

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

4:00 PM

Conference Room I

Committee on Parks

*John Palmiere, Chair;
Patrick Catena, Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk, Bob Macey, Sue Means and Anita Prizio,
Members.*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or designee(s)
Andy Baechle, Director, Allegheny County Parks Department

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

Mr. Baechle was present from the Parks Department.

Mr. Barker was present from the Office of County Council.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 3 - Sue Means, Anita Prizio and John Palmiere

Members Absent: 3 - Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk and Bob Macey

Members Phone: 1 - Patrick Catena

III. Approval of Minutes**IV. Agenda Items****Ordinances**[10922-19](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing use of property in the County's South Park for use as an outdoor educational classroom, in conjunction with the Allegheny County Parks Foundation.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain noted that the proposed project would allow the Park Rangers to have a small instruction area near the Cascades feature and accompanying parking area in South Park. Mr. Baechle noted that the planned feature would be a small amphitheater constructed of stone, and that the Parks Foundation would be contributing \$14,000 towards the construction. Mr. Baechle indicated that the term of the authorization would be adequate to allow for full completion of the project, and the overall cost would be approximately \$55,000.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Baechle noted that the feature would function as a small informal instruction area, and Mr. McKain suggested that seating would probably accommodate about 25 or 30 individuals. Mr. Baechle noted that the maintenance burden will be low, as the feature will be built of stone. Mr. Baechle summarized fundraising efforts and contributions granted so far for the Cascades feature, and Mr. McKain offered to create an overall summary of the work that is being done and planned at the Cascades. Mr. Baechle indicated that the work should be done this season, but the work will likely be bid out at least in significant part due to the size of the rock pieces that will be installed and the specialized nature of that work.

A motion was made by Means, seconded by Catena, that this matter be

Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[10923-19](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Golden Triangle Obedience Training Club, Inc. to use a structure on Brownsville Road in the County's South Park.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle summarized its provisions, noting that the exhibit building in question is never rented to the public, and that the training school would pay the same \$200 per month rent as the entities that rent other buildings in the same area. Mr. Baechle noted that the one year term for the authorization is intended to allow for evaluating how well the tenant and County match up.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Baechle noted that the building requires no additional work to make it ready for the obedience school to begin operations, and that the building already has water service.

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

[10942-19](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of approximately ten acres of land located adjacent to the County's North Park.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Baechle summarized its provisions, noting that the land at issue is undeveloped land along Pine Creek and adjacent to North Park. Mr. Baechle indicated that the Allegheny Land Trust would purchase the property from its current owner, and then donate it to the County. Mr. McKain indicated that the area provides excellent opportunities for hiking and fishing, and that the County would pay nothing in exchange for the donation.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. McKain indicated that the conveyances could both be completed in 2019.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Baechle noted that the Land Trust does maintain the land that it acquires, but that it does not construct facilities, but rather maintains the property as green space.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28.