

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Patrick Catena	-	Chair, District 4
Robert J. Macey	-	Vice-President, District 9
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-at-Large
Bethany Hallam	-	Council-at-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Tom Duerr	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Paul Zavarella	-	District 8
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Olivia "Liv" Bennett	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 - 5:00 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
225 Ross Street, Suite 202
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

PRESIDENT CATENA: I'd like to call this meeting of Allegheny County Council to order. Please stand for the pledge of allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Please remain standing for moment of silent reflection.

(Moment of Silence.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, everyone. Please be seated. Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER:	Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein? Mr. Macy?
MR. MACY:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 15 members present. Mr. Klein has joined us. Mr. Klein, are you there?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now have proclamations and certificates. 12068-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation congratulating Lynne Hayes-Freeland for her extensive and impressive career

with KDKA and congratulating her for becoming the first African-American woman to host a full-time radio show in KDKA history sponsored by Council Member Bennett.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you, and thank you, Ms. Lynne Hayes-Freeland, for your years of service to our region. We are sorely going to miss you. I'm speaking from us and me personally. So today we are to give Ms. Lynne Hayes-Freeland her flowers while she's still here and read the proclamation, so I'll read the proclamation into the record.

WHEREAS, as an inspiring broadcast journalism student at Duquesne University trying to make her way in a flourishing industry especially in Allegheny County and surrounding regions, Lynne Hayes Freeland worked nights at the Roy Fox Show where she was ultimately fired leading to her being hired two weeks later by KDKA TV. In the first paragraph from tragedy to triumph.

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayes-Freeland stayed with KDKA TV until December 2018 where she became the first black woman in KDKA radio's 100 year history to become a full-time talk show host. This radio show is a true testament of Ms. Lynne Hayes-Freeland's work ethic and an important step for African-American women wanting to work in radio and whereas in January 2019 Ms. Hayes-Freeland began hosting a noon-3 p.m. show daily and;

WHEREAS, after three years in that role Ms. Hayes Freeland is preparing to step down from her daily show. However, she will stay active with KDKA in various other capacities. She will continue to participate in KDKA radio once a week for a one hour discussion with host Marty Griffin, a weekly column on KDKA radio.com, becoming a bigger part of KDKA's social media presence and continuing her monthly hosting duties on minority health matters. A program KDKA does in cooperation with Gateway Medical Society, a Pittsburgh based organization dedicated to combating racial disparities;

WHEREAS, over the years Ms. Hayes-Freeland has created and produced numerous programs such as weekend magazine Vibrations, now known as the Lynn Hayes-Freeland show. Through her show, Ms. Hayes-Freeland breaks barriers and addresses issues that the African-American community faced while forcing her audience to realize that those issues are not isolated and affect the broader community. And

WHEREAS, while at KDKA Ms. Hayes-Freeland has

interviewed South African President Nelson Mandela, that's huge, Civil Rights Leader Rosa Parks and television legend Oprah Winfrey. I want to meet her. And;

WHEREAS over the years Ms. Hayes-Freeland has received numerous honors and accolades that are a true testament of her unwavering commitment as an African-American woman dedicated to pursuing her dreams in an often biased society, and;

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayes-Freeland has dedicated her personal and professional life to building a community where there are no social, racial or economic barriers and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Council Member Olivia Bennett, do hereby recognize and congratulate Lynn Hayes-Freeland for her extensive and impressive career with KDKA, and I congratulate her for becoming the first African-American woman to host a full-time radio show in KDKA history. Also we thank her for her unwavering commitment to establishing a society where neighbors across America have no social, racial or economic barriers and I have to add, as Elise Bennett's granddaughter, I have to add, she is an AKA and my grandmother would be very mad if I did not mention this. And so also connecting that in witness thereof I have hereunto caused the seal of the county of Allegheny to be affixed this 26th day of October 2021. Congratulations.

MS. HAYES-FREELAND: Well, thank you. It is - I feel like this is probably only the second time I have ever been here when I wasn't covering a story or trying to corner somebody for an interview, so it's always nice to be here. You know, I announced almost six weeks ago my intention to transition away from full time work and as you heard in 1976 I was hired originally by KDKA radio, so in that regard it's time.

In the same breath I feel like my work is not done which is why I'm still going to do some things for the radio station. I still feel like there's a lot for us to do as a region. I remember when all this started - when county council started. I remember when we transitioned from three people to you guys and we've come a long way. We still have a lot of work to do, and I look forward to working with all of you in the future. I thank you for this. You don't realize how much people think of you until either one of two things. Either you die or you

retire, so I'm glad I'm - when I retire, so thank you all very much.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Before we do the picture, is there anyone that - I know there's a number of you that want to be added to this. So is there anyone that doesn't want to be added to this? We'll make this easy. Hearing no, add everyone to this, Jared, please. Thank you.

Okay. Now we'll have 12069-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation congratulating the Allegheny County Conservation District upon their 75th anniversary sponsored by Council Members Prizio, Baker, Bennett, Catena, DeMarco, Duerr, Kirk, Klein, Macey and Palmiere.

MS. PRIZO: Thanks very much. I am honored to serve on the board of directors of Allegheny County Conservation District. It's a pleasure to be working with Heather and her staff this past year. Their tireless work to conserve, promote and improve Allegheny County's natural resources is inspiring. In addition to their permitting plan review enforcement work, the conservation district supports specific programming aimed at reducing non-point source pollutants in the areas of agriculture, soil, storm water and watersheds in turn making Allegheny County greener and cleaner. At this point I would like to read the proclamation celebrating Allegheny County's conservation district's 75th anniversary into the record.

WHEREAS, the conservation districts are local units of governments established under state law to carry out natural resource management programs and work with landowners and local governments and help them manage and protect land and water resources on private and public land.

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Soil Conservation District now known as the Allegheny County conservation district was formed on March 5 in 1946 via a county resolution. In 1975 the state recognized the potential of district's ability to educate, promote and deliver soil and water conservation programs locally.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, all of us on county council, can hereby congratulate the Allegheny County Conservation District on their 75th anniversary and we thank them for their contributions to the conservation and preservation of Allegheny County's natural resources.

MS. MANZO: Thank you, Councilperson Prizio. Hi, everybody. It's such a pleasure to be here. My name

is Heather Manzo. I'm executive director of the Allegheny County Conservation district. This is our assistant director Erin Copeland and we also have our communications coordinator here as well. The entire staff and board of directors would like to extend a really celebratory note between our two institutions from working together to preserve the natural resources in the county.

Over the last 75 years, the ACCD and Allegheny County have worked together to ensure that the county's natural resources are stewarded for past, present and future generations. ACCD manages eight programs on behalf of the State of Pennsylvania. Two of them are delegated from the PA DEP and allow regulatory oversight of earth moving over acre, encroachment of waterways in order to uphold the new water law here where we live and work.

The remaining programs pass through funding that provides necessary fiscal energy to our municipalities. We assist with water and soil quality, improvement of infrastructure on dirt, gravel and low-volume roads. We assist with conservation projects on rural and urban farms and provide free soil lead screenings to county residents. The staff and board of ACCD extends deep gratitude to everybody at the council for their support of ACCD as well as in other departments within the county as well. We'd just like to thank everybody for fiscal support the last two years. We put that funding to work. We had the farmland preservation program and conservation and improvement project.

Just a couple highlights of how those funds have been put to work. We have recently approved two farms this year. One is the Donor family farms and the other one is Sugar farms. We have one in the north and one in the south part of the county. All in all while ACCD has manage this program, we've preserved 40 farms and over 4,000 acres of farmland in Allegheny County due to ensure food production for generations to come. So as we resumed control of the program in 2016, we preserved an additional 13 farms just in that time period and since 2001 the program has permanently preserved the equivalent of North Park and Boyce Park combined. This will ensure green space food for future generations.

The program has brought in more than \$22 million into our county directly into the hands of local agricultural systems that buy development rights directly

from the farm that keeps family on the land and the ecosystem services of the unpaved land intact.

Local ag institutions like the Janoski's farm, Mission Meats, donor famine farms, triple feed farms are all protected through the program in perpetuity.

A lot of the funding that the county has generously sent to ACCD into our watershed improvement program and we've put hundreds and hundreds and thousands of trees and native plants into the county park system which helps them stabilize stream banks, protect downstream health for residents and wildlife.

So as our human community continues to face challenges related to the need for resiliency planning, our staff and board at ACCD looks forward to the future with purpose and hope. We will endeavor to continue the work improving, protecting and preserving the county's natural resources for generations to come and this is a really great legacy moment to reflect and encourage gratitude to continue to do this work. We are stewards of the resources, stewards of this organization and stewards of this county together right now at this moment in history and right now at this moment in history and we really look forward to the work that we can do together to serve in the years to come so thanks again.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The remaining proclamations and certificates will be read into the record. 12070-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing Colleen Bowers for her dedication to help put an end to domestic violence in our region and recognizing the Center for Victims most recent campaign, MEN Challenge, which educates men and give them the tools and resources necessary to use their voices and their actions to be social change agents sponsored by Councilmembers DeMarco, Catena and Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. 12071-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the impact that the Carnegie Science Center has made on the City of Pittsburgh and across the world through its 30 years of service sponsored by Councilmember Macey and all members of council.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12072-21.

MR. BARKER: A certificate of distinguished citizenship presented to Tab Michael Senge, Wayne Michael, Maksud Khodjaev Ratesic, Officer Crystal Iachini, and Officer Eric Brant for their exceptional bravery and

Comment [CR1]:

selfless actions by going above and beyond the call of duty on August 21, 2021 sponsored by Council Member Zavarella.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there any public comment on agenda items? None? Okay. Approval of minutes. 12073-21.

MR. BARKER: Motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 regular meeting of council.

MR. DEMARCO: So moved.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Presentation of appointments. All these presented appointments will all be referred to the committee on appointment review and I'd like to have the clerk read them all at this time.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 12061-21 approving the re-appointment of Ashley Henry Shook to the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31, 2026 sponsored by the chief executive.

12062-21 approving the re-appointment of Jan Rea to the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31, 2026 sponsored by the chief executive.

12063-21 approving the appointment of Daniel C. Connolly, Esquire to the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities for a term to expire on December 31, 2026 sponsored by the chief executive.

12064-21 approving the re-appointment of Betsy Bechtolt Magley to the Human Relations Commission of Allegheny County for a term to expire December 31, 2024 sponsored by the chief executive.

12065-21 approving the re-appointment of Marlin D. Woods to the Human Relations Commission of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31, 2024 sponsored by the chief executive.

12066-21 approving the appointment for Louis J. Weyand to the board of the Tri-COG Land Bank for a term to expire December 31, 2024 sponsored by the chief executive.

And 12067-21 approving the re-appointment of Marianne Malloy to the Personnel Board for a term to

expire on December 31, 2024 sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now have unfinished business. If there are no objections, I'd like to have Councilwoman Hallam move to approve all of the appointments with a single vote and have the clerk read them all and then conduct the actual vote, so Councilwoman Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, President Catena. So on October 21 the committee on appointment review met and affirmatively recommend all of these appointments to the full council for a vote so I would like to approve those appointments.

MR. DUERR: Seconded.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Jared, would you please read the appointments?

MR. BARKER: 12017-21 it's a re-appointment of Randy Vulakovich to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

12018-21 it's a reappointment of Chester R. Babst, III to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

12019-21 the reappointment of Sara Marie Baldi to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

12020-21 the re-appointment of Daniel K. Bricmont to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

12021-21 the re-appointment of Jeanne K. Clark to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023.

12022-21 approving the re-appointment of Michael Corcoran to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023.

12023-21 approving the re-appointment of Steve Hvozdoch to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023.

12024-21 the re-appointment of Mark Jeffrey to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023.

12025-21 the re-appointment of Robert W. Orchowski to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023.

And 12026-21 approving the re-appointment of John F. Palmiere to the Air Pollution Control Advisory

Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023. All of those are sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. All those in favor of these appointments signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Committee on parks for the second reading. 12030-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that would authorize North Hills Eagle Squadron's continued use of certain Allegheny county-owned real property in the County's North Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. President, we met I think it was on the 13th of October and the full committee met and we met that day and the committee approved this with affirmative recommendation and I move for approval, Mr. President. Thank you.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, Jared, please take a roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15. No's zero The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12031-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that would authorize South Park Kontrol Society's continued use of certain Allegheny County-owned real property in the County's South Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, we met that same afternoon, and again, this met with affirmative recommendation for the full committee and I move for approval.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve.

Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15. No's zero. The

bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12032-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that would authorize Gateway Radio Control Society's continued use of certain Allegheny County owned real property in the County's Boyce Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, the full committee met that same day and it met with affirmative recommendation and I move for approval.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, we'll do a roll call vote.

JARED BARKER: On the motion to approve. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yeah.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15. No's zero. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Liaison reports. Are there any liaison reports on assigned committees? Councilwoman Hallam.

MS. HALLAM: Yes. From the board of elections I'd just like to remind everyone this is our last meeting before the upcoming November 2 general election just to remind everybody to get out and vote.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Anyone else this evening? Seeing no one else new business ordinances and resolutions?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: New business? None?
Notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: None.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Public comment on general items?

MR. VARHOLA: Yes, Mr. President. Patrick Campbell Hampton Township. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I'm the new executive director of the Group Against Smog and Pollution an environmental watchdog organization that's been advocating for improved air quality for more than 50 years.

As we told you earlier this month our outgoing leader Rachel Filippini was a member of the Allegheny county Air Advisory committee and the chair of the Pollution Prevention and Education Subcommittee prior to

her exit last month. At your last meeting I let council know that GASP is very interested in retaining a seat on the Air Advisory Committee and that we had both wrote and called Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald to respectfully ask that he nominate GASP's staff attorney John Baillie to serve in that role.

As Ms. Filippini's former alternate on the Air Advisory Committee and a member of ACHD's regulation subcommittee, we believe that he would be an outstanding replacement. Our request has not been acknowledged in any way at this point. To help punctuate our request, GASP recently asked local residents to join us in asking Mr. Baillie to be nominated. We think it's important to note that more than 100 people did just that sending e-mails to Mr. Fitzgerald asking that the appointment be made as soon as possible. GASP also sent correspondence to Air Advisory Committee Chair Dan Bricmont asking him to reach out to Mr. Fitzgerald in his formal capacity to request the vacancy created by Ms. Filippini be filled by Mr. Baillie.

Since Allegheny County Council was poised and did approve the reappointment of many committee members tonight, we wanted to update you on our work to remain on the Air Advisory Committee. We know that council does not have the power to make nominations to county board, but the home rule charter does charge council with helping to provide better access to county government. With that in mind we are asking members of the appointment committee to consider inquiring about the status of Mr. Baillie's nomination.

Joseph Schrieber Shaler. I'm writing in strong support of the bill put forth by Councilmembers Bethany Hallam, Olivia Bennett and Anita Prizio to protect Allegheny County Parks from further fracking development. It is extremely disappointing that this is not in place already and that fracking, a dirty dangerous fossil fuel extraction process, is already occurring at Deer Lakes Park. We are in the midst of a climate crisis, and all of us and especially leaders in political positions need to be doing everything possible to move us away from fossil fuels and toward renewable energy as a way to slow and lessen the impacts of this crisis. As you all should know, fracking releases methane in to the atmosphere which is much worse for the climate crisis than even carbon dioxide. Fracking has also been linked to dangerous

airborne radiation and toxic air and water pollution. This has no place in our county parks. I am born and raised in the North Hills of Pittsburgh and have spent countless hours enjoying North Park. I am always amazed at how many people are enjoying this wonderful community resource when I am there. Please prioritize the safety and well-being of all of us who use the county parks by preventing any further fracking there. I'm asking the chair of the Parks Committee Allegheny County Councilmember John Palmiere to bring this bill up for vote and for all council members to approve this measure.

Barbara Brandon, City of Pittsburgh, 15206. We are writing in strong support of a ban on fracking wells, new pipelines and compressor stations in any park in Allegheny County. Studies on the health effects of fracking continue to accumulate. The results are not comforting. Annually more data show the association between proximity to fracking wellsites and respiratory illness as well as multisystem impacts because of the carcinogenic and endocrine disruptive effects of chemicals in fracking fluids and in the air near wells. For example increased radiation is found in the air downwind of fracking wells. Areas within 20 kilometers 12 miles downwind of 100 fracking wells tend to have radiation levels that are about seven percent above normal background levels according to a 2020 Harvard study which examined thousands of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's radiation monitor readings nationwide from 2011 to 2017. The study showed readings can go much higher in areas closer to drill sites or in areas with higher concentrations of drill sites. The study found the biggest increases in radiation levels near drill sites in states like Pennsylvania and Ohio that have higher concentrations of naturally occurring radioactive material beneath the surface.

There is no truly safe level of exposure to radiation because this exposure causes cumulative damage to molecules controlling bodily functions. Exposure to carcinogenic chemicals released with methane into the air near fracking wells is similar in effects. Therefore to safeguard public health the sources of these pollutants must be removed from proximity to people especially children. Our children and all the inhabitants of Allegheny County must be able to enjoy clean air in natural spaces in our public parks without fear of

endangering their health now and in the future. Again, gas wells, pipelines and compressor stations must not be allowed in our public parks.

Ellie Rotz Bethel Park. Support bill to ban fracking in Allegheny County Parks.

Robert Nishikawa, Pittsburgh, 15215. I'm writing to support the bill to ban fracking in Allegheny County Parks. I moved to Allegheny County in 2013 and shortly after arriving my family and I were involved with Protect our Parks to prevent fracking under Deer Lakes Park. At that time we knew that Deer Lakes Park was just the first, that the fracking companies would not stop at one park. Since that time much more information on the dangers of fracking has been discovered. The negative health effects from fracking are now known and established much more so than seven years ago. It is time for County Council to protect our parks and the health of those who use them unlike what happened seven years ago. I am writing to support the bill introduced by Council Members Hallam, Bennett and Prizio. I urge Council Member Palmiere to bring the bill up to a vote and for all members of the county council to vote in favor of the ban.

Brian Englert, West Mifflin. COVID-19 Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act City of Pittsburgh. This act was enabled to provide employees in the City of Pittsburgh with up to 80 hours of emergency paid sick leave due to COVID-19 or COVID-19 exposure. All employers in the city of Pittsburgh are required to provide the time unless you are state or federal. Allegheny County has not provided this paid sick time to employees at the jail. The act was through July of this year and was subsequently extended. Forty (40) county employees have had over 400 benefit days taken from them for a positive or negative exposure to COVID. These days represent sick and vacation time used to pay them instead of using the time ordered under the city ordinance. I'm asking council to work with the county manager and law department to resolve this issue and return this much needed benefit time back to the correction officers at the jail.

And that's it, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there a motion to adjourn?

MR. WALTON: So moved.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and
seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye.
(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion
carries. Thank you. Have a nice night.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:32 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 12 day of January, 2022

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

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter