



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

Committee Members

Sunny M. Simon, Chair | Dist. 11

Robert E. Schleper, Jr., Vice Chair | Dist. 6

Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10

Pernel Jones, Jr. | Dist. 8

Dale Miller | Dist. 2

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025 — 3:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Simon asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Schleper and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Houser and Jones were absent. Councilmember Turner was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 19, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schleper, seconded by Ms. Simon and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0231: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$13,000, to the Greater Cleveland Delta Life Foundation Life Development Center, Inc. for the Freedom Garden of Literacy Project from the Districts 2, 7, and 9 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Valdia Frasier, Centennial Chair of the Greater Cleveland Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.; and Ms. Kesha Johnson Chambers, History and Archives Co-Chair of the Greater Cleveland Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0231. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Frasier and Ms. Chambers pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2025-0231 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- b) R2025-0343: A Resolution authorizing a contract with Child Care Resource Center of Cuyahoga County dba Starting Point in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,282,500.00 for a sole source purchase to provide Out-of-School Time services for youth in Cuyahoga County, effective 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2027; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5752 and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Kathleen Stewart, Deputy Director of Family and Children First Council; and Ms. Nancy Mendez, President and CEO of Starting Point, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0343. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Stewart pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2025-0343 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

- c) R2025-0344: A Resolution authorizing a contract with Family Connections of Northeast Ohio in the amount not-to-exceed \$925,200.00 for program administration and direct services for the Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (SPARK) Program for Invest in Children for the period of 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2027; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5744 and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Dr. Shawna Rohrman, Director of Invest in Children; Ms. Trena Saxson, Director of SPARK; and Ms. Beth Darmstadter, Executive Director of Family Connections, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0344. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Dr. Rohrman, Ms. Saxson and Ms. Darmstadter pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0344 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

- d) R2025-0345: A Resolution authorizing a contract with Child Care Resource Center of Cuyahoga County dba Starting Point in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,657,730.00 for the Special Needs Child Care Program for the period 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2026; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5750 and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Dr. Rohrman and Ms. Mendez, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0345. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Dr. Rohrman and Ms. Mendez pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schleper with a second by Ms. Simon Resolution No. R2025-0345 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

- e) R2025-0346: A Resolution authorizing a contract with Child Care Resource Center of Cuyahoga County dba Starting Point in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,095,106.00 for management and administration of the Family Child Care Home Professional Development System for the period 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2026; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5751 and all other documents consistent with said award and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Dr. Rohrman addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0346. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Dr. Rohrman pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Schleper Resolution No. R2025-0346 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

- f) R2025-0347: A Resolution adopting the 2025-2030 Cuyahoga County Climate Action Plan as part of the County's Sustainability Strategy in accordance with Section 202.18 of the Cuyahoga County Code; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Jenita McGowan, Deputy Chief of Staff for Climate and Sustainability; and Ms. Melanie Knowles, Director of the Department of Sustainability, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0347. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. McGowan and Ms. Knowles pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Ms. Simon, Resolution No. R2025-0347 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m., without objection.