

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John DeFazio	-	President
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Patrick Catena	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Paul Zavarella	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2019 - 5:15 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
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IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared E. Barker - Director of Legislative Services

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

After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer of reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll have the roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?
MR. CATENA: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Here.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Present.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Here.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli Russell?
MS. RANALLI RUSSELL: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Here.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: All 15 members are present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Could we have a moment of silence for our --- she worked in the office. Sarah's mother passed away, so let's have a moment of silence.

(Moment of silence.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thank you.

114274-19.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the 40 talented young professionals who participated in the 40 Under 40 program based on their passion, commitment, visibility, diversity and overall impact on the region, sponsored by Council Member Baker.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks, Mr. President.

How many 40 Under 40 folks do we have? Just --- I know Rosilynne's here. Anyone else 40 --- 40 Under 40? I think it's just you, Rossilynne. Okay. So come on up. This is --- this is weird. Yeah. Willie --- Willie McKain, you are not --- so this is very odd. We usually average 10 to 15 honorees each year. But we're very happy to have you here. I will say to all my colleagues, Rossilynne Culgan has written one of the most interesting books, I think, in the recent times here. I want to get the correct title, but 100 Things to do in Pittsburgh Before You Die?

MS. CULGAN: Right.

MR. BAKER: Which is a neat concept, a neat book. And she's doing great with her book sales. Forty (40) Under 40 is coming up next Thursday, which is always one of the best events of the year, certainly, in our city, in our region. If you've never been to 40 Under 40, I would --- I would always encourage my colleagues to go and everyone in the crowd to go as well.

So you're here on behalf of all 40 of you, so that's a lot of ---

MS. CULGAN: A lot of pressure.

MR. BAKER: --- a lot of pressure this year. I'll just quickly read the proclamation since we don't have the --- the huge crowd we sometimes have.

WHEREAS, each year Pittsburgh Magazine and PUMP co-sponsor the 40 Under 40 program with the goal of recognizing 40 people under the age of 40 who are committed to shaping our region and making it a better place for everyone to live;

WHEREAS, since 1998 the awards program has recognized over 700 artists, entrepreneurs, doctors, educators, non-profit executives, public figures, business leaders, behind-the-scenes difference makers and more;

WHEREAS, the 2019 honorees selected from a pool of over 240 were chosen by an independent panel of judges comprised of former winners, business professionals and civic leaders. The event is next Thursday at the Rivers

Casino ballroom, the 40 awardees will be honored for their professional and community achievements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, County Council Member Tom Baker, do hereby recognize and congratulate all 40 of you, especially my buddy Rossilynne from The Incline and through our joint efforts together. And I'm just really proud of you. That's it. That was a quick one, guys. So congratulations to Rossilynne.

(Applause.)

MS. CULGAN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Come on up front.

MR. BAKER: Oh, yeah. We'll do a quick photo. (Pictures taken.)

MR. BAKER: That may be a record breaker, Bob Macey. I don't know. That was pretty fast.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11275-19.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation declaring November 13th, 2019 to be Kindness Day in Allegheny County, sponsored by Council Member Baker.

MR. BAKER: All right. I'm going to invite my wonderful friend, Lynn Banaszak, up to please join us. Lynn Banaszak is just incredible. I don't know how many of you know her. She's a former Athena Award winner and to me, and I think to all of us, the Athena Award goes to the top business leader in the community.

MS. BANASZAK: Oh ---.

MR. BAKER: You were that a few years back. And Lynn does a lot of work with young people. And when we're talking with young people I would --- them that literally she is on the Mount Rushmore when it comes to leadership here in our community.

Quick story before we get to the proclamation and hearing about Caileigh's foundation --- the foundation in Caileigh's memory and honor. We, a couple years ago --- well, just last year actually, for Kindness Day, Lynn Banaszak and I went to the GetGo on McKnight Road. And the idea that Lynn had was let's do something kind; I'm going to buy people's items at the GetGo. And the reactions when you try to --- something nice for people, like that's amazing, thank you so much, hugs, high-fives, all the good stuff. Some people were like kind of scared of us. So the reactions to kindness in life can sometimes be a little bit varied. But I --- it was a very nice gesture. It was a very good thing to do, a very Lynn Banaszak thing to do. With that, we'll read the

proclamation and hear a little bit about Lynn's story and of course about Caileigh's story.

WHEREAS, one random act of kindness, no matter how small, can make enormous impact on someone else's life, kindness has the ability to make the world a better place and have a positive impact on any institution, the giving of one's self in service to another empowers both the giver and the recipient; and

WHEREAS, by knowing, understanding and using the power of kindness, we have the ability to send out a positive ripple in our region that may endure through time. Through random acts of kindness we can promote unity, empathy and positive dynamics within our community.

WHEREAS, Allegheny County Council will join in Kindness Day to help raise social awareness of the value of kindness, acts of kindness must be extended to one another regardless of social or economic status, education, gender, origin, religious belief, age, lifestyle or abilities.

WHEREAS, the Caileigh Lynn McDowell Foundation is dedicated to increasing the awareness of kindness in the Pittsburgh region and dedicated to reaffirming the importance of having a positive and supportive community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Allegheny County Council Member Tom Baker, do hereby declare November 13th, 2019 to be Kindness Day in Allegheny County and urge all individuals to extend acts of kindness to one another regardless of anything that makes us different. The goal of the day is really to bring everyone together. No one does that better in our region than the wonderful and terrific Lynn Banaszak. The Bakers have been fans of this incredible professional for the last 15 years and we just think the world of you. So congratulations.

MS. BANASZAK: Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

MS. BANASZAK: Thank you so much. I mean, I should come here every time there's a meeting. Really works on my self esteem. I appreciate that. I --- I very much appreciate this proclamation. Caileigh --- the Caileigh Lynn McDowell Foundation was started in 2016 when my niece, Caileigh McDowell, passed away very tragically just nine days before her 18th birthday. She was being treated for something called disordered eating and she actually had a bowel blockage from Crohn's disease. And

so after 42 days in the hospital, seven surgeries and the fight of her life, she unfortunately lost that battle.

And Caileigh was someone who I would always say that kindness was Caileigh's superpower. She was a uniter of people. She was an astute pupil of democracy. Her dream was to, very much like the work you do, serve the community in some civic fashion. She saw herself being an intern in Washington, D.C. She saw herself going on to law school and working to advocate for people to make sure that the world was a kind, gentle place to everyone regardless of their background, the things that they had suffered in their life. And so I feel very fortunate that Tom always, as someone who has the opportunity to bring people together, helps us honor Caileigh's memory on what is World Kindness Day on November 13th.

And our foundation does other things, like pop-up voter registration, so we work very hard to register first-time voters. Since we started doing that, we've registered 300 young people to vote in the coming elections. We give scholarships to her alma mater, which is Woodland Hills High School, for those students who find common ground with one another and build each other up. And so I say all this because kindness seems like something very soft, but we know through lots of research at places like Carnegie Mellon University, where I'm a --- the director of an institute, that kindness actually really does matter. It makes us healthier. It makes us happier. It creates a place where all of us can thrive. And so on November 13th, if you would just think of Caileigh and do something kind in her memory and her honor, I would be honored for that. So thank you very, very much.

(Applause.)

(Photograph taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 11276-19, and the rest of the proclamations will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: 11276-19, Certificates of Recognition presented to the 2019-2020 Upper St. Clair High School Girls Golf Team for earning second place in the 2019 PIAA and first place in the 2019 WPIAL Class AAA Girls Team Golf Championships. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11277-19, a Certificate of Recognition presented to Mrs. Clare Pachavis upon her 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11278-19, a Certificate of Recognition, presented to Mr. Donald Keffer upon his 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11279-19, a Certificate of Recognition presented to Mrs. Margaret Kappa upon her 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11280-19, a Certificate of Recognition, presented to Mrs. Violet Cumpston upon her 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11281-19, a Certificate of Recognition presented to Mrs. Jean Benson upon her 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

11282-19, a Certificate of Recognition, presented to Sergeant Jesse Glazier upon his 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

11283-19, a Proclamation recognizing Chatham University for celebrating their 150th anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Klein.

11284-19, a Certificate of Recognition presented to Foxwall Emergency Medical Services for becoming a designated Safe Place in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

11285-19, a Proclamation congratulating St. Philip Roman Catholic Church in Crafton, upon the momentous occasion of its 180th Anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Catena.

And 11286-19, a Proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Veteran's Day parade and commending the Federation of War Veterans' Societies, Incorporated for consistently conducting and organizing the parade for the last 100 years. Sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do we have any public comment?

MR. BARKER: Not on agenda items. No.

MR. KLEIN: Councilwoman Means, what is in the drinking water in Bethel Park? There are five people who you're honoring on their 100th birthday.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 11270-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Maria Silva to the Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Refer to Committee on Appointment Review. 11271-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Mark Foerster to the Allegheny County Housing Authority board for a term to expire December 31st, 2023. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Appointment Review. 11272-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Terri Klein to the Jail Oversight Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2021. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on appointment review. 11212-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of David Minnotte to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board for a term expiring December 31st, 2023. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco, you want to ---?

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of David Minnotte to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board. I'd like to make a motion.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 11213-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Richard Stanizzo, Jr. to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board, for a term expiring December 31st, 2020. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of Richard Stanizzo to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board. I'd like to make a motion.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 11228-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of John C. Brown to the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities board for a term ending December 31st, 2020. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of John C. Brown, to the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities board. I'd like to so move.

MS. MEANS: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
11250-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Paul D'Alesandro to the Allegheny County Housing Authority board for a term ending December 31st, 2024. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, the Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of Paul D'Alesandro to the Allegheny County Housing Authority Board. I'd like to so move.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
11251-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Matt Smith to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of Matt Smith of the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board. I'd like to so move.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
11252-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Lance Chimka to the Allegheny County Airport Authority board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met on Tuesday, October 29th and unanimously recommended the re-appointment of Lance Chimka to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board. I'd like to so move.

MS. MEANS: Second

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
11255-19.

MR. BARKER: Approving the re-appointment of Margaret McCormick Barron to of the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County board for a term to expire on May 23rd, 2024. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. As you can see, we were very busy last Tuesday, October 29th. We met, the Committee on Appointment Review met and we unanimously recommended the re-appointment of Margaret McCormick Barron to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County. I'd like to so move.

MS. MEANS: Second.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
We did 11255; right?

MR. BARKER: Correct.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll now go to Liaison reports. Representative Baker. He's always first.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you. Thank you, thank you. Just a couple quick updates. Since the last time we met, and the day we met, there was a great announcement in the district Sam and I were, because we both --- Sam lives down the airport area. That was 300

jobs at ServiceLink. The next day, we had a groundbreaking, which was phenomenal, with Amazon for another 800 jobs. That was great. That Friday, there was --- we didn't really actually know what was going to happen on Friday until we got there and that was 1,000 jobs that were announced at the airport. That was a phenomenal announcement with Neighborhood 91 and with additive manufacturing. We learned a lot about that. But there's a lot of things going on at the innovation campus at the airport. The airport's becoming a very good landlord, a very good partner certainly, so that was a lot of good things all right in a row. Earlier that morning, we had several of our colleagues, I want to say there were seven or eight of us that were at the Humane Action breakfast. Half of the group was there for that one, which was great.

So I just wanted to thank all my colleagues for being there, it was a nice bipartisan event. The county treasurer was certainly a leader within it, but it was also co-hosted by Representative Ortitay, a Republican, and Representative Kulik, a Democrat. So that was a --- that was definitely a nice event as well. And the --- I know a few of us were at the law enforcement awards last Friday, which the friends that I was with there and talked to afterwards, if you didn't leave inspired, you weren't there. The law enforcement awards were unbelievable and really incredible celebration last Friday. So that's all for me. We'll turn it back to you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. This weekend here is the Veterans' Day parade. And this is going to take place here downtown on Saturday, November 9th. If folks are available, I'd love to have you come out and show your support for our past and present veterans. On Saturday, November --- excuse me, Saturday, November 9th, as well Soldiers and Sailors Hall, Memorial Hall and Museum, is having their Cannon Ball, which is their major fundraiser, that'll be taking place. You can find more information out about it on its events page on their website. Monday, Veteran's Day, November 11th, there's a veterans breakfast that takes place up at the Student Union Hall up here at Duquesne University, takes place --- starts at 7:30 in the morning. That typically gets a lot of folks. It's a wonderful opportunity to go there, to be able to celebrate and honor the heroes, our

veterans. Also, in regard to the Veteran's day parade, the proclamation that I sponsored, it celebrates the --- back in 1919 the Federation of War Veterans Society was formed. Its purpose was to take and partner annually with Allegheny County to provide a Veteran's Day parade in downtown Pittsburgh. This will be its 100th year that we have the parade. So even more reason to come out. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules.

VICE-PRESIDENT FUTULES: I'd like to reflect a little bit about Halloween. For two days at least, the weather forecast for Allegheny County was just horrible. They talked about tornadoes, floods, high winds. And I thought it was a dangerous situation, but not many communities cancelled their Halloween and to move it to another day. In Oakmont we lost power at ten after 7:00. The entire hill was blackened from a tree hitting the wires and Halloween basically had ended at ten after 7:00.

About the same time, my next door neighbor's tree came down, rather large, it was only about a 50-foot tree, come crashing through his yard, through his fence, hit the sidewalk. And it could've been a dangerous situation for somebody's child or parents that could've been there. They certainly would've been killed from what I saw because --- I have pictures. It was a dangerous situation and I would like, as a Councilman, just to consider when municipalities --- when you get warnings days in advance, they should really consider the safety of the children. Because the parents, at the time, don't realize, well, maybe it's dangerous of me to take my child out on Halloween night. When I think it's a much safer atmosphere if we were to consider that in the future. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Representative Sue Means.

MS. MEANS: So I want to remind everybody, everyone talked about Veteran's day, but this Monday's Veterans Day so take an opportunity to thank someone, a veteran, because we live in the greatest country of America. Because men and women for generations have served our country and fought for our freedom. And I also wanted to invite everybody to the Nurses Memorial on Corrigan Drive. On Veteran's day at noon, they always have --- the Southwest Nurses Association always has a wonderful ceremony honoring all the nurses who served in

all the wars there. And the County does a great job maintaining the memorial. There's actually two --- one for all the wars and one for the first war. So everybody come on down and enjoy the ceremony. Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. On Monday evening, Mr. President, I had the honor of being invited to a sneak preview of the new emergency room facilities down at Jefferson Hospital, the whole new wing. What a magnificent edifice that is. I couldn't believe it when we walked through there, the state of the art --- I mean, you almost want to get sick to go in there, you know, it was so nice. It's an absolutely beautiful place and it was a lovely evening. And I just want to say Allegheny General in the --- they have really stepped up to the plate as far as facilities are concerned, especially with Jefferson Hospital now being part of the network. I was really, really overwhelmed with what I saw and experienced. And I --- just a wonderful thing for the people and the citizens of the South Hills to have a place like that. I think it's 34,000 square feet just for the ER. So you can imagine that the facilities are just magnificent. So I just wanted to bring that to your attention, Mr. President. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anyone else? Seeing no more, we'll move on. 11273-19.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2019, submission number 07-19. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll be referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Do we have Notification of Contracts?

MR. BARKER: We have neither motions nor contracts.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public Comment on General Items.

MR. BARKER: We do have several people who signed up for that. First up is Heather Wechter.

MS. WECHTER: I'm not sure how long I have. Is there a limit?

MR. BARKER: There is, three minutes.

MS. WECHTER: Okay. Well, that's important to know. Thank you. Should I start?

MR. BARKER: Go ahead. Whenever you're ready.

MS. WECHTER: Okay. Good afternoon. My name is Heather Wechter and I live in District 5, Mount Lebanon. And Sue Means has represented my community. I contacted the Allegheny County Parks Commission regarding --- after I discovered the cat --- the feral cat colonies in South Park. And I have an older dog and I grew up in Bethel Park and I moved back to Mount Lebanon. I've lived there for 20 years. I have a 13-year-old dog, whom I walk all through South Park with. While walking through South Park, I encountered four different feral cat colonies that are strewn with litter. And I have just been trying to figure out --- I talked to different parks --- members of the park. People, can you hear me? Yes? And I've just been trying to find out why are these feral cat colonies existing in South Park.

So my husband and I went to do, like, fact finding. We went to photograph and map the area for --- so that we could share it with you. And while were there, we encountered a TCTV camera and a white van. There was a man in a white van who introduced himself and told me there was an agreement with Allegheny County to allow the trap, neuter, release practice in South Park. All of these feral cat colonies are located near to walking paths, where park visitors and pedestrians visit. They are also located in hedgerows where all the birds are nesting. I also lead litter cleanups separately with the Friends of South Park. I was appointed to the Friends of South Park by Sue Means in April of this year. Oh, sorry. Thanks. I do that and while I've been doing that, I've photographed and documented the enormous amount of litter that the individuals and organizations leave in these colonies. In addition to that, they trap birds by putting bird food inside these cat carriers. I photographed that and I put that in there. It just seems like a very wrong practice. I would really like the Allegheny County Commission to try and address this practice by enforcing some rules, please. Thank you. Thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Gabrielle Monroe.

MS. MONROE: Good evening, everyone. My name is Gabrielle Monroe. Thank you for this time and I will actually try to keep my three minutes to under three minutes tonight. So the holidays are coming up and it's some of my favorite times of the year. We have

Thanksgiving and then there's Black Friday and then there's Small Business Saturday and then there's Cyber Monday and then my absolute favorite holiday of the year, Giving Tuesday. A few years back there was a national movement to make a Giving Tuesday a holiday. Like, we spend all this money over the weekend on our loved ones. Now what can we give back? Can we give back a couple bucks or maybe a few hours or maybe donate some old clothes?

Giving Tuesday does hold a special place in my heart. Until age six I grew up in our broken foster care system, endured a lot of abuse because of lack of resources and lack of safe spaces. When I was eight, custody had been given to my dad. I ran away after he tried to cut off my fingers. I endured a great deal of abuse because of lack of resources and lack of safe spaces in our community. I am a childhood sex trafficking survivor. My abuse took place ages nine to ten. I endured a lot of abuse due to lack of resources and lack of safe spaces in our community.

Our community has a lack of resources and a lack of safe spaces, so isn't it not our job to create resources and create safe spaces for every member of our community? This year, let's build some bridges for Giving Tuesday and give back to our community. We very simply ask for a Proclamation for Giving Tuesday in Allegheny County as we build bridges towards resources and safe spaces for all members of Allegheny County. Thank you for your time.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Dixie Tymitz.

MS. TYMITZ: So where's that Fitzgerald and all the police? Last two times I've been here, he came and talked then they all left. I only have about 15 pages tonight.

MEMBER: Save 13.

MS. TYMITZ: Dixie Tymitz, I live right on the line between Oakland and Shadyside. For liberty and justice for all, we all said that tonight, liberty and justice for all. This is a wonderful city, it really is. But there is nothing in this world that is perfect and I want to talk about one of those things. Because we get an F, an F, on water and air, among many things.

All right. I want to talk about women tonight, particularly woman of color. Pittsburgh's black residents could move to almost any other United States city of

comparable size and have a better quality of life. Pittsburgh's inequality across gender and race found that black women in Pittsburgh compared to those in similar cities face higher rates of maternal mortality and poverty along with lower rates of employment and college readiness.

Black men also face higher rates of occupational segregation, homicides, cancer and cardiovascular disease. By just moving, just moving from Pittsburgh, their life expectancy would go up, their income would go up, their educational opportunities and their children would go up. Junia Howell, who is a Pittsburgh sociologist, said for many of our black residents, this is not even going to seem like a huge finding. They live this every day and yet this is the first time that we have empirically established that Pittsburgh is distinct for those things.

Deaths among black women are higher than deaths among white women. The rate of black fetal deaths is higher here than in 94 percent of similar cities. Deaths among female babies is higher in Pittsburgh than in 70 percent of other cities studied. The rate of poverty among black women in Pittsburgh is higher than in 85 of comparable cities and more black children grow up in poverty here than in 85 percent of other cities. It's something we need to think about and to care about. Thank you. You didn't have to tell me to stop.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Ned Mulcahy.

MR. MULCAHY: Good evening. My name's Ned Mulcahy. I'm a staff attorney --- the Group Against Smog and Pollution. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak to you this evening. Just around noon today, GASP held a press event to draw attention to the fact that in spite of the County Health Department's best efforts, the concentration of hydrogen sulfide in Allegheny County's ambient air continues to exceed the state standard of about 50 times per year on average. The primary source of this unpleasant smell is U.S. Steel's Clairton facility, due to there being few other sources and the fact the gas stays near them. This is just confined generally to the Mon Valley. This is one of several issues Allegheny County faces regarding air quality. Just before this press event this morning, I emailed each and every one of you except for Council Member Palmosina. I couldn't find your email on the County website, but I have a paper copy

of the letter. The letter, signed by Clean Water Action, PennEnvironment, the Breathe Project, GASP, and PennFuture --- we request that in the upcoming budget discussions you pay special attention to the County Health Department's budget as it is --- regard to the Air Quality Program. We didn't mention this letter in the press event, but as you might guess, this is related.

The letter points out that the County budget provides funding for the Health Department generally in a number of meaningful ways, but the Air Quality Program in particular, receives very little direct support. Our fear is that critical services the Air Quality Program provides, particularly regarding expertise and enforcement on local and community-level issues, are not being adequately funded. I won't take up your time this evening reciting the letter. I'm here tonight just to be sure that you received the letter, to be sure you understand how seriously we take this issue, and to be sure you understand that each of the groups signed on to that letter is committed to assisting in any way we can to ensure the Air Quality Program has all the resources it needs to address poor air quality in Allegheny County. As we stated in the letter, air pollution does give the County's role as the region's leader a black eye and has costs we all bear, from missed work days, critical health impacts, like cancer and heart disease, it affects us all. We believe the County can invest in clean air. Given the varied ways air pollution affects public health, this is an investment that will provide a significant return on the dollar for our residents. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: And last up is Jay Walker.

MR. WALKER: Good evening. My name is Jay Walker and I'm an Outreach Coordinator with Clean Air Council, a non-profit environmental health organization with offices in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. And I live in County Council District 11. The Council's been working to protect everyone's right to a healthy environment for over 50 years. I'm here to request the Allegheny County Council allocate additional money during the County budgeting process to the Allegheny County Health Department so that the Air Quality Program can hire more inspectors in 2020. Allegheny County Council unanimously passed the motion of Council stating that it's --- that it backed the mandate of the Health Department to oversee the reduction or outright elimination of risks to

air quality. With this motion, the Council also committed itself to supporting its residents in their fight for cleaner, healthier and more breathable air.

Here's a clear case where Allegheny County Council can demonstrate that commitment. Increased funds would allow the Health Department to hire more inspectors, so as to more adequately respond to air quality complaints. These increased funds could also be used to make inspector salaries more competitive, allowing us to retain talent. Budgets demonstrate the priorities of our county and we at the Council, are asking you to prioritize clean air. Thank you.

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

MR. WALTON: So moved.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Someone second it?

MEMBER: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Aye. Opposed? The ayes have it, meeting is adjourned.

CERTIFICATE

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

Dated the 4th day of January, 2020

Jeremy Harris
Court Reporter