

# **Allegheny County Council**

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



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016**

**5:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

## **Committee on Appointment Review**

*Ed Kress, Chair  
Committee of the Whole*

## I. Call to Order

### Invited Guests:

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

*Staff Present: Stephanie Buka*

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 3 - Cindy Kirk, Ed Kress and Sue Means

**Members Absent:** 12 - Tom Baker, Michael Finnerty, John Palmiere, Nick Futules, Chuck Martoni, Bob Macey, DeWitt Walton, Paul Klein, Jim Ellenbogen, Denise Ranalli-Russell, John DeFazio and Sam DeMarco

## III. Approval of Minutes

[9481-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on February 10, 2016.

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

[9482-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on February 11, 2016.

*Chairman Kress requested an amendment to the February 11, 2016 Appointment Review Committee Meeting minutes in order to provide a more detailed description of the appointees personal experience in regard to intellectual disability and mental health. Councilwoman Means made a motion to amend the minutes, Councilwoman Kirk provided a second, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

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

[9529-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on March 2, 2016.

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

## IV. Agenda Items

### Appointments

[9524-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Jui Joshi to serve as a member of the Professional Services Review Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Ms. Joshi described the purpose of the committee and reported that she was first appointed in 2004. Chairman Kress recognized Austin Davis from the County Executive's*

*Office, and Mr. Davis described the review process.*

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

[9449-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Alice Paylor-Dais to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[9452-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Regina Jones to serve as a member of the Community Services Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[9501-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Daniel C. Connolly to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, the Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority and the Residential Finance Authority, each for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Mr. Connolly noted that he has served on the various Authorities, commonly referred to as the Finance and Development Commission, since 2012, and each entity contains seven members. Mr. Connolly applauded the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development for their work. Mr. Connolly shared a success story involving the Residential Finance Authority which provided the financing for the rehabilitation of a retirement community in Monroeville.*

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

[9502-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Robert J. Lewis to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31, 2020.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[9503-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of M. Gayle Moss to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Ms. Moss reported that she has served on the Board since 2007. She stated that she has made a significant investment in the Jail, including advocating for the use of the*

*Commissary Fund to benefit inmates only, working with the Renewal Center for an inmate's successful reentry into the community, serving on the search committee for a new warden, and seeking improvements to the facility and healthcare at the Jail. Per Councilwoman Means request, Ms. Moss described her work at Naomi's Place Transitional Housing for women. Councilwoman Means commented on The PROGRAM in West Homestead and its important role in rehabilitating female offenders. Councilwoman Kirk and Ms. Moss discussed healthcare costs, staffing, the improvement of the quality of healthcare provided at the Jail, and the hospital-like cleanliness of the facility.*

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

[9522-16](#)

Approving the reappointment of Dennis Floyd Jones to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Held in Committee**

[9523-16](#)

Approving the appointment of Dr. Andrew Hans Leuenberger to serve as a member of the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*Dr. Leuenberger and the members had a lengthy discussion concerning opioids, drug addiction, treatment options and the increase in overdose deaths in Allegheny County. Dr. Leuenberger and Councilwoman Kirk discussed the use of Methadone and Suboxone. In response to a question from Councilwoman Kirk, Dr. Leuenberger noted that the needle exchange program in Allegheny County has been beneficial in reducing Hepatitis C. In response to a question from Chairman Kress, Dr. Leuenberger stated that Naltrexone is a drug that reduces the desire to drink alcohol or use opioids, and in combination with counseling, can be effective. Councilwoman Kirk and Dr. Leuenberger discussed the legalization and prescription of medical marijuana.*

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

## V. Adjournment

*The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.*