

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- --- -

BEFORE:

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

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

July 13, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker --- Director, Legislative Services  
Ken Varhola --- Chief of Staff

PRESIDENT MACEY: At five o'clock we're supposed to start this meeting. I want you all to stand and pledge allegiance to the flag. And we will have a moment of silence after that for people who have died from COVID and also those individuals down in Florida. Thank you.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of Silence.)

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you very much. It's a tough world we're living in today, and everything seems to be changing and moving in some crazy direction, especially with our weather. I know in my neck of the woods, a lot trees and a lot of branches that ended up in the street and in people's back yards.

All right. Roll call, please.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein? I apologize

is that a here, Klein.

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Thank you. Mr. Macey?

PRESIDENT MACEY: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Here.

MR. BARKER: President Catena? We

have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT MACEY: You know, it's really nice to see that a lot of us --- most of us are here at the dais, and that we've separated COVID from being more involved in our meetings. I deeply appreciate those people who attend, and I'm certainly concerned about those people who haven't, because they may have issues that we're not familiar with.

Proclamations and certificates, please.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11932-21, a proclamation congratulating Paul Martino upon the occasion of his retirement from KDKA-TV, sponsored by Council Members Futules, Macey and all members of Council.

MR. FUTULES: Congratulations on your retirement, Paul. Being the age that I am. I'm 53 years --- I was born in 1953, and that's the same year that KDKA started the news broadcasting. I grew up watching Bill Burns on this little Motorola TV set most of my life. And I recall the story --- I don't recall, I seen that he had done a story about a man climbing on a bridge, and I think he was the first Marty Griffin.

He saw a man climbing on a bridge who was going to jump off, and the story --- they had interviewed him and asked him why he was going to jump off the bridge, and he said money. So Bill Burns, he decided he was going to hire that man as a cameraman for KDKA. His name was Charles Boyle, he became the first cameraman, for the station. Was that his name? Well, he was the first cameraman for KDKA and they basically gave that man a job. What a great story.

And watching TV as a young man, on that little black-and-white television --- I was 17 when my father finally got a colored television set. I didn't even know that the Wizard of Oz was in color. I thought it was black and white, the whole movie. The way she got to the Oz or whatever, that's when it turned color. I didn't even know it until I was 18 years old. But that's that part of it. But seeing people like Paul Martino on the news, on a daily basis --- if you watch KDKA, he became a part of their family. He was a man that you can see on the streets and you recognize him immediately. I had that opportunity a few years back, when County Council went to dinner at Mitchell's and he showed up. And we talked and hung out just like we knew each other forever, because I thought I knew him very well by seeing him on TV all the time.

So we think of people on television as part of our family. You know, everybody in town thinks that Jon Delano still lives in the attic.

MR. MARTINO: I think his wife let him out.

MR. FUTULES: Yeah. Maybe it's time we let him out of the attic and do some newscast. But anyway, Paul, I want to thank you for all the years that you've given us and all the people in the viewing area, because like I said, you're not just a newscast person, you became the person that was part of our family, and thank you for that.

PRESIDENT MACEY: I have to use visual aids. This is the 21st century. And I want to thank you as well for being such a responsible person for society, and giving us the news in a fashion that we can all appreciate. So whereas Paul Martino, a veteran of KDKA-TV report anchor, has retired after 50 years from television.

When did you start, when you were 13? Whereas Chicago native, Paul, has been with KDKA-TV since 1984. Whereas Paul began his journey in television back in 1971 as a news reporter and anchor at WSIU-TV/FM in Carbondale, Illinois when he was a freshman at South Illinois University. Whereas in 1976, after graduating from college, Paul moved to Davenport, Iowa, where he worked as a news reporter and anchor at WOC-TV AM. Two years later he took a job with --- this is a lot of --- these are a lot of --- WGEM TV/AM at Quincy, Illinois. And after two years ---

MR. MARTINO: I couldn't hold a job.

PRESIDENT MACEY: --- Paul moved to Mobile, Alabama --- I recognize that --- to work at WKRG TV. And whereas after four years in Mobile --- Mobile, Paul moved north and took a job at KDKA-TV --- yes --- in 1984, whereas some of Paul's biggest stories in Pittsburgh include covering the 1985 cocaine scandal involving several Major League Baseball players, the worst one day tornado outbreaks in U.S. history, and the bombing of the Pan Am Flight 1 over --- 103, excuse me, over Lockerbie, Scotland. And whereas in the 1990s, Paul had an award-winning series called You Paid For It.

He and former KDKA investigator/producer Stu Samuels exposed all kinds of misused taxpayer money in the State Government. I don't believe that. Whereas Paul also spent many years as a weekend anchor at KDKA TV, including many years paired with fellow KDKA retiree

Brenda Waters --- what a nice lady. Whereas in his retirement, Paul looks forward to playing golf --- I hope you're better than me ---

MR. MARTINO: No, I can't ---.

PRESIDENT MACEY: --- doing voiceover cover on commercials, and he's continuing to sing and play keyboard in Paul Martino's all-star band. And now, therefore, it be resolved that we, the Allegheny County members, do hereby recognize and congratulate Paul Martino upon the occasion from his retirement from KDKA TV. We commend him for all that he has done during his 50 years of broadcasting. Congratulations.

Okay. We're done. Oh, he's about to give a speech. It's your turn.

MR. MARTINO: If I may take a couple of minutes, I want to thank you, Vice President Macey and Council Member Futules, and honorable members of Council, ladies and gentlemen, and my beautiful wife, Joy. Thank you all, this is a great honor.

What a privilege it has been to cover my community --- our community for the past 37 years. You don't realize the impact you're having until you get a chance like this to look back on it. I've covered this body for many decades, and I remember when it was just three white men who sat there. It was funny how only white guys could run the county back then, but we are in a much better place today, as you can see.

I know that you have a very difficult job, and we probably don't report that enough. It's a thankless job that you have. You don't get paid much money for it, and when you cut to the chase, you're responsible for life and property in this county. And I salute you for the work you do, and I thank you very much for this honor tonight. It really means a lot to me.

(Photographs were taken.)

MR. MARTINO: Can I indulge you all real quick? I forgot to tell one thing. One of the very first major stories I covered in Pittsburgh was Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro in Market Square during the 1984 campaign. And do you know who introduced them, a steel union rep, Bob Macey. Do you remember that, Bob?

PRESIDENT MACEY: Yes, sir.

MR. MARTINO: Bob was one of the first people I ever interviewed. And even though Old Mondale lost in a

landslide, it was a historic moment to see Geraldine Ferraro.

Thank you all. Sorry to take up your time.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. Now that all the fun stuff is over. All right. Proclamations and certificates.

MR. BARKER: Bill Numbers 11933-21, 11934-21 and 11935-21 are proclamations congratulating Dr. Mark Lega, Mrs. Brittany Repko and Mr. Joseph Gordon, all for being named the 2021 Lung Health Champion, all sponsored by Council Member Baker.

PRESIDENT MACEY: And if Council doesn't mind, I'd like to have them all read at the same time. Thank you.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks, Mr. President. If we could have our honorees come up and also Carla Conrad, the Executive Director of Breathe Pennsylvania.

So we are joined tonight by Mr. Joseph Gordon, by Dr. Mark Lega, with the tie on there, and Brittany Repko, Ms. Brittany Repko. Congratulations to all three of you. Good to see you, as always. Congratulations.

So these are the three Lung Health champions of the year. Very proud to be affiliated with Breathe Pennsylvania for seven years now. I've been lucky enough to serve on Carla's Board for --- it's getting close to a decade, and it's been wonderful. Something fun that Carla and I have in common is that we went to Indiana University, not in Bloomington, but the better one here in Pennsylvania. Are we allowed to say that here? Sorry, Councilman Walton. I know Brittany also went to IUP as well, too, which is great.

So some fun facts to share with you before we get to the proclamations, but I don't know that all of Council knows, the area for gas change inside of the lungs is the size of a tennis court, which is pretty shocking, and an average person breathes in around 11,000 liters of air every day. Cindy probably knew that, as the health professional. This group of three honorees has over 80 years of providing patient care experience. It's really an incredible group that we are honoring here tonight.

The proclamation will start out the same for all three of our honorees, and then we have little descriptions for each of the winners. Whereas, Breathe Pennsylvania, headquartered here in Western Pennsylvania, is a nonprofit organization that helps the residents of

Southwestern PA achieve and maintain optimal lung health through education, prevention, awareness and direct services. And throughout its rich history, Breathe Pennsylvania has been a leader in providing people with the tools and knowledge to become advocates for their own lung health by continually expanding programs and services to educate the community on chronic lung diseases, including tuberculosis, COPD and asthma.

Breathe Pennsylvania also provides smoking-cessation services and resources for individuals and businesses alike. And whereas the Coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the incredibly important role that lung health professionals play a hand in both acute and chronic conditions. Whereas for the first time here, Breathe Pennsylvania has honored individuals who work with and provide exemplary care to individuals with respiratory disease.

Dr. Mark Lega, our first honoree here, is a pulmonary and critical-care physician at Allegheny Health Network. He was nominated for this award by a patient that first saw Dr. Lega in the 1990s. The patient accredited Dr. Lega's success to his humanitarian acts of kindness and going above and beyond for his patients. So that's a little bit about Dr. Lega.

And then, let's --- congratulations. And then we'll go with Mr. Gordon next. Mr. Gordon, a respiratory therapist at Allegheny Health North Network was nominated for the award by a physician/colleague. He's been a respiratory therapist at AGH for decades. In 2015 he was recruited to be the lead navigator for a novel program for HN, COPD --- COPD care transformation, with the program's focal point to bring care to a COPD patient who was admitted for an acute exacerbation.

Over the years, Mr. Gordon has taken on the role of the liaison for all things respiratory-related. And the nominator said that Mr. Gordon is the heart and soul of the program and one of the main reasons for the growing success of the COPD program. So congratulations to Mr. Gordon.

All right. And Brittany. Brittany Repko is also a 2021 lung health champion. She's a respiratory therapist at UPMC Passavant. She was nominated for this award twice by a patient and also somebody within her family. Ms. Repko is a credit to her profession, an amazing therapist and a truly caring person. She

exemplifies what a respiratory therapist should be.  
Congratulations to Brittany as well.

Now, therefore be it resolved for all three of you that I, County Council Member, do hereby congratulate the three of you for being named 2021 Lung Health Champions. We thank the three of you for your dedication and commitment to providing superior care to individuals with respiratory disease.

Congratulations to all three of you.

MR. GORDON: I don't have anything to say, but I do want to recognize one person here. Mr. Walton, I served on a jury with you about three years ago, and you were the jury foreman, and you did an outstanding job then, and it's good to see you on council.

MR. WALTON: See, brilliance just about --- just permeates this room. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: He wanted back after the Indiana Bloomington comment from me.

Doctor, any thoughts from you?

MR. LEGA: I just want to thank the Breathe Pennsylvania organization. I wasn't aware of all the work that you were doing behind the scenes. And I was really touched to be nominated by one of my former patients and to be recognized for that. And I appreciate everybody here for doing these kind of things. It's very nice as I'm sort of in the twilight of my career now, and realize that I was with the patient at the very, very beginning of my career. And it's just very nice to work with patients and do what we do to try to help them with their breathing.

Thank you all.

MR. BARKER: All right. Thanks, everyone. With that, we'll get a group photo with these healthcare heroes, our lung champions.

(Photographs taken.)

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you for what you do, and thank you for serving.

Okay. We're back to proclamations and certificates. Mr. Barker.

MR. BARKER: 11936-21 is a proclamation congratulating Emsworth Borough as it celebrates 125 years since its incorporation, sponsored by Council Member Baker.



And 11937-21, a proclamation recognizing Ben McClelland upon receiving the Eagle Scout Award, sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT MACEY: It's always nice to recognize people who serve, and I think we need more people involved in public service, whether it's volunteering or actually in a paid position.

Okay. Public comment on agenda items.

MR. VARHOLA: We have a couple, Mr. President. Steven Singer, White Oak, 15131. As a public school teacher, I'd like to support the motion to encourage schools in Allegheny County to teach critical race theory. My only problem is the term critical race theory, because of the legal framework like torture contract law, public schools do not teach such things and probably shouldn't. However, the history of systemic racism and its importance in today's world is a vital topic that should be addressed by public schools, and it is that which is under attack in more than 20 states when neofascist laws bring critical race theory.

So I support County Council encouraging schools to teach robust and true history of racism and prejudices embedded in the systems of our society. And I support encouraging critical discussion of those systems. The only way to dismantle systemic racism is to be able to point it out. Allegheny County should take a stand and begin teaching factually-supported history. We must defend our academic freedom of teachers to teach and students to learn, otherwise we follow the path of fascism.

Lillian Bailey, Bethel Park, 15102. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Motion 11941, the motion urging school districts in Allegheny County to include critical race theory perspectives in their curriculum. Please do not support this motion and vote no to it. Including CRT perspectives would distort American history and teach our children that America is an irredeemably racist country. Do you genuinely believe that to be the case? I do not. I believe we can overcome anything that divides us if we work toward unity, and teaching critical race theory would cause further division. It would divide students based upon race and teach them they're either victims or suppressors. It will not help a single child learn or succeed.

Do we really want to teach our children that they cannot succeed because of the color of their skin or worse, they are superior to others because of the color of their skin? This certainly would do no --- would do more harm than good and perpetuate racism. Instead our schools should be a place where children are encouraged to be the best they can be, to reach for the stars. Take a look at the successes of the Pittsburgh Promise, where children's desires to succeed have been encouraged and supported, not squashed by teaching them they are victims, as CRT would do.

A few years ago I had the privilege of hearing Morris Morrison, a successful author, inspirational speaker and CEO. He, for one, is a true success story. One of the principals he's lived by was taught to him by his grandmother. It was never be a victim. I suggest you look him up, read his book, Overnight Success, an inspiring story of our culture, results in the American dream. And perhaps even invite him to speak with you, with the youth of our county, to urge school districts in our county to do so.

Our children are our future, let us not label our children as victims, suppressors, let's unite them and encourage them. You cannot expect to ever be united if we teach our children they are victims and suppressors.

Thomas Bailey, Bethel Park, 1511 --- 15102, please do not support the motion of critical race theory in reviewing Allegheny County's chartering, specifically the duties of County Council. I do not see where the council has any jurisdiction over matters of education. I urge the County Council to focus their time and effort on what they are elected to do and leave items like education, which are not under their purview, to those elected School Boards who are more equipped to assess.

Sigmund King Smith, the fact that the mere mention of critical race theory provokes such a visceral reaction is proof of the need to incorporate it as a Social Studies curricula. It is imperative that we help our children to be enlightened rather than enslaved. Going beyond blame and shame to arrive at a point of understanding, so that they can realize that race is a social construct that has brought harm and suffering not only to those at the lower end, but those at the top. It is the responsibility of educators to liberate our youth in the myth of scarcity, which asserts that allowing

people of color to avail themselves the opportunities primarily restricted to Caucasians will increase their own chances of advance.

Shielding our young people from the facts of our history is the very tactic employed by dictatorships which we criticize for rewriting history to further their own --- further their own hedge mind. Realizing the social inequity results in the society as unstable as a table with legs of different heights. I urge you to adopt this motion.

Robert Maddock, Pittsburgh, 15214, support promotion urging county schools to include insights from critical race theory in their curriculum. The saying that those who do not know the story are condemned to repeat it is credited to a number of authors, but that does not make it any less germane. If we wish to truly make racism a thing of the past, we, especially our children, must recognize those practices that supported it. Critical race theory takes a clear-eyed look at these practices and provides us with the information needed to banish them forever. Our children are our future and we can do nothing better to them than to provide them with the tools to enable them to create a society that truly embodies the promise of this nation for all.

Mr. President, that's it for the agenda.

MS. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. Varhola. I appreciate that. Approval of minutes.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Presentation of appointments.

MR. BARKER: Also none.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you. Unfinished business?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Liaison reports?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

MS. HALLAM: I have one.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Sure. And who is speaking?

MS. HALLAM: This is Bethany.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. Councilwoman Hallam. Thank you. Go ahead.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you so much. Now, I just want to ask my colleagues if we could take a moment of silence for Martin Bucek, the gentleman who lost his life in the jail recently. That's all I have to say, and to let everyone know that there will be a vigil for him

outside of the jail this evening at 6:30. I invite all of my colleagues to join me there.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you very much. And it was very nice that you have concerns for that individual. And I would recommend anybody in the area near to take a moment of silence for this individual. Thank you.

(Moment of silence taken.)

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you. New business and ordinances and resolutions? Oh, I want to go back to Liaison reports. I apologize.

Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: I'll be fast. I know we were just together last Tuesday. I will be fast. A quick update, last week --- I said last week that we were going to have the call for nominations go out to the District 1 Difference Makers. They did go out. It's going to be September 1st in Ross, and then later in September there will be a second one in Moon. So we'll have two events instead of one. We've always had two in the history, always an airport one and a North Hills one. But a call for nominations went out, so if you know anyone that lives, works or serves in District 1 --- the 14 communities in District 1, please let me know.

Sam DeMarco lives in District 1. I believe Councilman Hallam still lives in District 1, so we've got some --- we got --- 20 percent of us lives in District 1. And Cindy went to a school in District 1.

As was mentioned earlier, Emsworth celebration tomorrow night. The tenth anniversary --- and this is particularly of interest to Council Member Bennett, but anyone's invited. We're having a tenth anniversary event for the NHC Guard on the 29th. If any of my council colleagues would like to come, we'd like to have elected officials there, if you'd like to come. So yeah, July 29th it'll --- we have two different events, 2:30 to 4:00 and 4:30 to 6:00. So I know Council Members Prizio and Kirk have both been to some of the events, so if you'd like to come, please definitely let me know.

And as always, I'll finish with something interesting. I mentioned the chamber mixer and shakers, and in my, I think, eighth and final appearance, I lost. I lost popular vote. I lost best beverage of the night. Lost it all. And I think it's because the 14 of you didn't come with me and --- no, that's not why. No big deal, but ---.

PRESIDENT MACEY: You're just getting old.

MR. BAKER: That could be it, so - lots of good things going on, certainly, in District 1, so ---. All right. Thanks, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MACEY: I want to thank the Councilwoman Hallam and also Councilman Baker for their reports.

New business, ordinances and resolutions.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11938-21, an Ordinance of County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 301, entitled County Council, Section 5-301.03, entitled Councilmatic districts, in order to provide a uniform process for the reapportionment of Council districts within Allegheny County, sponsored by Council Members Duerr and Klein.

PRESIDENT MACEY: I think that needs to go to government reform, please.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11939-21, an Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to authorize Venture Outdoors continued use of certain Allegheny County-owned real property along Pearce Mill Road in the County's North Park to operate a boat rental and outdoor activities business, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MACEY: That will go to the Parks Committee.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11940-21, a Resolution providing for a program of temporary exemption from County real property taxes for improvements, including repairs, construction or reconstruction made on industrial, commercial or business property in a deteriorated area in the Borough of Etna, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MACEY: It'll go to Budget and Finance.

MR. WALTON: This is Economic Development, Mr. Chair.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. We will send that to Economic Development. I apologize.

All right. New Business, motion.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11941-21, a Motion of the Council of Allegheny County urging school districts

within Allegheny County to include Critical Race Theory perspectives in their curriculum as a means of providing students with an additional tool for comprehensively evaluating the role of race and racism in society, sponsored by Council Members Bennett and Hallam.

PRESIDENT MACEY: That will go to the Education Committee. Notification of Contracts.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 11942-21, Communication summarizing approved Executive actions for June 2021.

MR. WALTON: So moved.

MR. BAKER: Second.

PRESIDENT MACEY: The motion was moved and seconded. Approved.

Public comment on general items.

MR. VARHOLA: Yes, Mr. President. We have two. One we've heard from before on agenda items, Sigmund King Smith, Pittsburgh, 15217. Members of Congress - motion presented by council person Olivia Bennett, members of Congress should be ashamed of local County Council's request that they fulfill their duties to the American public. However, since current members have repeatedly put party over country, I urge you to support the Bill as presented and remind Congress that it's ultimately in everyone's best interest to give all that are eligible the right to vote.

The 1965 Voter's Rights Act was a step in the right direction, but key aspects of this legislation have been considerably eroded. Please, therefore, strengthen our strength and democracy by supporting these Bills.

Last is from Ron Miller, Pittsburgh, 15210. Nothing is more important to the democracy of the USA than ensuring the voracity of the voting, protecting the public and citizens, expression, free speech. Public comment is part of the local government. Meetings is one of our purest forms of free speech. COVID-19 has worked our voting speech, rights and responsibilities in Pittsburgh and Allegheny local government meetings.

Allegheny County Council is currently offering county citizens, including Pittsburgh residents, the opportunity of direct in-person exercise and free speech and public comment in its meetings. Pittsburgh City Council is not. Allegheny County Council is more --- Pittsburgh City Council less consistent with the U.S. and PA Constitutions. County Council is allowing citizens of the USA, so not exclude Pittsburghers, the opportunity to

direct in-person compliment or criticism of its legislative actions during public comment.

Pittsburgh Council is still disallowing the opportunity to come and compliment or criticism by Pittsburghers, limiting citizens speech, commentary to indirect Zoom, post mail, fax and e-mail interaction. County Council is recognizing the efficacy of the anti - COVID-19 vaccination program led by Allegheny County Chief Executive Rich Fitzgerald, via his early vaccination as a way out of some other anti-COVID measures that have constrained the direct exercise of in-government citizen speech is, in my view, honorable.

Pittsburgh City Council is not recognizing the maximal value to exercise of free speech and it's, to me, horrendous. What Pittsburgh leaders, Democratic party mayor, Bill Peduto, Democratic Mayor candidate Ed Gainey, had to say about this horrendous City Council position of public comment, citizen speech, nothing. What does leader Democratic party County Council President Patrick Catena say for an Allegheny County Council composed of Democratic party members and Republican members, something, a significant positive something, an affirmative to the exercise of direct in-person speech.

What does leader Democratic party Pittsburgh president Theresa Kail-Smith say with all Democratic party members compromising the Pittsburgh City Council, something and not insignificant, negative something, disaffirmative in the exercise of directing --- who would you trust more, the Allegheny County Council or Pittsburgh City Council?

And that's it, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you, Mr. Varhola. I want to thank everybody who has attended this meeting, those in person as well as on the phone. And I think that we have a lot of work ahead of us and we need to remember that it isn't about social engineering, it's more about what we can do to help our members, our citizens, our businesses and all those individuals that live in our county. Is there a motion to adjourn, please?

MR. DEMARCO: So moved.

MR. BAKER: Second.

PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion made and seconded. Those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:38 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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

Dated the 18 day of October, 2021

 \_\_\_\_\_

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter