained that the Conservation District plays a prominent role in providing education and outreach to municipalities and the community.*

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

[8903-15](#) Approving the reappointment of Thomas Sray to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[8904-15](#) Approving the reappointment of Michael Finnerty to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Conservation District Board for a term to expire on

December 31, 2015.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Councilman Finnerty told members why he would like to continue serving on this board. He explained that his term has a one-year limit because of the By-laws. In response to a question from Councilwoman Means, Mr. Finnerty stated that he has served on the board for approximately seven (7) years.*

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

## **V. Adjournment**

*The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.*