



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

3:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Simon asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Houser and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Schleper was in attendance after the roll call was taken. Committee member Jones was absent from the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 22, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Simon and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2024-0435: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the NAMC Northern Ohio Chapter for the Rosie's Girls Summer Program from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and

declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Jennifer Dial, Director of Marketing for the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) Northern Ohio Chapter, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0435. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Dial pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schleper with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2024-0435 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- b) R2025-0005: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$15,000, to the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation for the Rip City Boxing Program from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Hope Fierro, Community Engagement Manager for Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation; and Mr. Hiram DeJesus, representing Rip City Boxing Program, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0005. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Fierro and Mr. DeJesus pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schleper with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0005 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- c) R2025-0015: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$15,000, to ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland for the Career Pathway Program with project-based learning opportunities from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Cynthia Leitson, Board Chair of ACE Mentor of Cleveland; and Mr. Matthew Panzica, former Board Chair of ACE Mentor of Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0015. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Leitson and Mr. Panzica pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0015 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- d) R2025-0048: A Resolution making an award to the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Workforce Development Board in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Fund for Component One of the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for the period ending 12/31/2025; authorizing the County Executive to execute the contract and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Laura Chalker, Chief Operating Officer of Greater Cleveland Works, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0048. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Chalker pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0048 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- e) R2025-0063: A Resolution authorizing a Subgrant Agreement with Manufacturing Works in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,000,000.00 to carry out workforce ecosystem capacity building and coordination, and develop renewable energy related pre-apprenticeship programs and outreach for the period 10/1/2024 – 9/30/2029; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Subgrant Agreement and all other documents consistent with said agreement and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Valerie Katz, Deputy Administrator for Cuyahoga Green Energy; Ms. Jessica Barendt, Vice President of Workforce Development for Manufacturing Works and Mr. Adam Artman, President and Executive Director of Manufacturing Works, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0063. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Katz, Ms. Barendt and Mr. Artman, pertaining to the item which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0063 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- f) R2025-0070: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$25,000, to the Western Reserve Land Conservancy for the purpose of Herman Park Trail Project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Isaac Rob, Vice President of Planning and Urban Projects for the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0070. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Rob pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0070 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- g) R2025-0071: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$5,000, to the Case Western Reserve University Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Engagement for the 2-day experience to empower Black Women from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

There was no legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2025-0071.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 3:49 p.m., without objection.