

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes - Approved

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

5:00 PM

Conference Room I

Committee on Parks

Nicholas Futules-Chair

Members: James Ellenbogen, Michael J. Finnerty, Heather S. Heidelbaugh, Robert J. Macey, Sue Means, and John Palmiere

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA-County Manager or Designee

Andy Baechle-Director, Parks Department

Mr. McKain was present from the Office of the County Manager.

Mr. Baechle was present from the Parks Department.

Mr. Barker and Mr. Szymanski were present from the Office of County Council.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 4 - Futules, Michael Finnerty, Heather Heidelbaugh and Sue Means

Members Absent: 3 - Jim Ellenbogen, Bob Macey and John Palmiere

Members 1 - John DeFazio

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

[8989-15](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks Committee of Allegheny County Council held on January 28, 2015

Passed

IV. Agenda Items**Ordinances**

[8732-15](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an extension of an agreement with the NORTH HILLS EAGLE SQUADRON for the operation and management of the Model Aircraft Field located in North Park.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle discussed the nature of the lease agreement, noting that the conditional use in question has been ongoing for a period of years, that the extension is for two years, that the rental rate is \$200 per year, and that all required insurance documents are on file.

In response to a question from Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Baechle noted that the ordinance contains no delineation of the potential cost of the agreement, but agreed to provide that information to the Chair.

Ms. Means and Mr. Finnerty discussed the possible merits of amending the ordinance, and Ms. Means and the Clerk discussed the mechanics of amendment, if the Council would like to pursue that path.

Ms. Means expressed a desire to become more active in reviewing leasing agreements

prior to approving property uses of this nature. Mr. Baechle offered to forward a copy of the lease to the Clerk.

Affirmatively Recommended

Enactment No: 19-15-OR

[8947-15](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use by Harrison Township of a parcel of Allegheny County-owned land in Harrison Hills Park as a leaf composting area.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle provided a summary of its provisions, a description of the rental amount and history of the property use in question.

Ms. Means requested a copy of the lease agreement. Mr. McKain indicated that copies of the lease agreement are not typically attached to ordinances of this nature, but that he would discuss the concept with the Law Department.

Affirmatively Recommended

[8948-15](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use of the McConnell farm house located in White Oak Park, collectively known as Angora Gardens, by MON-YOUGH COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. ("Mon-Yough"), and used for training of clients and for providing interpretive education programs for visitors.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle described its provisions and gave an overview of the history of the Angora Gardens program, as well as the historical and proposed rental rates. Mr. Baechle noted that all insurance documentation was in place.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Baechle noted that funding for the program came from UPMC, and expressed a belief that some grant funding might be involved as well.

Affirmatively Recommended

[8958-15](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use of the County's South Park BMX Track facilities owned by the County and to be operated and maintained by South Park BMX, Inc.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle described its provisions, the history of this conditional use by South Park BMX, Inc., and the proposed terms of the lease renewal.

In response to a question from Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Baechle noted that South Park BMX, Inc. does carry its own insurance.

Ms. Means and Mr. Baechle discussed the parameters of the conditional use in additional detail.

Ms. Means highlighted recent changes in Commonwealth law regarding background checks for employees and volunteers who have contact with children, and Mr. Baechle noted that the Department was already in the process of ensuring compliance with the new statute.

Affirmatively Recommended

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32.