

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	President, District 8
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Krista Harris	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 - 4:59 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:

Joseph Catanese - Director, Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski - Budget Director
Jack Cambest - County Solicitor

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Call to order for the Allegheny County Council meeting. Please rise for the Pledge to the Flag. Remain standing for a moment after that for thoughts, silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge to the Flag.)

(Moment for thought, silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Please be seated. Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Fourteen (14) members currently present.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Proclamations/Certificates. 7821-13.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Mr. George Moses for his 15 years of service with the Housing

Alliance of Pennsylvania, and wishing him all the best in his new role with the East Liberty Family Health Care Center. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. If Mr. Moses would come forward with his family and friends. Let me say a couple kind words about this gentleman that I think speaks volumes as to why, of all the people in this county, I chose to recognize George Moses today with this proclamation. George Moses is the average man. He's the every man. And I like him because he has integrity; people know him and like him. He stands for those things in which he believes and has no problem speaking truth to power.

He has a wonderful family who we'll introduce at the appropriate time. He's not a hero. He's not a sports figure. He's not my brother-in-law. He is a friend, and I think oftentimes when we reach out to honor people, we reach out to those who we feel best represent our constituency, who best represent this county and who best represent those things we believe are important. George Moses is that type of person. And all of us have in our constituency bases people like George Moses, who live next door or attend church with us or we socialize with.

The last time I saw Mr. Moses was in a church, Bethany Baptist Church, and we were at a program that the church holds annually to talk about mission work. He didn't see me come in, but when he recognized and his wife recognized I was there, he came over and we had a few laughs and we talked, and we enjoyed the program. Every man and every woman is represented here today by George Moses. And I know all of you, from time to time, want to bring in just that average citizen who's doing a good job and pay them a high tribute of giving them a proclamation and allowing them to leave here with their family and friends feeling pretty good about us and pretty good about this community in which we live.

I would just encourage Mr. Moses to do one thing after he gets home tonight with this proclamation. Sleep with it tonight. You can do that tonight. Sleep with this proclamation. Hold it tight. Then in the morning, get up, put it on the mantle and go back to being the kind of person you always were. But for tonight, enjoy it, laugh. Have a good time. Show it off. Sleep with it. And then in the morning, put it on the mantle or the

television and go back to being the George Moses you were before you received it.

WHEREAS, for more than 15 years, George Moses has served as a housing advocate for the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania, a statewide coalition working to ensure that all Pennsylvanians, especially with low income, have access to safe, decent and affordable homes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moses served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Low Income Housing Coalition for 12 years. And he also served as the Board's chairman, helping to motivate others to strive for solutions to the problems that so many Americans in need of fair and affordable housing face; and

WHEREAS, on March 27th, 2012, Mr. Moses was presented with the NLIHIC 2012 Cushing Niles Dolbeare Lifetime Service Award, in recognition for his lifetime of leadership on behalf of fellow residents and their rights to safe, decent and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moses has been an educator and advocate for the community to recognize how affordable housing is necessary for the social, financial and economic stability of our community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moses recently transitioned into a new role as the East Liberty Family Health Center Outreach and Enrollment Specialist for the Affordable Care Act, East Liberty area in the City of Pittsburgh, where he will continue to serve low income residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby honor and thank Mr. George Moses for his dedication and lifelong example of advocacy for equitable, affordable and decency in housing for the poor, and we wish him all the best in his new position. Sponsored by myself.

Let me just make one other comment before I ask George to come forward and introduce his family and those who are with him, and have a few words. When I first met George Moses, I met him in an advocacy situation, when he was an advocate, and I figured he was just another big loud mouth in the community. But I heard him on many other occasions, and I felt his passion and his concern. He's actually concerned about low income people. He actually believes that we can do better by them, and he works for that each and every day. He is every man. I give to you George Moses.

(Applause.)

MR. MOSES: Thank you, Councilman. This is a great honor, and I couldn't do it alone. And I have here with my family, my wife, Minister Nicita Moses, and my cousin, June Pickett Dowdy. And most of you know my son, Darnell. Sometimes we'll be at opposite ends of the table sometimes having great debates about housing, you know, and community development, you know. So it's all in fun, it's all in jest. At the end of the day, we have a goal to help make folks like you aware of the issue that plagues our communities in this city, in this region, in this state, in this nation.

If you look at the facts, there are more than 22,000 Pennsylvanians who need affordable housing. We're not even counting in those who are homeless and are trying to transition into housing. But yet today we tear down many of the affordable housing units that are out there and replace them with units that they no longer can live in.

They were okay to live in before, but when the new stuff is built, they no longer can live there, very few of them. Each one of you in your neighborhoods, in your communities, have certain things of that nature. And for a long time, it's been my passion to learn and fight against that injustice. I started this when I lived in East Liberty in those towers that came down. Many folks thought those were the worst perils of the nation. And in some instances, they were. But they were a community. They were where people lived and cared about each other. The problem was, when we spoke up, we got nobody to listen to us.

As Mr. Robinson said, we were a bunch of troublemakers making issues. How can you be a troublemaker when you're --- when it's freezing in your apartment, your windows are frosted over with ice and you complain about it and you ask for help, and nobody listens. Fortunately, we had a champion, and I would be regretful if I didn't mention his name, the late Congressman William Coyne. William Coyne came to our aid, came to our defense, made the owners of those properties come and talk to us, made them come to the table, made HUD officials here in the city come to the table. That was a start.

As a friend of mine said on the steps of Washington, things change but they remain the same. It's happening today. And I would just encourage all of you,

please just look at what's going on in your community. Look what's happening and see where the people --- the common people, what's happening to them. Are their best interests being addressed? And ask that question. And I can't say enough as I transition into my new work with the Affordable Care Act, because those are two things of my passion that connect, housing and health. Throw in education, and we have a triangle of what needs to happen in our communities for it to be successful, a safe, decent place to live, access to health care and good education. So I thank you, County Councilman Robinson. I thank you, Mr. DeFazio. You probably don't remember me from the South Side Slopes when you were jumping all over the ring and knocking people out. But my dad really was very --- he was very proud of you. He used to punch me in the face while we'd watch you in front of our TV set on the slopes of South Side. So again, thank you all for this great honor, to be recognized by a great individual himself. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: The remaining proclamations will be read into the record. 7822-13.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Mr. William Robert "Chilly" Cardille, for providing years of entertainment to the residents of Allegheny County and celebrating the occasion of his 85th birthday. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

7823-13. Proclamation congratulating Loyal Order of Moose, Hays Lodge 1436, upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary. Sponsored by Council members Macey and Danko.

7824-13. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. and Mrs. James and Joan Dittman, upon the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7825-13. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Emogene Wilson, upon the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7826-13. Proclamation congratulating NEED as it celebrates 50 years of unlocking the power of education for African-American students. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7827-13. Proclamation recognizing the Jazz All-Stars performing in the University of Pittsburgh's 43rd annual Jazz Seminar and Concert, a Tribute to Nathan Davis, on November 2nd, 2013, at Carnegie Music Hall. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7828-13. Proclamation congratulating Mr. Ralph Martin, President and CEO of Trib Total Media, Incorporated, for receiving the 2013 Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association (PNA) Lifetime Achievement Award. Sponsored by Council members Robinson and Heidelbaugh.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Public Comment on Agenda Items.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Approval of Minutes.

7829-13.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Allegheny County Council, held on October 8th, 2013.

MR. FUTULES: So moved.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.

Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.

7812-13.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Allison Burgan to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization (Hartwood Acres Park), for a term to expire on November 6, 2015. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Burn is not here. Does somebody want to make a motion?

MR. FINNERTY: I'll make that motion.

MR. FUTULES: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Motion's made and seconded. Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.

7813-13.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Joe Downing to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization (Hartwood Acres Park), for a term to expire on November 6th, 2015. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

MR. DEFAZIO: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.
Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.
Unfinished Business. Committee on Appointment Review,
Second Reading. 7757-13.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of
Barbara Parees to serve as a member of the Minority
Business Enterprise Advisory Committee, for a term to
expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief
Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. Barbara was approved
by the committee by unanimous vote, and I make a motion
that she be appointed.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.
Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.
7758-13.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of
Ann Ostergaard to serve as a member of the Authority for
the Improvements of Municipalities, for a term to expire
on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. Ann was also approved
by the committee and moved to Council with a unanimous
vote. So I make a motion that she's reappointed.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.
Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.
7769-13.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of
Dr. Charles T. Blocksidge to serve as a member of the
Allegheny County Property Assessment Appeals and Review
Board, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016.
Sponsored by Councilman Martoni.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I had worked with Mr.
Blocksidge for years. He's a past director here in the
county, a retired administrator with the community
college. So I am putting a motion on the floor to approve
Mr. Blocksidge.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.

Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.
Committee on Parks, Second Reading. 7804-13.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of a donation from the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation and Highmark, for the construction of a deck hockey facility to be located in Boyce Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: On October the 23rd, the Parks Committee met, and with affirmative recommendation we sent it to full Council for your approval. This rink will be donated by the Penguins Foundation and Highmark. This rink is approximately --- a donation of close to \$200,000. Our Public Works will be working with them, preparing the site. And the date of completion will be April 15th, about, 2014. I make a motion that we approve.

MR. DROZD: I'll second that motion; second it.

MR. ROBINSON: Question?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Question?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. I was wondering if Mr. Szefi, our County Solicitor, had done his due diligence relative to this arrangement and if there's anything else he must do before this arrangement can be concluded.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We'd have to call him up. Would you mind coming up?

MR. SZEFI: The answer to the Councilman's question is yes. We sat down with the foundation and parks director, went through term by term putting --- dividing out, making sure everybody's responsibilities were clear, what would be provided by the foundation. Their subcontractors, what would be provided by our Parks Department. And it met all the standards that we put it to.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you.

MR. SZEFI: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Okay. Any other questions? Do you have a question?

MR. DROZD: Just a personal comment. I think it's one of those good items events that's going to be brought in for our park and that's going to attract people into the park. This is what we need to do, and I'm glad Councilman Robinson asked about due diligence. It's just really great. These are the kind of things we have to do and I commend the Penguins for doing this. They stood up and we have to send them a letter of thanks from this Council, I recommend.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you very kindly. Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Yeas, 14, noes, 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 7805-13.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing entering into a lease agreement with the Allegheny County Parks Foundation for approximately 920 square feet in Boyce Park Administrative Building. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: On October the 23rd, the same meeting, we discussed the lease agreement with the Parks Foundation at Boyce Park. It's a 920 square foot building. They are currently in downtown Pittsburgh paying rent. In lieu of the rent for the county, we believe that the money that they were paying, approximately \$30,000 a year, that money will go directly back to the Parks. And in cooperation with the administration and us, we felt it was a good idea for the Parks Foundation to actually be in the park, was great for us. So I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. DROZD: I'll second it.

MR. ROBINSON: Question?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Question?

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President, I'd like to know if the County of Allegheny has actually forwarded to the Parks Foundation monies from our General Fund or any special fund; and if so, how much and when.

MR. FUTULES: For? What was the purpose for the --- for this site, you're talking about?

MR. ROBINSON: No, sir. Have we ever advanced money to the Parks Foundation; if so, when and how much?

MR. FUTULES: I believe the last administration had an agreement with them for matching funds, back when it was conception, approximately \$10,000,000 matching fund. Is that what you're asking?

MR. ROBINSON: Do you --- pardon me. Do you know whether or not that \$10,000,000 is committed and whether or not that \$10,000,000 has been obligated to go to the Parks Foundation?

MR. FUTULES: I don't believe I personally can answer that question. Maybe somebody else down there can. I'm not sure where you're leading this, Mr. Robinson.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It would be --- it would be somewhere in our budget in the past 13 or 14 years, I believe. Now where that somewhere is ---.

MR. FUTULES: Well, I'm going to let them answer that question.

MR. CAMBEST: We might have to do some more research, because I wasn't here, but I think what you're referring to is the prior administration commitment to support the Park Foundation on agreed-upon capital projects. And Mr. Baechle's here. Maybe he can also share some information.

MR. BAECHLE: I know that the previous administration said that it would match \$10,000,000 for the first \$10,000,000 of foundation. I think that about \$5,000,000 of it is somewhere in the works. Some of it's been paid; some of it's in the works. And then there was a million dollars upfront that was Operating.

MR. CAMBEST: Would that have been processed through the adopted budget?

MR. BAECHLE: Yes, I believe so. But that was the prior administration, the million.

MR. ROBINSON: If I might, Mr. President, Mr. Futules was asking, I believe, where I was headed. As Budget and Finance Chairman, I'm headed towards trying to help Council put a budget together. And I think an expenditure and commitment by the previous administration to the tune of \$10,000,000, is worthy of our consideration at this point as we reshape our relationship with the Parks Foundation. And if money had been promised to them, we need to know exactly how much it is; if money has gone to them, we need to know how much it is. And if folks want to put money in this current budget, we need to know what folks would like to put in to keep the commitment that may or may not have been made by this Council but may have been made by the previous Chief Executive. That's where I'm going, Mr. Futules.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Matt, do you want to say something?

MR. DROZD: Yeah. I want to commend Councilman Robinson for that due diligence. I really appreciate that, because we really should check into that and where the return on that investment has been that we're going to make, if we're going to commit those dollars. You know, I know you're new into this, and you weren't part of this in the previous --- but thank you. I think we really do have to look at that very seriously. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Nick, do you want to say something?

MR. FUTULES: Well, I just want to know what that pertains to the leasing at Boyce Park ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah. Let me just say this. Are we talking about two separate things here or not? I want to make sure, because sometimes I get confused here. This particular 7805-13 is very specific, in my humble opinion. And it simply says that we're leasing 920 square feet in Boyce Park. Am I correct, Nick?

MR. FUTULES: That's correct.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I don't know what that relationship is with the rest of the ---.

MR. FUTULES: I think it's a separate question, Mr. Robinson, and it's a good question because ---

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It's a good question, no question.

MR. FUTULES: --- there's apparently \$5,000,000 more out there that we had committed. But we have to wait 'til the Parks Foundation actually get that money in donations and presents a project, which has to come through this Council, by the way; for approval, too, by the way. When --- anytime they do a project through the Parks Foundation, they have to come to the Parks Committee for approval. And that question, where is the money coming from, will come up at that time, as well, I'm sure. But you're right. So there is \$5,000,000 out there. The question is, where is it? That's committed, but is it there? I guess that's the question.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President, my concern, in large measures, stem from Mr. Futules connecting the Parks Foundation to the lease. The relationship between the Parks Foundation and the county has obviously changed. And I have obviously supported it in the past. And that's why I raised the question about --- where is the money? If we have relieved the Parks Foundation from an obligation and have felt that it's best for them to be in the parks, I don't have any problem with that. I still want to know, where is the money that originally was promised to the Parks Foundation?

I doubt very much if they're going to send us a letter saying they don't want the money that we promised. From what I've heard, they already got some of it. If we are relieving them of a responsibility, I'm going to presume that some of that money may have been spent on the lease that they're going to get out of or have gotten out of, and they no longer will have that obligation. The

County of Allegheny is taking on that obligation. And wherever they're going to live, we're going to probably have to fix it up. Where is the money?

Now I think Mr. Futules is correct that maybe this is not the time and place to go in depth, and I have no problem with supporting what is being proposed. But I think part of the challenge that we've faced on this Council relative to the Parks Foundation, is we have struggled with what our relationship should be with them and who should pay for it. And it goes back to that commitment of \$10,000,000 by the previous Chief Executive, who is no longer here. Are we still obligated; and if so, at some point I think it would be appropriate for Council to be informed what our obligation is, how we're going to meet that obligation, aside from moving the Parks Foundation into a park. If we don't plan to forward the money to them, someone needs to tell them. If we have another arrangement with them, someone needs to tell me because I'm concerned, as everyone else is here, about the financial condition of the county; and \$10,000,000 is a lot of money, a lot of money.

And if we owe them money, we ought to pay them or find a way to pay them. And I would hope at some future point, we could get clarification, not only on what we might owe them but any new arrangements that we are making with the Parks Foundation. If we have a new relationship with them, other than the one we started out with when the \$10,000,000 was committed, this Council needs to know in depth the nature of that agreement and what our obligations are. That's transparency, and I think that is the best thing to do.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I would agree with you, but I'm just not sure if this ordinance runs counter to what you're saying. That seems to me a separate thing that we ought to do and we should do. Am I correct on that?

MR. FUTULES: It sounds like a budget question. And you're in charge of the budget, so I suggest you ask that question. Tonight I'm trying to sign a lease for the Parks Foundation at Boyce Park to --- so that the money they were normally going to pay someone else comes to the park.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's all this is.

MR. FUTULES: That's the point of what we're trying to do tonight. By the way, it's \$5,000,000 now, it's not \$10,000,000.

MR. ROBINSON: One last concern I have. You indicated that you're concerned about money coming from the Parks Foundation to the park; am I correct?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: How much money would that be, and what is the park or parks going to do with the money?

MR. FUTULES: I believe they're going to put that towards capital projects. It's less money that --- for their operating expenses that comes back to us because of that. Are you going to give the \$30,000 to some stranger downtown, or we're going to give the \$30,000 credit back to the county and do something in the park with that money? That's the way I see it.

MR. ROBINSON: My concern is not raised out of trying to be frivolous or trying to obstruct what appears to be something worthy, but it comes out of my experience and out of being here when this Parks Foundation was authorized by this Council and the subsequent conversations we've had, some of which have been had right here at this Council table relative --- what is this relationship between the Parks Foundation and the County of Allegheny?

I don't think there's probably anybody at this Council table that knows what that relationship is. They may know it's a good idea to lease space to the foundation, but I'm not sure there's anybody who knows what the relationship is now, the legal relationship and the financial obligations. And I'll leave it at that, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, okay. Thank you. Okay. Now let's vote.

MR. CATANESE: Motion on the floor to vote.

MR. FINNERTY: Moved.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We have a motion.

MR. DROZD: And I seconded it.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and seconded.

Question? Okay. Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Harris?
MS. HARRIS: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH? Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?
PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 14, noes, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Liaison Reports.
I don't know whose hand went up first.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Ladies first.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I always go with ladies
first, so we'll start with ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: And they can beat me up, too,
so I'm not ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead, Jan.

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. I have a
liaison report from the airport authority. The Allegheny
Conference asks the local community to step up as
stakeholders for the future and expose the youth of our
community to areas of interest. The Allegheny County
Airport Authority stepped up to the plate and today hosted
30 children at an open house. And those 30 children then
will be put in a job shadowing program. Everyone that
came today --- the students were very excited and the
people at the airport were excited to host them. And a
former member of our Council, Vince Gastgeb, told me that
it was just a huge success for the airport and for the
students. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Next?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President. We are going to be discussing with the County Executive our RFP proposal for drilling under the park. As I understand it, there's some meetings today. We have a bill from Ms. Danko that went to the Parks Department, and I had asked when that was going to be heard. And I was assured that it was going to be heard two weeks ago, and I still don't have --- I think that hasn't been heard yet. And I had asked for a legal opinion from our solicitor. What I received was a series of deeds, and I asked for a legal opinion from our solicitor.

So I would like to draw attention to the fact that we haven't had a hearing on the moratorium. We haven't had that fleshed out. Number two, I really would appreciate if we could get a legal opinion, because I think we're going to get a bill here pretty soon on the RFP that's been submitted. And I would like a legal opinion from the solicitor. And here's the key thing I would like answered, which I think I have made myself clear but let me do it again. I'd like to know if in the original originating documents of the Deer Lakes Park, there is any provision in those documents which prohibits a violation of the use and quiet enjoyment of the park. So if I could get that pretty quickly before I have to vote, I would appreciate it.

MR. FUTULES: He's got his hand up.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead. I didn't see it. I'm sorry.

MR. BAECHLE: Just to address it quickly, when you and I spoke on the phone and we talked about the research we had done and the project 70 legislation from back in the '60s and how that was the funding for Deer Lakes Park; and we discussed it and you asked me to be prepared to discuss that at a future Council meeting. And that was, you know, two or three meetings ago, and I can bring that. I didn't bring it with me tonight, but I will. I'd be happy to do that or to provide it to you but, you know, I just didn't want to think that --- give the impression that your request to me had not been addressed by me back to you.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Well, I appreciate your comments, and I appreciate your hard work for the county. But here's my conundrum, and I think you'll appreciate this. I represent the whole county. I've been on this Council about two years. There's no issue that I have

ever received as much public inquiry, almost 98 percent to 2, against the drilling in the parks. So while I appreciated your phone call, I did, and you did, in fact, make the call to me, what I'm seeking is a written opinion.

MR. BAECHEL: Okay.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay? And the reason why I want that written opinion is because I'm better able to analyze it as a lawyer if I have it in writing. And number two, I can share it with all the interested stakeholders, which is every citizen in Allegheny County.

MR. BAECHLE: That's fine. I just wanted to address your point, that you requested that I be ready to discuss it at a Council meeting and have been. But I will --- but I will put it in --- convert it into writing, if that's your request. I promise.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: And I'd like the documents attached, please, whatever you're relying on.

MR. BAECHLE: Absolutely.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to respond to what Heather said, too. I asked that in the meeting today also, that I just wanted a written legal opinion from our county solicitor; so thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I think that's a reasonable request. Thank you. Now we'll hit on this down here. We'll start with Barbara ---.

MS. DANKO: Okay. I have three things, actually, on the liaison reports. First, I attended a wonderful ceremony on Sunday at the Community Day School in Squirrel Hill. There is a new memorial there. It's called Keeping Tabs Holocaust Memorial. The students at CDS over a long period of years collected 6,000,000 pop tabs and --- to symbolize the 6,000,000 Jews who were killed during the Holocaust. And over a period of years, they helped to design a memorial, how you could do something with 6,000,000 pop tabs. And they created --- you know, eventually, they had professionals doing it, a beautiful memorial. It's on the campus of the Community Day School at the corner of Forward and Beechwood. If anybody ever gets out that way, they put the pop tabs in, like, glass cinder-block size --- sort of, glass block.

And it's arranged as a Star of David, but it's a beautiful landscaping that goes with it. And it was a

wonderful dedication ceremony that was built around tolerance for all religions.

The second thing I want to bring up is, since yesterday was Election Day --- and we had many people who were elected around the county to all types of local governments. Dr. Martoni and I sit on the local Government Academy Board of Directors, and they have a class for newly-elected officials, which I believe --- and I'm sure Dr. Martoni would agree, and I'm not sure who on Council attended this --- they run a wonderful series of classes, so that newly-elected officials, especially in the smaller boroughs, townships, you know, get professional education, really, from the best people in the county on exactly how to do what they're charged with doing.

And anybody who has any questions about that, you can go on the website, localgovernmentacademy.org. There's scholarship funding for many of the communities that might not be financially able to provide the funding to send people to these classes; or you can go by there. There's a phone number here, 412-586-5659. But the classes start, I think, at the end of the month, so you need to get on it. But it's really a wonderful program. Most of you know, I have a background in public policy, but I went to the classes and I learned stuff, so it's good.

The final thing I want to bring up was on October 30th I attended Senator Ferlo's Town Hall at the Highlands Middle School in Natrona Heights, where he represents that area. The town hall was called Fracking in Allegheny County Parks. It was co-sponsored by the Protect Our Parks organization. It was really --- there were about eight speakers, many of them university professors or professionals in their field. They talked about their concerns relative to drilling in the parks, adjacent to the parks, under the parks. I know Mr. Palmiere tried to get out there and had a family emergency and ended up having to turn around. But the forum, which I considered very valuable, was filmed by PCN, and so if anybody wants to watch it, they should check with PCN; or I'm sure if you want to just get a disc, I would contact Senator Ferlo's office. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Let go right over. John, anything? Did you have your hand up?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I did.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead, Jim.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: On a lighter note, I --- there's nothing that I like better than Pittsburghers who have really contributed to different venues and don't forget where they come from. A renowned artist and Pittsburgh native, Joyce Werwie Perry, has come back to have a solo exhibition of oil paintings entitled, DANCE. It's now on display at Point Park University's Lawrence Hall, at the corner of Wood Street and the Boulevard of the Allies, through the spring of 2014. It's free; it's open to the public. And the exhibit --- I'm not real good with, like, this kind of art stuff, so I'm reading it. Yeah, I know, it's not me, but what are you going to do? I'll teach you about street politics when I'm done. The exhibit depicts the beauty and passion and movement of the dance students in a wide range of styles rendered with knives. To find out more about Joyce's work, you can contact her at Joyce W-E-R-W-I-E Perry, P-E-R-R-Y.com or le-poire.com. And you know, I know Joyce. She's a phenomenal artist. And instead of using a brush, there's a form of painting that's like where they use, like, knives and they build on it. And I mean, she's absolutely phenomenal. If you have a chance to really see some wonderful art from a Pittsburgher, you know, try to get down to Point Park and see it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Matt, then Mike.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. President. To be politically correct, this is a Point of Privilege, rather than a liaison report. I want it recognized that in the audience we have Councilwoman-elect Susan Means, who just won, and she will be joining this Council. And I commend her, because of the three newly-elected Council parties, she's the only one that's been attending our meetings every night, including tonight, and I commend you for that. She's getting up to speed. And hopefully, after you go through all these meetings and sit through all the speakers tonight, you'll continue to want to serve. But I wanted to recognize her and commend her for her win; not only that, commend her for joining and coming here and really getting up to speed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Matt. Michael?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to congratulate the people on Council that have been re-elected ---

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: --- Councilman Ellenbogen, Councilman Macey, Council President Chuck Martoni. And Sue, I'd like to congratulate you, also.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: And yourself?

MR. FINNERTY: And myself. I'd also like to just mention some apprentice programs that are opening up. Steamfitters Local 449 is going to open up a journeymen and apprentice training committee. And it's a five-year building trades and mechanical equipment service apprenticeship program. And if you are interested in it, you could call their Director of Training, which is Dale P. Glavin, Jr., and the number is 412-481-0333. And they have a website, also, if you want to go through the website; it's www.ua449.com.

Also, the Carpenters' Union is opening up its apprentice program. And this is --- they're accepting applications for commercial carpenters' training. And they do it every Wednesday from 8:00 to 3:30. You have to appear, obviously, in person, and the classes will start February, June and October. They have three different dates. And if you're interested in that, you can go to the website, which is www.greaterpacarpenters.org, and get more information in that regard. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go, Nick.

MR. FUTULES: I'd like to make an announcement on --- starting tomorrow, November the 7th, North Park will be opening up the skate rink for the season. And it's always a nice time to take your family out for skating. And while you're there, the new Cycle Café --- Over the Bar Cycle Café --- I went there last Friday for dinner myself. It's wonderful. It's a great atmosphere. And I'm proud of the fact that North Park has a new restaurant and a lot of activity. It took me 45 minutes to get a table, so that tells you how great they're doing so far. So go out and support both of those items. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Did I miss anyone?

MR. FUTULES: South Park, too, probably; yeah. Both parks are open this weekend, yes. Sorry.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Did we miss anyone? Yes, John. I missed you. I'm sorry.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. I know I sound like a broken record here every time there's a race in town. And I've had the privilege of running it, and this one was really special. I had an opportunity to

run in the first EQT 10 miler on Sunday with my youngest daughter. And it was really a wonderful experience. And you know, ladies and gentlemen, this city does some wonderful things, and it's a shame that more people don't participate. I never would have trained for the few weeks leading up to it, my daughter said to me, daddy, this is really hard. I said, honey, if it wasn't, we'd have 3,000, 4,000, 5,000 people out here every Sunday.

Well, we had 6,000 this past Sunday that participated. And it was just a wonderful experience. And the fact that there were bands and people out cheering and acknowledging the runners --- and it was just a wonderful showcase for the City of Pittsburgh and the County of Allegheny. And I'm very proud to have been a part of that on Sunday and especially proud of the fact that my youngest daughter was with me. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. I guess we got everybody. Okay. New Business; Ordinances and Resolutions. 7830-13.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Part 7, Properties, Article 701, entitled Grounds, Properties and Buildings, in order to establish a procedure for entering and enacting County contracts relating to lands use. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Government Reform. Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: No comment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, sir. 7831-13.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing a County Councilmanic Inquiry and Investigation of Visit Pittsburgh, Allegheny County's designated tourist promotion agency, in accordance with the provisions of Article 309 of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Government Reform. Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, my fellow Council members, in indulging me. This is really --- to me, it's not acceptable that any organization that receives taxpayer money, whether it be to --- wherever, indirect or direct, does not respond to a request to open their books to the people of this county;

through the Council, to let us see how they spend hard-earned tax dollars. I believe we sent numerous letters --- I know we sent numerous letters to them to request this information, and they ignored it. They ignored this Council. Even though it's one Council member requesting this --- and I know that you all feel the same way about --- the paying agency should be responsible and accountable of their tax dollars.

So this is one that --- this leads up to the first time in May, and we should seriously look at this, including the fact of the possibility of serving them with a subpoena to produce that information to this Council and to the taxpayers of Allegheny County. I thank you and will look forward to discussing that and more details and information on that. We will be discussing part of that in Council Chairman Robinson's committee tomorrow. And I look forward to that discussion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, sir. 7832-13.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an Operating Budget pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, and Article VII, Section 4, of the Home Rule Charter, by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of Allegheny County and for meeting debt charges for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2014 and ending December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Budget and Finance Committee. Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. Just a couple comments, if I might. For those of you who would anticipate offering amendments to the Operating Budget, please be aware that all amendments must be in writing, pursuant to the Rules of Council. All amendments must be in writing. Any amendments submitted to the Budget and Finance Committee will be considered, any and all amendments, but they must be in writing. Please work with Mr. Barker and Mr. Szymanski if you have amendments to the Operating Budget.

The figures that you find associated with the legislation have been developed on behalf of Council, and every member has had an opportunity to have their input. Each member is responsible for how they want that input to be processed. The budgeting responsibility for the county rests with this Council solely, pursuant to the Charter

and the Administrative Code. Members have been very diligent over the past years in recognizing that and taking ownership. These figures, while in some instances reflect figures that were submitted to us by the administration, were diligently prepared on your behalf by Mr. Szymanski, our Budget Director, and his staff.

Members ought to feel free and compelled to offer any amendments that they think would be appropriate for the Operating Budget. But they must be in writing. So as not to put Mr. Szymanski and Mr. Barker in an uncomfortable position, if you have some proposed amendments, I would suggest you start talking to them as soon as possible. Lastly, if I might, please re-check your schedules to make sure that you can participate in the meetings that are forthcoming, so that we can process a budget in a timely fashion. The first item that we will be voting on as a council and also in committee, will be the millage. The rules require that that is the first bill that we have to address when a millage bill comes to the Council in a full session. The millage bill submitted by the Chief Executive is the millage bill that Mr. Szymanski and I utilized to help generate the figures that you are going to be perusing and perhaps, changing. The millage rate that's in effect today is the millage rate that we are using and have used to determine the revenue for the county for 2014; and also the expenditures, very frankly.

It is the Chair's understanding that there is not any interest in changing the millage rate. If there is, please put that in writing, pursuant to the rules, and Mr. Barker and Mr. Szymanski can handle that for you and will process it in committee. The first bill that we have to pass is the millage ordinance. The Charter and the Administrative Code require that. Finally, I want to thank Mr. Szymanski, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Barker and other staff, for their hard work to make sure that there will be documents available to you tomorrow at our five o'clock Budget and Finance Committee meeting.

For those of you who are not on the committee or those of you who cannot attend, we will make sure that you have those documents as you begin or finish your deliberations on the budget. In the past, there has been some anxiety expressed about who could or could not speak at Budget and Finance Committee meetings. The Chair would ask members to please follow the rules that are in place,

and I will follow the rules that are in place for participation. And where I can allow members who are not members of the Budget and Finance Committee to speak in committee, I certainly will do that. I'd be more than happy to accommodate you. But I just ask that you please familiarize yourself with the rules and work with Mr. Szymanski and Mr. Barker in that regard.

I don't believe there have been any changes to the schedule that we put out --- the most recent schedule, in terms of public hearings, committee meetings, et cetera. We have made provision in case we need extra time to consider the budget. As you know, I believe we ought to do a thorough job, no matter how long it takes. I'm prepared to put in whatever time the Council would like me to put in to chair this process and bring it to a successful conclusion. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Mr. Robinson. Now we're at the part of the meeting that we have public comment on general items. Am I correct?

MR. CATANESE: Yes, sir. We have 21 speakers.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We have 21 speakers. I am correct for a change. Okay. Our first speaker is Barbara Grover. Barbara Grover? If any of our speakers --- if I mispronounce your name, please forgive me and pronounce it correctly. Barbara, you're here.

MS. GROVER: Yes. My name is Barbara Grover, and I live at 5526 Wilkins Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15217. And I am speaking here this evening on behalf of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club. My remarks are brief here, but I have left a --- I will leave a longer version for your review. I strongly urge you to support Councilwoman Danko's request for a three-year moratorium on fracking and to vote on it before the end of the year. You must give yourselves sufficient time to study the impact of that drilling from economic, environmental and public health perspectives.

You need to allow time for full resident participation. Other county business will continue to make demands on your time and talents. The moratorium gives you time to gain the knowledge you need to make an informed decision. I urge you to get evidence-based information on the following ten issues. Number one, does the county have the legal right to the mineral rights in Deer Lakes Park? Two, does the county have the legal

authority to enter into an agreement for drilling beneath Deer Lakes Park or any County park?

Three, will drilling occur without the additional land provided by allowing drilling beneath Deer Lakes Park? Four, do the RFP, the proposals and the final agreement, establish performance requirements that are more rigorous than those required by the DEP or the EPA, as Mr. Fitzgerald has suggested? I believe it does not. Independent legal advice is essential. Five, what is the timeline and percentage for revenues received from gas extracted by drilling beneath the park? Allen Gilmer, CEO of Drilling Info, indicates that production from shale wells declines by 60 to 70 percent in the first year alone.

Six, what valuable information can knowledgeable people provide to you? For example, citizens who are currently living with fracking in or near your homes, and local government leaders who have first-hand knowledge about the impact of fracking on local jobs, revenue and costs? Seven, how about upcoming decisions of DEP regulations, Supreme Court reviews and pending legislation impact decisions made about fracking? To what extent are first responders in the Deer Lakes area trained to deal with blowouts, explosions and other accidents at fracking sites?

Nine, how will fracking affect the value of the park? What impact will it have on property and casualty insurance in the park? Will the insurance rates increase? Ten, what additional issues should be included in your due diligence prior to making a decision of this magnitude? On behalf of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club, I urge you to support the moratorium. I am convinced that once you gain a deep understanding of the economic, environmental and health impacts of fracking, you will not approve fracking beneath or in our parks or anywhere else in the county. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Laura Leete? And forgive me if I mispronounced it.

MS. LEETE: That's fine.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Leete? Whatever it is, correct me. Correct me on it.

MS. LEETE: That's fine. I get Leete, Leete (changes pronunciation). Either works.

MR. FUTULES: I say it's Leete (former pronunciation).

MS. LEETE: My name is Laura Leete. I live in Whitehall. I am a retired science teacher. I'm not far from South Park, and I have been told that residents there are going to have seismic testing near some of their properties. And they have been advised to have pictures taken of the inside and the outside of their houses, should any damages occur. I have also been told that in Finleyville, which is not far from South Park, they are accepting fracking waste in their landfill, and it is not considered hazardous.

I am here this evening to say that I am opposed to drilling near the perimeter or running pipelines under Deer Lakes Park. This will bring noxious, poisonous fumes, loud noise and truck traffic, pollution in the streams, lakes and rivers, and lead to eventual methane gas migration and casing failure of pipelines and flares that can burn for up to three weeks. Chemicals known to cause cancer, such as benzene, toluene and formaldehyde, could reach groundwater and the aquifers below, if not contained in the flowback water that rises up in the well when extreme pressure is used to extract the gas. Spills do happen. Trucks in Fayette County have leaked while carrying the fracking waste to disposal sites. In October of this year, the World Health Organization, also known as WHO, published a report in a medical paper called The Daily Scope. It names air pollution as an official carcinogen. According to WHO, the more people expose themselves to the fine particles and other pollutants in the air, the higher their risk for developing lung cancer while also increasing their bladder cancer risk.

On October 17th, The Associated Press also reported that Ken Straif, who's head of the department that evaluates cancer-causing substances, stated that we consider air pollution to be the most important environmental carcinogen, more so than passive smoking. He further added that while the risk to individuals is low, the main sources of pollution are transportation, power plants, industrial and agricultural emissions. I say no to drilling in all of our county parks until best practices include long-term health impacts: chemicals that are not known carcinogens, flaring techniques that use some type of air filtration system and disposal of these fracking wastes that are safe for the environment.

These county parks belong to the residents of Allegheny County. They are for recreation and conservation. The county parks do not belong to the drilling companies, their shareholders or the people who receive campaign funds from them. Exposing young children and adults associated with --- to the risks associated with Marcellus shale drilling is a risk that I am not willing to take. I hope that you, the members of Council, before you cast your vote, will consider these issues and that you will take more than one trip to a drilling facility, and that that trip will be one where you are not invited, where you show up before they know you're coming. I thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Nathaniel Bunn? Nathaniel? Apparently, he's not here. No, he's not. Kathryn Strang? I hope I got that right, Kathryn.

MS. STRANG: Strang.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Strang (changes pronunciation).

MR. FUTULES: Kathryn Strang. That's it.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: There's no E on it. Thank you for correcting me, Kathryn.

MS. STRANG: Council members and members of the community, why are we using our community parks as a means to get money instead of a park? My name is Kathryn Patricia Strang and I live ---.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Start all over, please.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear or see you.

MR. FUTULES: You'll have to start all over.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't see her.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Get that mic --- thank you.

MS. STRANG: Council members and members of the community, why are we using our community parks as a means to get money instead of a park? My name is Kathryn Patricia Strang, and I live in and go to Deer Lakes School District. I stand for the Deer Lakes ---. I want to thank Senator Ferlo for the town hall meeting that he sponsored last week. At times, it was difficult to see and hear the facts that were being presented. My sister Elizabeth even began to cry several times. My sister and I started a chapter of Earth Kids Club here in Deer Lakes. My friends and I feel that drilling and fracking in Deer Lakes Park, or any public park, for that matter, is terribly wrong.

Earth Kids is about helping the earth, and we will not accept the fact that the outside companies are trying to convince the officials to allow fracking in Deer Lakes Park. Outside of Earth Kids, I'm concerned personally for my own family. We live near to Deer --- to the park, and I am certain that our family's drinking water would be in danger if this were to occur. Fracking on any level is a dangerous practice. Fracking waste, the noise, the water that is no longer available for drinking, the compressor stations and the danger to wildlife are simply unknowns.

The Earth Kids are not comfortable with having to deal with this in our parks. Please, please, listen to the youth of your community. We are the future, and we need to be able to have one. Please help to ensure that this can happen for our children. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Kathryn. Thank you. Ellen Kerr? Ellen Kerr?

MS. KERR: That's an awfully difficult act to follow. I appreciate you for having us come and providing us a place to speak. My name is Ellen Kerr. I'm a resident of West Deer Township, and I'm retired. I attended Jim Ferlo's community meeting last Wednesday in Natrona Heights and I thank him for that. And I thank Barbara Danko for being there and others that spoke. I expect certain things. I expect to have clean, safe air to breathe. I expect to have clean, safe water to drink. I expect to have my parks and recreational space to be beautiful, safe, protected and free of industrial activity.

I participate in the election process and expect my elected officials to keep my health and my safety in mind when making decisions about new commercial or industrial activity in my area and in all of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, the world, the globe, everything. And there are laws in place to regulate the use of water for industrial activity and to regulate what gets put into the atmosphere from this activity and to require environmental testing of the impact of new industry on the environment.

Somehow these gas companies are exempt from the very laws that were meant to regulate this activity. I find that absolutely outrageous. The brakes need to be applied. I need my representatives and my government to

apply the regulatory laws to these businesses and to keep my space and your space and Kathryn's space, safe. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Loretta Weir? Loretta? Loretta not here. Kenneth Weir? Kenneth not here. Arlene Mercurio? Again, I may have mispronounced it. Mercurio (changes pronunciation)?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: She had an accident with a deer last night so can't be here today.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I'm sorry?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: She had an accident with a deer last night.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, okay. I'm sorry to hear that. I'm sorry to hear that. Herman Stanley (sic)? Herman?

MR. HERMAN: My name is Stanley Herman. I'm a retired school superintendent and I live at 249 Amity Road, in Glenshaw. Mr. Chairman and members of the Council, I support your efforts to increase economic activity in our county. But I believe you owe the residents, and too, yourselves careful reflection on several questions and issues associated with Marcellus drilling. One, are you aware of what is being discharged into our drinking water sources by the numerous Marcellus brine specialty and municipal treatment plants? The Waste Treatment Corporation on the Upper Allegheny has been sued, alleging over 400 violations of illegal toxic discharges.

I have no specific information on the offending chemicals, but studies by the Pitt Graduate School of Public Health and the Duke University School of Environmental Science, revealed very specific data on the Josephine Brine Treatment Plant in Indiana County. This facility processes millions of gallons of frack waste and discharges its products into Blacklick Creek, part of our watershed. The scientists compared creek water, both above and below the plant's discharge. Below the plant they found eight times the safe concentration of barium, 748 times the safe concentration of strontium, 500 times the safe concentration of chlorides and an astounding 10,000 times the safe concentration of bromides.

All of these elements and compounds have been proved toxic to the environment. These are but two of the numerous sites receiving Marcellus waste along the

Allegheny River. Does Council or anybody know the cumulative effects of these plants' discharged toxins with time? What happens when these toxic elements and compounds are ingested, breathed or absorbed through the skin? Time only permits me to talk about one of these poisons, bromides. Bromides, when combined with chlorine compounds used to purify (sic) our water --- purify our water, form compounds called trihalomethanes. As reported by the Federal EPA, this tongue twister increases chances for birth defects, cancers of the liver, kidney and bladder.

I'm an old man on the downward slope of my life. I might be able to drink these toxic cocktails before they would kill me. But what about our children? What about our grandchildren? What about the wildlife that we all enjoy in our area here? Already, numerous agencies have warned about the dangers of mercury poisoning from eating fish from contaminated waters. What will be the future ramifications for Allegheny County lakes and streams? In my lifetime, I've seen the Allegheny River moved from being classified as an open sewer to one of clean waterways used in natural fishing contests. Am I to see a reversed? In conclusion, if you choose to proceed without additional information and planning, I hope that down the road you will not be forced to seek answers to the questions that need to be asked today. Our children are a message that we send to a future that we will never see. What message will you choose to send, that we are wise custodians of their environment or chose expedience over thoughtful planning for their future?

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Joni Rabinowitz? Joni?

MS. RABINOWITZ: My name is Joni Rabinowitz, and I live at 7721 Edgerton Avenue, in the Park Place section of Pittsburgh. First, I want to commend Councilman Robinson for demanding that Rich Fitzgerald, regarding the Marcellus drilling, --- that he respect and recognize the members of this body by turning over the papers that he's been perusing for the Council to see. And I also commend Councilman Robinson for co-sponsoring the proposal for a three-year moratorium.

I sent you all --- secondly, I sent you all a video about Cross Creek County Park, in Washington County. I hope you had a chance to look at it and notice that what was in that video is not anything like the information

that you guys had when you --- I don't know who went --- when you took a tour of that wonderful park. Thirdly, I want to call your attention to three conferences that are coming up. You've asked us to bring you experts. Here are three days --- four days actually of experts that are coming to Pittsburgh to talk about this situation.

If this was a project that had no serious dangers, I doubt we would have three conferences composed of distinguished experts on all aspects of this travesty. First, there's a conference on November 16th of nurses, raising nurses' voices on fracking and health. It's happening in Edinboro. I'm going to leave all these papers with you, but they're having a conference for --- to hear from leading nurses, physicians, public health experts and environmental protection groups, about what they're seeing, how to identify symptoms, effects on the health of the community, effects of fracking on children and pregnant women, and so on and so forth. They have a whole day.

Secondly, there's a conference called Shale Drilling and Public Health: A Day of Discovery. This is going to be at the Heinz History Center. It's sponsored by the League of Women Voters. And they also are going to have lots of presenters, distinguished presenters. Thirdly, there's a two-day conference at Duquesne University on Monday, November 25th, and Tuesday, November 26th. Again, most of the people that are speaking at this conference are experts. Some of them, I'm sure, don't have the same positions that I have. I don't expect them all to. But my only point is --- here are some of the topics: potential for air migration, shale gas aggravates global warming, water interaction with shale gas extraction, Wheeling, West Virginia experience with frack water, what brine water and residual waste trucks are really carrying, a statistical analysis of leakage from Marcellus gas wells in Pennsylvania.

So here we have an opportunity that any of you can partake in any of these conferences and hear these --- hear these speakers if you have any doubts. We've been presenting you with information from the speakers but you need to hear from them yourselves. And I would say that, again, if there's no problems with this industry, why are there going to be so many conferences and so many discussions among the academics and the scientists about this industry? So I'm going to leave these things with

you here. And when you want to take a look at any of them, there will be copies here.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you very kindly.
(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Carrie White? Carrie White, are you here? No response. Timothy Ludwig?

MR. LUDWIG: Hello. I'm Tim Ludwig, 18 Greismere Street; it looks like the only Ludwig here today. Everyone here --- yeah, stressful election. Everyone here took an oath of office, and Sue will take it later on, to ---. The oath said that to the best of your ability, you will preserve, protect, defend and obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; so help me God. The --- so I just want to point out the laws of our Council here, how it's formed. The powers of the Executive Branch, they state that they do have the power to negotiate, award, sign --- negotiate, award and sign or cause to be negotiated, awarded and signed on behalf of the County, all contracts, agreements and other instruments, except as provided in Article IV, Section 1.4-402(j) and (k). This is a very, very important exception, and Councilman Robinson pointed that out. The exception, of course, states that the Council has the power to by ordinance, lease, convey, vacate or abandon or permit the use of County land, buildings or other real estate or personal property.

So I ask you guys to please obey the oath of office, uphold the actual laws, negotiate this lease yourself under the actual laws of the County. I hope other people, other than Councilman Robinson, stand up with him, go to the Executive and say, you have no power to do this, absolutely no power.

(Applause.)

MR. LUDWIG: The laws have been broken since September 27th, when the RFP was issued. It's still being broken. Currently, with the schedule that was released in the RFP --- currently, the proposers are giving presentations and formal negotiations. I would think that is a very, very important process --- important process during this time. I hope that you stop this legal process, go in there yourselves and negotiate. I hope you listen to these people. But at least stop the illegality that's happening now. Sue, I hope whenever you get in office, you do this as well. Thank you for your time.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Ms. Colucci, I see you there.

MS. COLUCCI: Pia Colucci, 4725 Wallingford Street, in Shadyside. I want to dovetail on what Mr. Ludwig was saying and quote our state constitution, the natural resources and public estate, Section 27. The people have a right to clean air, pure water and the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations to come. As trustees of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

You are our elected officials. We're looking to you to make the right decisions for us, and I support the ban on fracking. Frankly, I support a total ban on all fracking, obviously, but three years, a moratorium, is a start. I want to quote also a paper here that I read called Fracking by the Numbers. And it says according to the report, Fracking by the Numbers, produced by Environment America, the scale and severity of fracking's myriad impacts, betray all claims that natural gas is a cleaner or somehow less damaging alternative to fossil fuels. The report explores various ways in which gas fracking negatively impacts both human health and the environment, including the contamination of drinking water, overuse of scarce water resources, which is so important, the effect of air pollution on public health, its connection to global warming and the overall costs imposed on communities where fracking operations are located.

I know you guys have heard us a million times saying that whatever water is used for wells, between 2,000,000 and 10,000,000 gallons per well, it's unusable again. It's taken out of our resources forever, totally ruined. The numbers here is astounding. This report measures key indicators of fracking across the country, and they found 280 billion, with a b, gallons of toxic wastewater was generated in 2012; 2012, one year. 450 tons of air pollution produced in one year. 250 billion gallons of fresh water has been used since 2005, never to be restored to our water supply ever again.

360 acres of land have been degraded since 2005 and 100 million metric tons of global warming pollution

has taken place since 2005. The numbers don't lie. Fracking has taken a dirty and destructive toll on the environment. If this dirty drilling continues unchecked, these numbers will only get worse. I beg you; I beg you to do the right thing and put a stop to this right now. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mel Packer? Mel?

MR. PACKER: I'm Mel Packer, 623 Kirtland Street, 15208, with Protect our Parks and also with Marcellus Protest. You know, I just want to tell you, the other night I went to a dinner at the Merton Center honoring Bill McKibben, one of the nation's most --- one of the foremost environmentalists we know of. Bill Peduto was there, the other people --- when you happen to be talking to a friend, who's also a friend of Rich Fitzgerald ---. And he was laughing. He said to me, you know, I was talking to Rich Fitzgerald the other day and your name came up. And he said, Mel Packer; I mean, that's that fracking nut. I was offended at first, and then I realized, I'm in pretty good company. I'm in company with the City Council of Pittsburgh. I'm in company with the new mayor. I'm in company with some of you right here. I'm in company with the State of Vermont. I'm in company with the nation of France, the nation of South Africa, with Nelson Mandela. These are all people who said we can't frack, it's too toxic. So I proudly wear that label. I hope some of you will proudly wear that label, as well. What disturbed me about it was, is this what we've come to? Is this the level of discourse, name calling? This is the only way this gentleman can respond to our criticism? We haven't been up here calling him names. None of us have, not a single person here. We've been presenting you with evidence over and over and over again, and this is the way he responds?

This is the style of a man who said to Bill Robinson when Mr. --- Councilman Robinson asked ---; he said, I implore you to follow our Code and act in accordance with your invitation to Council involvement in important negotiations. He said, I will not open up the negotiations, because to do so would prevent the County's competitive advantage in bargaining. Get over it. There's no dependent advantage here. There's no competition. There was one company called Huntley and Huntley, which owns the leases, and they will contract

with Range Resources to drill. There's nothing going on here with the competition. Rich Fitzgerald is not sitting down with six different companies to see who he can get the most money out of, as he did with the airport. That's baloney.

What he then went on to say is, at the end of the day --- this is a quote from him --- it will obviously all be public. We saw the end of the day. We saw with the airport negotiations, when Rich Fitzgerald does something that some of you were so upset about, not being involved in the process that you voted no, no matter what your position was on fracking. There's a moratorium bill out there right now. I'm hoping it comes to the floor. I understand from you it is going to come to the floor soon and will be able to negotiate --- that the Council will be able to negotiate that. It needs to be on the floor. That's where it needs to be. This Council needs to make a decision.

It is within the power of this Council to do that. This is not a ban. This doesn't stop you from fracking another airport land if you find it. It's simply a moratorium for three years, due diligence, scientific studies. Figure out what's going on. Watch what happens with the airport lease and county parks. That's all. That's all it takes. I wish it were stronger, but it's not. Would you at least do that? We're simply asking you as our Council representatives, the people we elected to do the will of the people, to do the right thing and hold off on this. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, sir. Kim Eichenlaub? Kim?

MS. EICHENLAUB: I'm here.

MR. CATANESE: We have Dana Dolney.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I'm sorry. Dana Dolney. I apologize, Dana.

MS. DOLNEY: That's okay.

MS. EICHENLAUB: Kim Eichenlaub. I live in Gibsonia, Richland Township. As I've been reading --- as I always do this week, it seemed to me that everything I read was either defined by they're poisoning us or we're paying for it. So that's what I'm calling this; they poison, we pay.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Speak into the microphone.

MS. EICHENLAUB: Can you hear me now?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you say your name again?

MS. EICHENLAUB: Kim Eichenlaub. The number one cause of fatal lung cancer in non-smokers is radioactive radon. Radon concentrations in gas from Marcellus shale are up to 70 times higher than in gas from other regions. Radon is not destroyed when the gas is burned in a kitchen stove. Researchers estimate that lung cancer deaths directly attributable to cooking with Marcellus shale gas, will be as many as 1,000 per year in New York State. They do the studies there; we don't. They're trying to figure it out.

We're comparatively vulnerable here, though. Meanwhile, People's T.W. Phillips recently asked the PUC for a 28 percent rate increase on residential accounts where people are cooking with this stuff, even though they got a 13 percent rate increase last year. Equitable asks for 10 percent for residential and Columbia Gas is 23 percent. Natural Gas is mainly methane. Methane buildup in homes and public buildings leads to headaches, heart palpitations, cognitive problems, dizziness, decrease in motor coordination, and on and on.

In addition to paying healthcare costs for methane poisoning, we're paying --- we're giving energy companies loans, grants and other forms of subsidy. Gas subsidy bills pending in PA legislation could total hundreds of millions of dollars over the next decade. Pennsylvania's clean and green Tax Incentive Program encourages owners of farms and forest land to preserve it for those specific purposes. If the owner sells or leases, the Clean and Green tax status should change. Blog posts I've read this week about Clean and Green fraud --- that's all you can call it --- in Washington County involved two farms now owned by Range Resources. One is 141 acres. Range is paying only \$277 a year in County property tax. That's \$1.97 an acre.

For that property, it pays 93 cents an acre for a different one it owns, a 48-acre parcel. I asked Council to investigate Clean and Green, as far as Allegheny County goes and see if we're being made to pay tax for them in that way, too; and of course, there's the water, everything that's been said tonight about the water. While it takes 2,000,000 to 8,000,000 gallons to frack a well, sometimes more --- wells are fracked more than once --- the most awful --- perhaps the most awful aspect to consider about that is, more than 90 percent of

the water used in fracking is permanently gone from the water cycle.

You remember the water cycle; condensation, evaporation, precipitation, ice and snow, ground water flow. Seems tragically poetic now. When water becomes really scarce, what will it count for us? They poison, we pay. Help; help and we'll help you. Please enact that moratorium. Let's get started on doing things better.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Kim Eichenlaub?
Kim Eichenlaub?

MS. EICHENLAUB: That was me.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, man, I'm way behind here. I'll catch up, guys. Peter Wray?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is Dana here?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Dana's not here. That's why she didn't come up. She's not here.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's a good reason. Sorry I took you out of order.

MR. WRAY: Good evening. Here we go again. My name is Peter Wray. I live at 110 Royal Oak Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15235, and I am Chair of the Conservation Committee of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club. Tonight I want to raise two points regarding your trusteeship of the county park system. Last year this Council approved an important six acre addition to Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, which abuts Settlers Cabin County Park. The transferred property included a log house, farm house and a barn. Clearly, Council saw a real benefit to enhancing the 460-acre garden which, when open next year, will be a major attraction not only for County residents but for visitors from around the tri-state area.

Council did the right thing. The creators of this large botanic garden had a vision to take land severely spoiled and rendered worthless by coal mining and turn it into a place of natural beauty. We don't wish to see Council now allow the reverse transformation to take place with industrial-scale shale gas operations despoiling the environment of our parks. The second point has to do with the financing of the park system, a matter, that there is no doubt is at the root the proposed fracking and coal mining in or under our county parks. In a recent Post-Gazette article about the prospect of forthcoming cooperation in the county and City of Pittsburgh, it was mentioned that Mr. Peduto and Mr.

Fitzgerald both envision --- and now I quote from the Post-Gazette --- a new parks coordinating body modeled on the current Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, designed to coordinate operations and harness the resources of third parties, such as business groups and foundations, to help support the parks, unquote.

In light of this fresh and promising approach, we were really surprised. We've recommended this before, and I was surprised to see it in the Post-Gazette. In light of this fresh and promising approach for the financing of the parks, surely it makes sense for Council to delay --- delay any approval of drilling operations on, under or adjacent to any of the county parks until a cooperative, comprehensive and viable plan for the park system has been developed with the knowledgeable and thoughtful participation of Council and of the public. We hope Council will again do the right thing just as they did for the botanic gardens. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, sir. Elizabeth Donohoe? Elizabeth?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's not here.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah, she's here.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where? All right.

MS. DONOHOE: Elizabeth Donohoe, 220 Overdale Road, Forest Hills. Thank you, Council, for your attention in advance. In thinking about my three minutes this week, I wondered what else I have to add to the simple request that this Council not participate in Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Corbett's sell-out of our state to this destructive industrial practice. Frankly, three minutes is tough to work with for a non-professional speaker on such a game-changing subject. So tonight, instead of developing a thought in three minutes, I'm going to do three little tidbits that are occurring.

First is from --- an e-mail from Amie Downs, Mr. Fitzgerald's assistant. She wrote on Monday, the Executive is responsible for negotiating contracts and agreements. Council --- Council's powers and process come into play if and when there is a need to lease. The Executive will provide the information related to any bids which he is negotiating prior to that process. Additionally, Ms. Downs said he has met with Council members all along and has asked that they provide any

recommendations or requests for what should be included in any conversations that he is having with industry.

To date, only one Council member has done so. End of what she said. I'm happy to forward that e-mail to you. Thank you for your attention. Tidbit number two --- thank you for your attention. Tidbit number two is personal. I've lived here all my life. I've lived here all my life, except for some extended stays in Europe and Asia. I committed early and deeply to Pittsburgh and have worked continuously for progressive, sustainable efforts here, the ones that attract and keep people who are making this area a destination, at least they were until Pennsylvania was hijacked.

A Fortune Magazine writer, Leigh Gallagher, said in her recent book about shifting demographics in the United States, millennials want to be near cities, she said, so these cities need to be truly livable, not pockmarked with fossil fuel extraction sites right in their county parks, livable green places where they will thrive. I'm having to explain this to one such millennial, my daughter. Why? I explained to her why I may be joining some of those who've already left Pittsburgh because of fracking, creative, energetic people who see a future that they don't like looming in Pennsylvania. The third tidbit to consider --- the third tidbit is a considered opinion from a language older than words. In order for us to maintain our way of living, we must in a broad sense tell lies to each other, especially to ourselves. It is not necessary that the lies be particularly believable. The lies act as barriers to the truth. These barriers to truth are necessary because without them, many deplorable acts would become impossibilities. The truth must, at all costs, be avoided.

When you do allow self-evident truths to percolate past our defenses --- would you please stop that for a second? I'm almost finished. And into our consciousness, since they are treated like so many --- they are treated like so many ---. I was trying to get the attention, actually, of the whole Council, and so that's why I ran over a little bit. If you wouldn't just mind, it's just a second longer. Okay? When we do allow self-evident truths to percolate past our defenses and into our consciousness, they are treated like so many hand grenades rolling across the dance floor in an improbable

party. We try to stay out of harm's way, afraid that those hand grenades will go off and shatter our illusions and leave us exposed to what we've done in the world and to ourselves, exposed as the hollow people we have become. And so to avoid these truths, these self-evident truths, we continue the dance of world destruction.

So if I appear strident or smug, it's because my heart is actually breaking. And in public, this is how my heart breaks. So please don't participate in the destruction and go for the moratorium. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you very kindly.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Robert Nishikawa, and you correct me.

MR. NISHIKAWA: I'm Robert Nishikawa. I live at 125 Woodshire in O'Hara Township. I'm a professor at Pitt doing breast cancer research, and I recently moved here from the Chicago area, but I lived in Toronto and Stockholm. My wife has also lived in Kyoto and Honolulu. All those cities have good things that make them stand out. In this area, the most unique feature that we found so far is the county parks. Without a doubt, the most beautiful --- sorry, they are more beautiful and have more amenities than any other parks we've experienced, so you should all be proud of the park system you've developed here.

In Chicago, and I'm sure it's true here in Allegheny County, the parks are for the citizens to enjoy nature and the outdoors. In fact, I believe the county has an obligation to preserve the parks and protect them from development and other external forces that would degrade the experience of park goers. Fracking has been touted as a path to energy independence and jobs. This will happen whether or not there's fracking under the park. The only benefits I can see for allowing fracking under parks is for the county to make money. An income stream is important, but not at the cost of possibly ruining the park. The county parks exist for us to enjoy nature. They're not meant to be a cash cow. These two objectives are not compatible. Fracking has been documented to damage the local environment. There is noise pollution from truck traffic, gas well fires and explosions. There's surface contamination, water well contamination, and an increase in the number of earthquakes and their severity. These are not theoretical

possibilities. These are actual events that have been occurring where fracking has been done. Any income that fracking could generate will pale in comparison to the cost of remediating the damage done by fracking.

Consider this. If fracking did not pose a danger, then why does the industry enjoy exemptions from the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act? A company would only need these exemptions if they thought they might damage the environment. In the two months that my family have lived here, we've enjoyed activities at Deer Lakes Park, Boyce Park, Hartwood Acres Park and North Park. So I'm here today to ask you on behalf of my family and friends not to allow fracking under the county parks. You have something very special here in Allegheny County. Not many cities in the world have such wonderful parks. Do not endanger them to generate income. That is not their purpose. Please do your job and protect our parks so they can remain places to enjoy nature and outdoor activities for generations to come. Don't treat our parks as a source of income and don't threaten one of our exceptional attractions in the county by allowing fracking under the parks. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Jennifer Myers.

MS. MYERS: I'm Jennifer Myers, 5431 Carnegie Street in Pittsburgh. I actually don't have anything written out today just because I've been here many times and I believe I've said everything I probably need to say to you. I guess I just wanted to reach out one more time. And I'll keep coming, but really, just reach out to your hearts and your minds and your --- your hearts, I guess, is where I'm going. Basically, I'm not from Pennsylvania. I'm originally from New York. And I moved here a couple years ago and I see a sad place. As much as I wanted to embrace this place and thrive here and hope to start a family here, and have my friends come here and keep working here, and blah, blah, blah, everything, I don't see how that's possible. And I don't see how that's possible in a place that has been basically bought out by industry. And if we have no regulation, the only people --- we're all left in the wind. I feel like all these municipalities, all of these township throughout this state, we're all just left in the wind. And here we are, we're all left in the wind. The industry has basically total control as far as I can understand.

And so you are actually our representatives to protect us from this. And it is really scary. It is really scary. Once you start doing the research on this industry, I can't find anything good. Not even --- now that I talked with people who work in the industry, I'm getting their stories and they're all getting sick. I'm not sure where the good news is here. I guess I'm just trying to say, look at me, I'm 34, think about my kids when I have them, think about your grandchildren, think about your kids, what are we leaving to them? Let's protect at least something. We can protect the parks. Seems like everything else is kind of gone at this point, I don't know, but let's do that. Let's just say we're not going to do the parks. That's really all I have to say, again. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Kate Fissell, are you here? You are here.

MS. FISSELL: Hi, my name is Kate. I live in the City of Pittsburgh, the Regent Square, Park Place area, 572 East End Avenue. I came here today to ask you to bring to the floor and wholeheartedly support Councilwoman Danko's proposal for a three-year moratorium on drilling in county parks. I came to this area from New York 15 or 20 years ago and I very much appreciate the natural resources in Western Pennsylvania. I've paddled in North Park Lake. I love to jog around that lake. I've ice skated in that park. I've skied and hiked in Boyce Park. I've hiked in Deer Lakes Park. It's a favorite with the Pittsburgh Meetup Hiking Group. I've also hiked the Rachel Carson Trail that runs from Harrison Hills through Emmerling Park to the North Park. In fact, I'm a volunteer trail steward for a section of the Rachel Carson Trail not far from Deer Lakes. So I'm familiar with that area.

There's a lot of water running around up there. You can tell it from the names of the roads. To volunteer on my section, I get off Route 28, the Russellton/Creighton Exit onto Crawford Run Road, which is right there in front of the Allegheny River. Go up the river a stretch, make a left onto Bailey's Run Road. I drive down there until I hit Days Run Road. Then I hike through the woods until I reach Bull Creek Road. Those may sound like quaint old names for roads, but those runs and creeks are real. They're full of moving water, and

I'm asking you to protect them, because that moving water may roll into a river and start coming out of our faucets.

Our free enterprise system brings us many, many wonderful things. Consumer protection is not one of them. Environmental protection is not one of them. Those protections come from you, our legislators. It is not clear how to frack safely. The best practices for fracking are changing, as I speak, because our global environment is changing as I speak, more rapidly and more differently than it ever has before. I'm sure you've seen pictures of what a flooded out fracking pod looks like from Colorado. Our 50 and 100-year flood plains are changing. I'm sure Ohio did not expect earthquakes possibly attributable to fracking activity.

If it were just a question of recreational activity, I probably would not have bothered to come down here tonight. Maybe I would have just signed a petition. Much as I like --- love paddling those creeks and hiking those trails, I know I don't have to. I do absolutely have to drink the water. We all do. So how many parts per million of carcinogenic material are you willing to introduce into our water supply, trusting a filtration system to extract? Let's start with the moratorium. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. That ends all our scheduled speakers, and we thank you all for speaking here. At this moment in time, I would like a motion for adjournment.

MR. FINNERTY: I make that motion.

MR. FUTULES: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We have a motion for adjournment and a second. Question? All in favor?

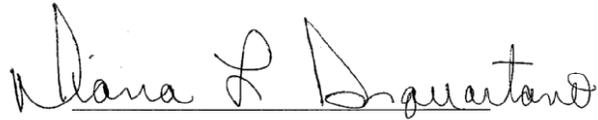
(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: This meeting stands adjourned. Thank you all.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:48 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Diana P. Squatone". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Court Reporter