

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

|                        |   |                            |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| John P. Defazio        | - | President                  |
| Nicholas Futules       | - | Vice President, District 7 |
| Samuel DeMarco, III    | - | Council-At-Large           |
| Tom Baker              | - | District 1                 |
| Cindy Kirk             | - | District 2                 |
| Anita Prizio           | - | District 3                 |
| Patrick Catena         | - | District 4                 |
| Sue Means              | - | District 5                 |
| John F. Palmiere       | - | District 6                 |
| Robert J. Macey        | - | District 9                 |
| Dewitt Walton          | - | District 10                |
| Paul Klein             | - | District 11                |
| Robert Palmosina       | - | District 12                |
| Denise Ranalli-Russell | - | District 13                |

Allegheny County Courthouse  
Fourth Floor, Gold Room  
436 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

April 23, 2019 - 5:12 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.  
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services  
Jack Cambest - Allegheny County Council  
Solicitor  
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff  
Sarah Roka - Budget Assistant

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The meeting will come to order. Will you all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection.

After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll have the roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. BARKER: Dr. Martoni?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11049-19.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing and congratulating Susan Fleming Morgan for her years dedicated to Mt. Lebanon Magazine as Public Information Officer and Editor-in-Chief. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

MS. MEANS: Well, I am just so excited and so honored to honor a great citizen of Mt. Lebanon who has given decades of her time and efforts and talent to communicate to the citizens of Mt. Lebanon. Susan Fleming Morgan has edited over 227 issues of the Mt. Lebanon Magazine. Here's an example. And --- but she came on board as a freelance writer in 1981 but let me go ahead and read this amazing Proclamation because it only just gives a tip of all her great accomplishments. And she's retiring that's why we're giving her accolades. A Proclamation recognizing Susan Fleming Morgan.

WHEREAS, Mt. Lebanon native Susan Flemings Morgans began working as a freelance writer for the Mt. Lebanon magazine in 1981. At that time, the publication was a brand new 26-page magazine printed in black and white and;

WHEREAS, with a background in journalism and teaching English, Susan Morgans became the public information officer and Editor-in-Chief of the magazine, Mt. Lebanon magazine and that was in 19 --- oh, I'm sorry. She --- and that was in 1997.

WHEREAS, thanks to her proficiency and creative eye, Susan Morgans has helped to launch the Mt. Lebanon magazine into the 21st Century. It now encompasses a full color print magazine written by journalists, a digital magazine updated daily, a municipal website, blogs, lebo alert, e-mail, text blast, cable channel programming, internal and external special events, media relations and the management of the municipal buildings customer service center. Wait, are they replacing you with, like, five people? That's what I --- that's a lot of work.

WHEREAS, Susan Morgan's love for Mr. Lebanon has been evident not only in her work with the magazine but through her dedication to countless community groups such as, both the historical preservation board, the community relations board as a staff liaison, Mt. Lebanon partnership, the Denis Theatre Foundation, the Mt. Lebanon Village, the Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon, the Mt. Lebanon community foundation, the Women's Club of Mt. Lebanon, the Mt. Lebanon Junior Women's Club, the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania, Earth Day in Mt. Lebanon, Flying air at Mt. Lebanon, Art in the Park and the Outreach Teen and Family Services.

WHEREAS, over the years Susan Morgans has successfully launched several public information campaigns

that have greatly benefited the community. People against underage substance abuse, campaigns for public safety center, municipal building and the veteran's memorial, stop addiction for everyone and anti-litter, lock your doors, save the post office, saving the tea stop, respecting diversity and creating the Mt. Lebanon's slogan, a community with character.

WHEREAS, as a lyrical writer and editor, Susan Morgans has used her talent to write about homes, showing Mt. Lebanon residents how to plan safe, aesthetically pleasing and historically sensitive renovations;

WHEREAS, Susan Morgans is the author of two books 'Living with Styles', a profile of municipal architecture and 'The Way We Were', a historical book, a history book.

WHEREAS, during her career, Susan Morgans has received many awards including, but not limited to, the Golden Quill Awards, the Great Alumni Award of --- of Mt. Lebanon high school. The Women Celebrating Women Award from Pennsylvania Commission of Women and most recently, the history maker award from the Historical Society of Mr. Lebanon.

WHEREAS, in her retirement, Susan Morgans is looking forward to spending more time reading and skiing and spending time with her husband Hal and their four children and seven grandchildren.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED That I, Allegheny Council woman Sue Means do hereby recognize and congratulate Susan Fleming Morgan for her years of dedication to the Mt. Lebanon Magazine as a public information officer, editor-in-chief and I wish her all the best in her retirement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereto cause the Seal of Allegheny County to be affixed this day, the 23rd of April. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MS. MORGAN: Thank you --- thank you very much. That was just so lovely, Sue, I can't --- I can't tell you how much it means to me, and thank you to the rest of the Council and also to County manager Willy McKain and County Executive Rich Fitzgerald for all that you do for us, for honoring me on my retirement.

I am a life-long resident of Allegheny County. I take great pride in our County's many accomplishments and --- and our region's recently growing reputation as a

--- a really super place to live and work. Throughout my career as public information officer with Mt. Lebanon, I worked hard to keep our Mt. Lebanon residents aware of the issues beyond our borders that had an impact on the quality of life for all of our Allegheny County residents. And I also tried to make sure through our various information platforms that our residents understood the -- - the wonderful cooperative relationship Mt. Lebanon has always had with Allegheny County and the value that we get for our County tax dollars.

So in retirement, I continue to work with several non-profit organizations that I believe enhance Allegheny County and will promote cooperation among the diverse people from the many municipalities' that make up Allegheny County. Thank you all for your very hard work, your creative approach to --- to problems and emerging issues and for continuing to make this a great place to live.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11050-19.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing Sharpsburg Borough Manager William Rossey for being awarded the 2019 Governor's Award for Local Government of Excellence. Sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MS. PRIZIO: So this Proclamation recognizes Sharpsburg Borough Manager, William Rossey.

WHEREAS, every year, one week in April is designated as local government week by the PA Legislature to honor and recognize the hard work and dedication of Pennsylvania's local officials and encourage citizens to learn more about local government. During this week, the local government excellence awards recognize local officials and William Rossey was awarded as Sharpsburg Borough manager. As Sharpsburg borough manager since 2015, Mr. Rossey constantly displays unwavering commitment towards the borough with it's continuous determination to make improvements on infrastructure that enhances the quality of life for the 3,357 residents. And through his dedication, help make the fallen notable projects and achievements possible, acquired over \$5.8 million dollars in grants for the borough, updated the borough with accounting and finance system, improved office procedures, hired town center associates, business district improvement and revitalization, held taxes steady while

increasing services through trimming the budget. The borough was named as a banner community every year with him as manager. Significant improvements were made to borough parks, police department in acquiring new cars, tasers, rifles, computer equipment and a K-9 canine unit and assisted with negotiation and details as the borough shut down their water plant and joined the municipal water authority.

WHEREAS, even though a non-resident of Sharpsburg Borough, Mr. Rossey understands the importance of establishing a strong community base and committed to attending all community functions, which is something that is beyond what his position calls for.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That I, Allegheny County Council Member Anita Prizio do hereby recognize Sharpsburgs borough manager, William Rossey, for being awarded the 2019 Governor's Award for Local Government and Excellence and I thank him for his unwavering dedication towards Sharpsburg Borough and it's residents. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. ROSSEY: I'll keep --- I'll keep this brief. I am honored to receive this, thank you very much. Working for local government, we all know that --- you know, I've been to Washington D.C., I've sat down with Casey and Toomey and that. And Bob Casey came up to me and said look, you're in the front lines. I hide here in D.C. You deal with the public every day and we do but I love my job.

Allegheny County is --- is a great place. I know a lot of you up there, I've worked with a lot of you over the years and I --- I really do appreciate everything that we're able to do in our community and Allegheny County and Sharpsburg is --- it treats me great. They've accepted me like one of their own and I'm just proud to serve them and proud to be here tonight and receive this from all of you. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11051-19.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing Rajeev R. Godase, a Junior at Fox Chapel High School for obtaining a perfect score on the Advance Placement Statistics exam. Sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MS. PRIZIO: I'd like to give this Proclamation which is an amazing feat. Rajeev was one of the --- just

two students in the worlds to receive a perfect score of five on the Advance Placement Statistics exam. I don't know how many people are familiar with the AP exams but they're offered every May and they're used as means of assessing how much a student has learned in the course and whether it warrants college credits. AP exams are scored on a scale of one to five and Rajeev got a five which is the equivalent of an A in a college course and he was one of 222,501 students who took the AP test in May of 28.

Rajeev's impressive and extensive academic success has resulted in him receiving a perfect score in the following exams, SAT's, SAT math level 2, SAT physics, PSAT, which asides national merit scholarships and a perfect score of --- on three other AP exams.

WHEREAS, an active participant in the following student body, director of the model united nations and forensics, president of math club, co-president of the stock club and he utilizes skills obtained from these various organizations to achieve first place rankings in local, state and inter-state tournaments, the PA Junior Academy of Science, Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair and Model Unite --- United Nations and Forensics, but his talents go far beyond that --- the classroom as well. He's a chess and bridge player and a skilled recreational keyboard and drums player.

AND NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That I, Council Member Anita Prizio do hereby commend and recognize Rajeev R. Godse for achieve --- receiving a perfect AP statistic score and I congratulate him on his dedication and commitment to his education. Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

MR. GODSE: Thank you. This is a great honor, obviously from the Council. I think I'd first like to thank my parents. Obviously from, you know, from an early age inculcating a love for mathematics and related fields. I don't know I'd have been able to do as well as I did if I didn't know, like, what eight times six was. And specifically relating to the AP test, the teachers at Fox Chapel do a really good job in preparing us for those.

In statistics, Ms. Painter, she --- before every test, gives us frappy's which, if you don't know are free response AP problems, yay. Which, in addition to an end of year project which actually has us do, you know, an experimental procedure, a full project where we take a

sample and we make a confidence interval and make conclusions based off of it really provides the --- both types of experience that would be necessary to, you know, succeed on an exam and obviously in the real world as well.

And because our teachers are so great, they often do have a lot of high scores. A lot of ones in the fives. So when I received that news last summer, I, you know, e-mailed them and thanked them. But ironically, for an exam that I took last May, I didn't hear of the perfect score until this spring break just in March which, you know, funnily enough put me right in the schedule for preparing for the next AP exams this year. Even just today, I came from a review session for Spanish which was at the same time for one for US History which I thus had to miss. But --- yeah, I know. But I think that it's a really great opportunity that our schools provide, our ability to take AP exams and just the ability to take a college-level course and excel in that obviously with the help of a really great teaching staff. So I'd like to thank everyone who helped me along the way.

(Applause.)

MR. FUTULES: Can I --- can I make a comment?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. FUTULES: I --- I just want to make a comment that your parents are very proud of you for your accomplishments and --- and thanks to them, I'm sure that you are as smart as you are and ladies and gentleman, you may be looking at the most intelligent young man in the world right here tonight and he lives in Allegheny County. Congratulations, young man.

(Applause.)

MR. FUTULES: Unbelievable.

MS. KIRK: But the question is, what do you want to do when you grow up?

MR. GODSE: That, I'm not sure.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: And here I though Nick Futules was the smartest one in the world.

(Pictures taken.)

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11052-19.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing the Shaler High School unified bocce team for winning the Allegheny County Championship. Sponsored by President DeFazio.



PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: If you want, you can put some on this side to balance out the group. Okay, this group --- this group here is the bocce champions of Allegheny County and they come real close to being ---.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: And they come real close to being the state champs. So what I'm going to do is have the coaches first come up and say a few words. Who wants to be first? Go ahead.

MR. BERNICK: Hello everyone. Today, I'd just like to talk about our experience. This season was very adventurous to say the least. We came from last year, we went 0 and 6 in total to winning 6 --- 6 and 2 and then we qualified for the state championship in our only --- only in our second year. And for today, I would like to --- like our team is very honored to be here this evening. I would like to thank Allegheny County and it's Council Members.

Our team would also like to thank Shaler administration, Shaler school board and our athletic direc --- our athletic director, Clint and for me personally, I would like to thank all the coaches on this team and all the players. They --- without them, this could not be possible and we all did --- we did an incredible job this season and I'm very proud. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Who's next that wants to?

MR. RAUSCHER: Let me just do it real quick, is that okay, then we'll let the kids.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right.

MR. RAUSCHER: Just real quickly, I just want to just say how proud we are. I'm Clint Rauscher, the athletic director of Shaler High School and just so you understand that the unified bocce is that with a program implemented last year in our school, and what really appeals to me is that --- what --- it does integrate are learning support special needs kids with our regular ed kids. And what's interesting about this sport that a lot of people don't gather is that each athlete, whether it be special needs or regular, each has the same value. Each throws one ball. So every throw is of equal value from whoever it might be and often, some of the biggest throws were thrown by some of the kids you would not think and it --- and it really created a close tie between all of our kids and it raised a lot of awareness within our school.

So as this grew and they created such success, this idea of inclusion and working together, it was an amazing development with our schools and I --- in the end, I'm going to have --- I'm sure some of the coaches or some of the kids might talk but they did all the work and I said they did. They spend a lot of afternoons working and they can actually work indoor. It's a kind of a softball they use for the bocce, you know, it's outside but it's actually kind of a ball that molds a little bit so you can throw it on hard surfaces, it doesn't crack and they spend a lot of afternoons throughout the winter and preparing and by the end of the season they were outstanding. So, I couldn't be more proud of them.

(Applause.)

MS. ROBERTSON: Thanks everybody for your support. I just want to thank my mom for getting me involved in this. I love playing with everybody on my team. I want to thank all my teammates for their help and support and I also want to thank my amazing --- our amazing coaches for helping us, teaching us amazing strategies and leading us to victory. I was so nervous at first but when we made our way to Hershey, it became a great experience and I'm very happy that I got to do something with all of you guys. Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

MS. DONNELLY: Thank you all for coming.

(Applause.)

MS. MCCOY: (Inaudible).

MS. CHMIELEWSKI: Keish says thank you all for coming.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anybody else?

MS. CHMIELEWSKI: We just wanted to say thank you so much. We're very honored to be here. And we were invited to your school board meeting last week. We got honored there and I did not mention our AD, MR. Clint Rauscher. He was the one that started this program two years ago for our school and he has been very instrumental in getting this program --- getting this program recognized through our school and so I just wanted to say thank you because I was very mad that I didn't say thank you to him last week. So thank you for this opportunity to say thank you to him.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anyone else? How about the camera man back there? Okay.

Well it's --- it's amazing what they did for only what, two years, that --- that's amazing to go that far for only two years of playing bocce. I was the champion, not in bocce but in (inaudible). You know that game. Okay.

WHEREAS, Shaler --- Shaler High School unified bocce team beat Elizabeth Forward 8-7 to win the Allegheny County championship on March 5th, 2019. The Shaler bocce program in its second --- second season, after going winless last year, the team went 2 and 1 during the regular season before claiming four more victories during the playoffs after earning the Allegheny County title. The team was granted by over 100 people who had gathered to celebrate the tremendous achievement and it also --- re --- retired --- I got --- I'm worse with the glasses now than without them. I can't --- leading to Hershey to complete in the state championship and;

WHEREAS, we --- we thank the athletes, coaches, students, administrators parents and all other --- and all others involved with the Shaler unified bocce program for making Allegheny County proud. We also commend the --- the IUS program for providing local athletes with --- with the --- with and without intellectual disabilities the opportunity to show off their skills while learning the importance of equality, sportsmanship and teamwork.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That --- that the County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and myself by virtue of the authority voted --- rested in us do hereby congratulate the Shaler High School unified bocce team as --- bocce team for winning the Allegheny County championship and it's other accomplishments this season. Signed by Rich Fitzgerald and myself. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to go over there and we'll take a picture.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The rest of the Proclamations will be read into the record. You can just start and just read them down.

MR. BARKER: Okay, fair enough. 11053-19. A Proclamation declaring Thursday, May 2nd, 2019 to be Champions of Learning Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

11054-19. Certificates of Recognition presented to the 2019 Champions of Learning Awardees. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

11055-19. A Proclamation declaring Tuesday, April 11th, 2019 to be Caileigh Lynn McDowell Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

11056-19. Certificates of Achievement presented to Moon Township for achieving three recognitions from the 51st Annual Township Citizen Communications Contest. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

11057-19. A Proclamation declaring Sunday, April 28th, 2018 to be Workers' Memorial Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by President DeFazio.

11058-19. Certificates of Recognition presented to the 2019 South Hills High School Sports Hall of Fame. Sponsored by President DeFazio.

11059-19. A Proclamation recognizing Mrs. Jane A. Hopey upon her distinguished career as a Council Member with the Borough of Franklin Park. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

11060-19. Certificates of Recognition awarding to the --- awarded to the volunteers of the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Southwestern Veterans' Center. Sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

11061-19. A Certificate of Recognition presented to Della Meekins upon the occasion of her 90th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

And 11062-19. A Certificate of Achievement presented to Jason Rau of Boy Scout Troop 138 in recognition of meeting the necessary requirements to advance to the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MR. CATENA: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion to amend the agenda to add two Proclamations.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. CATENA: Jared ---.

MR. BARKER: The two Proclamations. The first is a Proclamation declaring April 2019 as Fair Housing Month in Allegheny County to be sponsored by Chief Executive Fitzgerald and Council Member Walton. And the other is a Proclamation declaring April 14th through 20th, 2019 to be National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Catena.

MS. MEANS: Do you need a second?

MR. WALTON: I'm second.

MS. MEANS: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

Public comment on agenda items?

MR. CATENA: Mr. President, I believe Council --  
- Councilman DeWitt wants to --- is actually going to present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, okay.

MR. WALTON: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to invite the Director of Economic Development Mr. Lance Chimka to come. Thank you, Lance. Absolutely. With me tonight we have Lance Chimka, the Director of Economic Development for Allegheny County and housing.

WHEREAS, this April marks the 51st anniversary of the passage of Title 8 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly known as the Fair Housing Act. Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the bills biggest supporters. And after he was assassinated on April 4th, 1968 President Lyndon Johnson urged congressional approval of that vitally important legislation as a memorial to the Civil Rights leader. Seven days later, the bill passed and;

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing based upon race, color, religion, sex, disability or familial status through its human rights --- human relations act. Allegheny County also prohibits discrimination based upon ancestry, place of birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age and use of a guide or support animal because of blindness, deafness or physical disability.

WHEREAS, fair housing is critical to family and neighborhood health and it's stability. Housing provides security --- helps build connections to the community. It offers access to quality employment, education and healthcare. It promotes integration, inclusiveness as well as a greater tolerance and understanding. Illegal barriers to equal opportunity and housing affect everyone and diminish our quality of life and;

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is committed to the principles that safe, affordable and fair housing is the right of all of our residents regardless of the characteristics that make us unique. Proper enforcement

and non-discrimination policies require collaboration and cooperation between government, business and individuals. Allegheny County Economic Development along with the Allegheny County Housing Authority and Allegheny County Human Relations Commissions are just a few of the local agencies dedicated to protecting our housing rights and;

WHEREAS, as we celebrate the Fair Housing Act, let us rededicate ourselves to eliminating discrimination in all its forms, creating opportunity for all and once again, demonstrating that this region's strength is the diversity of its people and its welcoming communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That we, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and County Member --- Council Member DeWitt Walton by virtue of authority vested in us do hereby proclaim April 2019 as Fair Housing Month in Allegheny County.

IN SEAL WHEREOF, we have herein to set our hands and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny County be affixed to this 23rd day of April, 2019.

Lance, I want you to --- I'd like to ask if you would share a few words but for --- but to our members of Council, this is so important and it's real because --- because of this legislation in 1968, I was able to use this in Pocatello, Idaho and --- and really fight back against acts of housing discrimination. And ultimately, caused the owner to change his methods and the manner in which he rented housing. This is very real, it happens and we have to --- we have to be really diligent and I don't want to --- and I don't want to sound a little preachy but it's real. And we were talking about this earlier today on another issue about how we have to work collectively to change the environment and build a more collaborative and cooperative environment for all of our citizens regardless of --- regardless of gender and all of these issues, race, all those issues.

So --- because we have to --- we have to build a greater America and this --- and this legislation really creates an opportunity to do so. Lance, thank you.

MR. CHIMKA: Yeah, sure. Thank you Councilman Walton and thank you for the entire Council and --- and County Executive Fitzgerald for your leadership on this issue. As Councilman Walton said, it's a very real issue. It's one we attempt to overcome day in and day out.

As the regional economy flourishes it becomes even --- even more important that we make sure that we're

proactively addressing housing and discrimination and --- and making sure that everyone's fair housing rights are protected in Allegheny County for the benefit of --- of frankly all of our neighborhoods and all of our communities and all of us. So again, really appreciate your --- your support on the subject and we, in Allegheny County Economic Development will continue to work with all of you and all of our non-profit partners and advocates in the space to make sure that we --- that we eliminate housing discrimination from Allegheny County. So thank you very much.

MR. WALTON: Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We don't have any public comment, do we?

MR. BARKER: Not on agenda items, no.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11048-19.

MR. BARKER: A Motion to approve the minutes of the February 19th, 2019 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

11042-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Brian K. Johnson to serve as a member of the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board for a term effective through December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Appointment Review. 11043-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Barbara Wolvowitz to serve as a member of the Mental Health Intellectual Advisory Board for a term effective through December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred --- that'll be referred to the Committee on Appointment Review. 11014-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Valerie J. Ketter to serve as a member of the Drug and

Alcohol Planning Council for a term effective through December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met last Thursday, April 18th to recommend the reappointment of Valerie J. Ketter to serve as a member of the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council. I'd like to make a motion that we pass this.

MS. MEANS: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

We did --- did we do 21 --- 11021?

MR. BARKER: That's up next.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay, dash, '19. 11021-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Cynthia Moore to serve as a member of the Community Services Advisory Council for a term effective through December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met last Thursday, April 18th and has recommended the reappointment of Cynthia Moore to serve as a member of the Community Services Advisory Council. I'd like to so move.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

11037-19.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2019. Submission number 01-19. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Klein, you want to?

MR. FUTULES: He asked me to do it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, okay. Go on.

MR. FUTULES: Councilman Klein had to leave so he asked me to move this forward. They met last week and



it was moved in affirmative recommendation for full Council. I make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Defazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, no's zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11038-19.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania authorizing participation in the 2018-2019 Nursing Home Intergovernmental Transfer Program proposed by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; authorizing the transfer of funds is required by the said program and further granting authorization for any and all lawful actions necessary to effectuate Allegheny County's participation in said program. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules, you doing it?

MR. FUTULES: Yeah. Yeah, this was also discussed last week and it was voted affirmative to bring it to the full Council for your consideration so I'd make a motion to approve.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, let's have a roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Defazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, no's zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Liaison reports? Go ahead, Representative ---?

MS. MEANS: Well, thank you for recognizing me, Mr. President. I just wanted to share, congratulate Martha's Run for another event this year. It's an organization that's had a 22 year history of having a 10K run in Mt. Lebanon to raise money for --- over, I believe, like, 19 different parks and --- and park equipment and

there's a park right there by the Bethel --- by the Mt. Lebanon recreation center. It's a beautiful park and it was built with money from the fund.

And so, what happened was 22 years ago --- over 22 years ago, an FBI special agent Martha Dixon died in the line of duty. And so, her family has hosted this run in her memory and all this time they've taken a very tragic incident and used it to raise money for the good of children. And so, I participated in the event with Councilman Tom Baker, his wife Erin and their daughter Lila. And don't worry, we didn't run in the 10K. We were in the baby-buggy pushing part of the group. But it was a wonderful event and I want to also congratulate Matt and Julie Koczko for the grand opening of their coffee shop.

I participated on Saturday, April the 20th. It's called Reginald's and it's in the historic building in Bethel Park that's over 100 years old, the Bethel Park Art Center. It was a schoolhouse that actually my father went to school in and I went to school in but not 100 years ago. But it's a beautiful building and I wish them all the luck and they've done a great job and it's just -- - so come visit Reginald's coffee and it's amazing. So thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Let's see here. Let's go with Representative Baker first.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. President. Yeah, thanks Councilwoman Means for welcome --- welcoming me into her district for that event for Martha's Run which is an amazing event every year and they --- they actually run across the county for one of their other events. It's --- it's really remarkable. I started that morning with Council Member Means but finished it with Council Member Kirk at the Northland Garden Gala which was really nice again, raised a lot of money for our local library where Councilwoman Kirk and I hold our office hours --- our district office hours. So that was a great event as well.

A little bit of Ross Township, congrat --- congratulations to everyone in Ross for the EGGnormous Egg Hunt that happened in between those two events, that was great as well. Jameson's Army had their annual event which was the biggest and best they've ever had, raised several hundred thousand dollars and I --- I think one of the amazing things and you saw it through the amazing honorees that we had here tonight, but just being able to

name days after causes and organizations that we believe that --- that do incredible work.

412 was the day of Jameson's Army's Gala this year and Jameson is a young boy that --- that grew up with just a lot of health issues and has overcome an incredible amount in his young life and the fact that his day was 412 meant the world to him. I don't know how to explain it but 412, that being his actual day. I've never seen a child more excited to get a Proclamation. It was a pretty --- pretty special night.

Other events going on. We have our marathon weekend coming up so good luck to our County administration and police and everyone involved with that event. We're doing our next meet your elected official's event on May 4th in Coraopolis at the Anchor and Anvil. Representative Anita Kulik and I do that event together. It's bipartisan, it's non-partisan. It's really just about people coming together and learning how they can get more involved in their government.

And finally, I should say Council Member Palmosina and I attended our first Board of Elections meeting yesterday along with Judge Kathryn Hens-Greco and I was very proud to be elected chair. The judge was elected vice-chair at that meeting. So looking forward to the rest of this year and serving in that role, of just the one year term by virtue, I guess of the home rule charter it always has to be the two at-large members and the County Executive but in years where they're up for election --- it gets selected. So we were appointed and we had that --- that organizational leadership election yesterday. So I'm really looking forward to that process and making it transparent, inclusive, having everyone involved. It should be --- it should be great. That's it, Mr. President. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Representative Catena?

MR. CATENA: Thank you, Mr. President. I just have two items this evening. The first item is I'd like to offer my sincere congratulations to Sergeant Jeffrey Skewes of the Scott Township Police Department upon his retirement. He --- between the Carnegie Police Department and the Scott Township Police Department, he's been with those --- both of those departments a combined 30 years. That's a long time for anyone to stay with anything, so

congratulations Sergeant Skewes and I hope he does a great job at his --- whatever his next endeavor is.

The next thing is the Carnegie 5K for the Carnegie Volunteer Fire Department is this coming Saturday. It's at 8:00 a.m. sharp. This is --- it's been going on for a long, long time and each year it gets bigger and better. And I'd love to see any of you there and you can still register that day, it's not too late to register and anyone that participates it's a nice easy court because it's all flat. So even I can do it so, and if I can do it anyone can do it. So thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. It --- it was interesting tonight Councilman Walton honored our Economic Development Director Lance Chimka talking about fair housing here in Allegheny County, and that's something that I think is important to everyone. I also want to commend Director Chimka because he's helped prepare me for meetings I've had recently in Washington D.C. to say, how do we take and help these folks in Allegheny County.

As I relayed to the County Council previously back in December I went to the White House when the President signed an executive order creating what they call, the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council. This was designed to work across 14 different federal agencies to help steer funding, grants and things like that to the over 8,762 opportunity zones which exist in the United States today. Allegheny County currently has 87 of them. We have more than any other county in the State of Penn --- excuse me, it's 68. I apologize, 68. We have more than any other county in the State of Pennsylvania. 41 reside in the city, 27 reside out here in the county.

Areas that are available today that have the ability to take and access some of this funding, depending upon the type of project considered would be places that you would be familiar with such as Carrie Furnace Area, is open for redevelopment and which bids are out. McKees Rocks, the multimodal transportation center, Riverfront 47 which is being planned up at Sharpsburg and Aspinwall, as well as a wide range of other locations. I was down there again last week on Wednesday for a conference with 170 state, local and tribal leaders when the treasury

department rolled out their second tranche of regulations, which they believe is going to spur private sector investor or private capital investment in these opportunity zones.

Right now already, there are over 100, what they call qualified opportunity funds that have been created. They have an average dollar value of \$225 million dollars in each. Again, it's estimated that over \$100 billion dollars in private capital will flow to these. What the federal government has done differently this time is instead of just giving someone like a \$3,000 tax credit or something like that, they're incentivizing for long-term investment. In order to get the maximum benefit out of this, you have to have your money invested for a period of over 10 years. If you keep your money in there for 10 years, then you get tax forgiveness on capital gains rates as well as any of the profit that you've made in the investment during that time, you enjoy tax-free.

So this is, what we believe is a great program and has the opportunity to really transform, you know, America because they distressed areas they we're talking about. These are areas that all of us should be caring about. These are areas in the county where the average median wage is 37 percent less than what the median wage is elsewhere. These are areas in the county where one of every five residents doesn't have a high school degree. Where there are more --- there are more people without a high school degree than there are with a college degree. And these are areas where we have high incidents of opioid abuse.

And of the other things, I heard presentations from the Department of Justice, the Department of Labor, the Department of Education. One of the other things they're doing is they've identified over 150 federal programs that are out there today such Perkins grants, grants from the justice department on opioid addiction, on violence reduct --- violence reduction. And they've made opportunity zones a priority. So that all the folks across the nation that are applying to these, people in the opportunity zones, projects in the opportunity zones, you will receive a priority when you apply for these to make these things successful.

So I just wanted to let you know that this is something that's going on. This is something that could potentially significantly benefit residents in Allegheny

County. I mean, my colleague Councilman Macey is always sticking up for the Mon Valley and always talking about well, we need to try to help these folks. These are programs that are out there that could potentially help them. I'm proud to be participating in them, and I hope I'm able to bring you more good news in the future as we're able to provide job training programs or opioid addiction lowering programs and things like that in the future. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other comments? Seeing none.

MR. MACEY: Just one comment.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. MACEY: I really want to thank my colleague, Sam DeMarco for his research and the work that he does and I would like to see us to have a informational meeting on County Council on this particular issue because I think that we need to be better informed and understand. Now, we can all do research but this guy has went to the White House and has spoke with the people that are ahead of, you know, this --- these groups and the --- the organizations that's going to make a difference hopefully in our opportunity zone.

So, you know, Mr. President if we could --- maybe Economic Development and we could sit down and --- and talk because we --- we don't even know, we don't even know all of our opportunity zones.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah?

MR. WALTON: In response to member Macey, Director Chimka and I for his entire tenure as Director of Economic Development, have had multiple conversations about opportunity zones and --- and I think that there's more infor --- well, more that we don't know than we do know. But I'm more than willing and I --- and I believe ultimately that it will inure to all of the Members of Council's benefit to better understand what is going on relative to opportunity zones, opportunities and potential pitfalls and --- and those kind --- and all of the ancillary pieces.

So I welcome --- I welcome Mr. Macey's suggestion of having a --- an information sharing session, whether it may be a meeting of the Economic Development Committee or a public hearing on the issue so that folks understand what's going on and all the ancillary items.

So I'll take that --- I'll take his invitation to heart and work with Director Chimka and find some way and the administration and find some way to ensure that that information is shared on a broad and comprehensive matter. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no more hands on that, we'll go to 11044-19.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation certain easement areas required to stabilize slope supporting McCoy Road and Dunn Street in Stowe Township, and to take such further action as may be necessary under applicable law, including the Eminent Domain Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Public Works. 11045-19.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation certain temporary construction easement areas from one parcel required to reconstruct Thompson Run East Branch Bridge Number 2 carrying Jones Avenue over Thompson Run in the municipalities of Wilkins Township and Turtle Creek Borough, and to take such further action as may be necessary under applicable law, including the Eminent Domain Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Public Works. 11046-19.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing the grant of a temporary license agreement to Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership for the purpose of staging a food festival and related activities on the Roberto Clemente or 6th Street Bridge to be known as Pickle --- Picklesburgh between Thursday, July 25th, 2019 and Monday, July 29th, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Public Works. 11047-19.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing the grant of a temporary license agreement to the Delta Foundation of Pittsburgh for the purpose of staging a public festival to be known as the 2019 Pittsburgh Pride Fest on the Andy Warhol or 7th Street Bridge between Friday, June 7th, 2019 and Sunday, June 9th, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.



PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Public Works. New business motions?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: See none. Notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: None. Public comment on general items?

MR. BARKER: We have several. First up is Mark Kelly.

MR. KELLY: Good evening members of Allegheny County Council. My name is Mark Kelly. I'm an employee of Allegheny County in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County with the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania. I'm a probation supervisor and in that capacity, I have the responsibility of supervising probation officers. My fellow supervisors are tasked with the responsibility of supervising adult probation officers, juvenile probation officers, domestic relations officers, secretaries, municipal court employees and information technology employees.

I am here today in my role as President of Allegheny County Association of Court Supervisors. We are a labor organization representing meet and discuss unit employees of Allegheny County and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County with the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania. We do not have the same rights as collective bargaining units, such as employees we supervise who have the right to interest arbitration. I became the President of the association in 2008.

We negotiated terms for raises and benefits for a period from 2009 through 2011, which was set forth in a memorandum of understanding. This memorandum of understanding provided that the Allegheny County Department of Human Resources would request that the courts review current salaries to ensure that the employees are placed on an appropriate step, receive appropriate longevity on the court supervisor salary program that's maintained by the courts.

In 2011, I attempted to negotiate a new memorandum of understanding for the period beginning January 1st of 2012 but the county refused to confirm an agreement subject --- subjecting us to an extended delay. I presented at Allegheny County Council meetings back in 2014. We finally executed a new memorandum of

understanding covering the term from 2014 through 2017 but our salaries remained frozen in 2012 and 2013.

At the end of 2015, progress was made through a side bar of the memorandum of understanding to address the inequities brought about by salary compression. We again initiated negotiations before the 2014 through 2017 memorandum of understanding expired in August of 2017 but it pushed away indefinitely, once again. We are at 20 months since the association initiated the request for discussions on a new memorandum of understanding, agreement or response to your request for interest arbitration.

At this time, we do not have a memorandum of understanding agreement or a request or a response to our request for interest arbitration. We received no raise in 2018 and 2019 and have no meetings scheduled. We have supervisors held below the full rate of pay for their positions, a --- a circumstance we call salary compression. In addition, we have supervisors making less than the employees they supervise.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Make it quick, give us a quick sentence?

MR. KELLY: Give me 30 seconds?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Not that long.

MR. KELLY: Okay, 15. In addition to --- in addition, we have supervisors making less than the employees we supervise, inconsistent supervisor salaries, supervisors handling additional workloads over the course of the past several years due to supervisor vacancies, all of which make it difficult to fill vacant supervisor positions with qualified employees. These issues remain unresolved. I have provided Allegheny County and the Fifth Judicial District administrators with 15 --- with detailed information concerning our situation. I am here today requesting your assistance in getting the County to sit down with us in a meaningful discussion in attempt to confirm a new memorandum of understanding or establish an agreement through interest arbitration.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Next up is Joe Pasqualetti.

MR. PASQUALETTI: Good evening, Members of the Council. My name is Joe. I moved here in January 2018 from another state and I live in Council District 11. My understanding is that conversion therapy is permitted now and today I voice my support to prohibit conversion

therapy. These practices are very harmful to the people who go through them in the communities of Allegheny County.

I went through an experience one might call a watered down conversion program over the internet. At that time, I thought that going through such things would allow others to accept me but the reality is that I needed to accept myself. After almost a month, I realized that this program wouldn't change other people's views of me and that is was burying me, the real me under a burden of lies that I couldn't bear. What did help me get back on track was something simple, building a desk with my dad and that was exactly the therapy that I needed. Spending time with the people I love in a non-judgmental way.

I didn't completely heal for the better part of a decade because I still hadn't accepted myself. That burden lifted when I listened to a podcast called, UnErased; The History of Conversion Therapy in America. This podcast discusses the history of these practices, the harm and how they are unethical in four short episodes. I highly recommend the third episode title, Dr. Davidson and the Gay Cure. Now, I live in acceptance and peace in Allegheny County.

Unfortunately, many queer youth are at risk for self-harm and harm through these practices. Prohibiting conversion practices will help keep our youth safe, lighten their burdens and let them know that we adults are looking out for them. Allegheny County needs to take the lead and show Pennsylvania how to do what's right. Please prohibit conversion therapy and thank you so much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Next?

MR. BARKER: Next up is Robert Maddock.

MR. MADDOCK: Good evening, Council. My name is Robert Maddock and I live at 3826 East Street in the Observatory Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. I lived in Pittsburgh and thus in Allegheny County for all of my 78 years. I'd like to make a few comments about the proposed County Police Review Board.

I'm a member of the Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network and one of the chief goals of this organization is to enable people of the community to be active and effective participants in the political process. It seems to us that the creation of a County Review Board will serve to move this goal forward. I've

experienced that the Police Review Board in Pittsburgh was established by a referendum. It came into existence because it was the will of the people, at least most of the voters and it still continues because of this support.

My hope is that we don't have to do a referendum for this one because I found that collecting signatures really is a pain. I personally doubt to whether many of the county municipalities have an office of municipal investigations. The County Review Board would provide them with professional capability to investigate and evaluate complaints about their officers and actions in response to these results, of these investigations will then be in the hands of the municipal authorities, you know, the --- the government will be the --- governed elected officials will be the people to make the decisions.

In addition, the County Review Board is a truly professional organization that will serve to protect officers from what, upon investigation turn out to be merely frivolous accusations, and we've talked to the people from the City's Review Board and this is really something that they --- they really do quite a bit. Therefore, I urge that when the legislation establishing a County Police Review Board comes before this Council that the vote be one of affirmation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Next up is Juliet Zavon.

MS. ZAVON: Absentee ballots. My friend Chloe wrote me about her absentee vote three days before Ap --- the April 2nd election. She said, despite sending in my absentee ballot request well within the window (several weeks ago) I received my ballot for Tuesday's special election today, along with instructions that tell me it won't be counted unless received by 5:00 p.m. yesterday. Is there somewhere to report this? I'm a college student out of state and will not be able to vote in person, so this delay effectively stripped me of my right to vote.

Chloe's experience is not unique. Here's a text I got last week from a friend. My neighbor requested his absentee ballot but is concerned it won't arrive in time. He departs for a prolonged trip to China on May 6th. Do you know if there is a way to expedite receipt of his ballot? Last November, he couldn't vote because his absentee ballot didn't come in time. He travels a lot for work. I personally know 10 people who didn't receive

their absentee ballots for the 2018 elections. One is the daughter of a Council --- a County Council Member who sits among you. The elections division repeatedly told them, we're sending it tomorrow, but the absentee ballots never arrived.

A month or so ago, I count --- I contacted them to ask what is the turnaround time to process an absentee ballot request. They said it goes out the next day. Clearly, that's not what Chloe and others experienced and it's not what my husband and I experienced in 2018 either. We'd been warned that receiving absentee ballots is uneven and felt lucky to get our absentee ballots several weeks after we sent in our applications.

Imagine that. Citizens feeling lucky to get their absentee ballot. What does this say about public confidence in our elections? What does it say about day-to-day processing of absentee ballot applications? If you were a newly hired manager at the Elections Division, what would you do to assess the functionality of processing absentee ballots?

Minnesota, Ohio and North Carolina are among the states that make it possible for a person who applies for an absentee ballot to track it's status. They get a tracking number so they can monitor sending and receipt and so on. Not so in Allegheny County. The elections division is a black box. No transparency or public accountability, no way to track one's absentee ballot application or receipt.

Processing absentee ballots promptly and accurately is serious business. You're probably aware that Pennsylvania is being sued over the way it handles absentee ballots. What can be done to prevent Allegheny County from being a similar target? I urge you to ask how is Allegheny County improving this process. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Last up actually is Janet Lunde.

MS. LUNDE: Hello. I'm Janet Lunde and I live in Pittsburgh. I've worked in high tech for 30 years, so I have opinions about computer products and I am so delighted that Allegheny County is replacing the old voting machines. I understand that the new system will be in place for the 2020 primary, Presidential primary and I am --- and will definitely have voter-verified paper ballots for each voter and robust pre-certification and that sounds great. I've read the excellent goals the

county has set, I know they will also include improved accessibility at polling places which is great. I hope with more reliance on paper ballots that it will be easier for people to get absentee ballots and vote from home.

I've volunteered to drive people to the polls and I don't understand why we rush everyone to vote on one day in person. In other states, it's easier to vote with longer voting --- voting periods and easier to get absentee ballots or vote by mail. I lived in Oregon for a while and voting there is incredibly easy. I --- and their turnout was 63 percent in 2018. I mean six three. It's hard to imagine compared to the turnout we have here.

In Oregon, no one misses voting because they're in a wheelchair, their car is in the shop, they have to work overtime or their kid's sick. But in Pennsylvania, voters miss voting for those kinds of reasons and that's just wrong. In Allegheny County, we can do a better job with absentee ballots and we need to do that. So to sum up, I am very excited about improved election security with an audible --- auditable paper trail. I am --- it's critical that we get this in place by the 2020 Presidential Election primary and I hope that while we're doing that, we also improve our absentee ballot system. And that's it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Does someone want to make a motion to adjourn?

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it. Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:16 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.

Dated the 3rd day of May, 2019

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jeremy Harris", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter