

# **Allegheny County Council**

*119 Courthouse  
436 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Phone: 412-350-6490*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 28, 2016**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

## **Committee on Appointment Review**

*Ed Kress, 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, County Executive's Office*

*Council Staff Present: Joe Catanese; Stephanie Buka*

**II. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** 6 - Ed Kress, Michael Finnerty, Sue Means, Bob Macey, Paul Klein and Sam DeMarco

**Members Absent:** 9 - Tom Baker, Cindy Kirk, John Palmiere, Nick Futules, Chuck Martoni, DeWitt Walton, Jim Ellenbogen, Denise Ranalli-Russell and John DeFazio

**III. Approval of Minutes****IV. Agenda Items****Appointments**

[9356-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Doris Carson Williams to serve as a member of the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County for a term to expire on May 23, 2020.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Ms. Williams told Councilman Finnerty that this is her second term on the Redevelopment Authority. In response to a question from Councilman Klein, Ms. Williams stated that Allegheny County does a good job of bringing vacant properties back into use. Councilman DeMarco asked Ms. Williams if there was anything council members could do to encourage redevelopment in the county. Ms. Williams suggested increased participation of developers and permitting smaller firms to partner with bigger construction companies. Councilwoman Means made an inquiry pertaining to the Riverlife Task Force, and Ms. Williams explained that its purpose was to restore and promote Pittsburgh's riverfronts.*

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

[9367-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Anthony J. Ross to serve as a member of the Allegheny Regional Asset District Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Ross described his interest in continuing to serve on this Board. The Chair recognized Mr. Davis who explained to members that due to a resignation, Mr. Ross filled the term which expired on 12/31/15. Councilman Macey thanked RAD for supporting the McKeesport Renziehausen Park. In response to a question from Mr. DeMarco, Mr. Ross said as a new member, he was most surprised by the detailed and thorough review of each applicant. Chairman Kress made an inquiry as to whether or not Mr. Ross would*

*consider supporting volunteer firefighters and EMS, and Mr. Ross replied in the affirmative.*

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

[9361-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Frederick Thieman, Esq. to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Thieman reported that he has served on the Board for 5 years. Councilman Klein asked Mr. Thieman if he was concerned about anything in particular and Mr. Thieman responded that money is always a concern, especially since the college did have to take a line of credit out combined with a decreased share of state funding. He added that the Board is sensitive to raising tuition rates. Mr. Thieman reported that President Quintin Bullock is doing an outstanding job for the students and the employees. Councilman DeMarco asked how members could support his work, and Mr. Thieman replied that all members are invited to attend the March 3rd Board of Trustees meeting, and they are thankful for the financial support, which is critical for the college.*

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

[9357-16](#)

Approving the appointment of Ayanna Lee-Davis, Esq. to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on April 24, 2021.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Ms. Davis described her background and qualifications. Ms. Davis discussed her interest in preparing individuals to succeed in the workforce. Councilman Macey commented on the importance of the FireVEST and Aviation programs. Councilman Finnerty and Ms. Davis discussed CCAC's remedial classes. Ms. Davis responded to a question from Councilwoman Means regarding her volunteer service at the Urban League of Pittsburgh. In response to a question from Councilman DeMarco, Ms. Davis stated that she is prepared to learn more about CCAC's veterans' programs. Mr. DeMarco asked Ms. Davis about her experience in Beijing, China. Ms. Davis reported that there wasn't anything that attractive that hasn't already been done in our region.*

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

[9358-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of William Cagney to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Cagney encouraged members to attend CCAC's graduation ceremony and noted the diversity of the graduates. Mr. Cagney told members that he is the chairman of the workforce development committee. He discussed the welding classes at the West Hills campus, a new lab at the Energy Innovation Center, and the importance of training individuals in the trades. He provided members with a summary of CCAC's accomplishments including a grant for the nursing program, veterans' representatives at*

each campus, the addition of a student trustee to the Board, and he praised President Bullock's efforts. In response to questions from Councilwoman Means, Mr. Cagney said he was appointed to the Board in 2008, and he founded Pittsburgh Clean and Green Laundry in order to create jobs and build wealth for the workers. Councilman DeMarco commented that he graduated to journeyman status as a member of the building trades until he made a career change. Mr. Cagney noted that the Energy Innovation Center is a place that will encourage high school students and guidance counselors to visit and explore a career in the trades.

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

[9360-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Kevin Kinross, Esq. to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Kinross told members that he is excited about President Bullock's enthusiasm. He discussed his recent appointment to the External Affairs in Government subcommittee of the CCAC Board, and explained that he visits Harrisburg and lobby's for CCAC as a volunteer. In response to a question from Councilman Klein, Mr. Kinross reported that there have been discussions of a new facility for the North Campus. Mr. Kinross discussed Allegheny County's contribution of \$28 million towards CCAC and the unfortunate circumstance of having to borrow money because of the Commonwealth's budget impasse. Councilman DeMarco asked Mr. Kinross about his work travel. Mr. Kinross replied that he has discussed and feels badly about his poor attendance record with Amy Kuntz, Board Chair, and because he is not traveling out of town as often, his attendance will improve.*

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

[9359-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Mary Ann Eisenreich to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[9364-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Jackie Dixon to serve as a member of the Allegheny Regional Asset District Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

## V. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.*