



Allegheny County Council

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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 11782-21 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Motion **Status:** Passed

File created: 3/5/2021 **In control:** Chief Clerk

On agenda: 3/9/2021 **Final action:**

Title: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County amending the terms of motion 11652-20 in order to direct all Friends of the Park Councils to suspend all operations and activities through April 30, 2021, pending revision of the Friends of the Park ordinance.

Sponsors: John Palmiere, Cindy Kirk, Tom Duerr

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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/9/2021	1	County Council	Approved	Pass

Motion of the Council of Allegheny County amending the terms of motion 11652-20 in order to direct all Friends of the Park Councils to suspend all operations and activities through April 30, 2021, pending revision of the Friends of the Park ordinance.

Whereas, in 2002, a Council of Friends was established in each of the nine County parks, via ordinance 54-02-OR; and

Whereas, 54-02-OR, as amended from time to time, is currently codified at Chapter 215, Article III, §215-9 through §215-14 of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances; and

Whereas, the nine Councils of Friends are established as purely advisory bodies under the terms of §215-13; and

Whereas, the Council of Friends members are appointed and serve at the sole discretion of Allegheny County Council, pursuant to the terms of §215-11; and

Whereas, while originally envisioned as a means of conveying information relevant to the County Parks between the public, County Council and the Parks Department, changes in information technology and the practices and operations of the various Councils of Friends over the course of the 18 years since they were created have, in the judgment of Council, combined to necessitate revision of the ordinance governing the Councils of Friends in order to ensure their continued utility and viability; and

Whereas, it is the intention of Allegheny County Council to undertake this task by formulating and introducing a new Friends of the Park ordinance, and on October 20, 2020 passed motion 11652-20 to suspend the activities of the Friends of the Park through March 7, 2021, in order to allow time for the new ordinance to be drafted, introduced, and passed; and

Whereas, it is now anticipated that final passage of a new Friends of the Park ordinance will likely take

place in April of 2021, and it is the desire of Council to extend the suspension of the activities of the Friends of the Park to account for this timeline; and

The Council of the County of Allegheny therefore hereby moves as follows:

The provisions of Bill No. 11652-20 are hereby amended as follows:

All Friends of the Park Councils established pursuant to the terms of Chapter 215, Article III of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances are hereby directed to suspend any and all operations from November 1, 2020 through ~~March 7~~ April 30, 2021. For the purposes of this directive, no Council of Friends or any member(s) thereof shall meet as a Council of Friends, withdraw any funds from any bank account utilized by the Council of Friends, post any information to any social media or other public platform relating to a Council of Friends sponsored event or activity or any Council of Friends member(s), conduct any fundraising, improvement, maintenance, or other activities on behalf of a Council of Friends, or in any other fashion authorize or take any action as a member of, on behalf of, or in relation to a Council of Friends.

It is hereby further moved that:

All appointments to the Councils of Friends shall continue for the duration stated in the appointment document throughout the suspension of activities directed herein, provided, however, that any appointee(s) to any Council of Friends acting in violation of the terms of this Motion may be subject to removal at the discretion of the appointing County Council member and/or Allegheny County Council. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to mandate the appointment, reappointment, or continuation of the term of any currently appointed Council of Friends member(s) under the terms of any future amendment to Chapter 215, Article III of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances.