



September 2012 Shaker Heights Voter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Shaker Leaguers,

To say the least, we've entered an interesting season. TV watchers are bombarded by political ads of all stripes. The newspapers print columns, op-eds, and letters from their readers - each extolling their favorites and deriding their opponents. As it becomes harder and harder to separate the true from the false claims, it becomes ever more important that we keep our heads clear and try to focus on the facts of each case. Look to see who is sponsoring the ads. Is it a special interest or the registered political party? Have the particulars been checked by Politifact? Does the background material support the claim? Does the message of the ad really have any relevance to the candidate's qualifications or the issue's merit? Lots of money is being spent to influence your vote. The League believes you should make up your own mind based on true and fair information. Your vote is not for sale.

You will notice on the calendar that the U.S. Senate candidates debate planned at CSU has been cancelled. Both Senator Sherrod Brown and Independent candidate Scott Rupert had agreed to the date and format. Candidate Josh Mandel did not respond to the invitation.

LWVOH and local Leagues, as part of the Voters First coalition, continue efforts to pass Issue 2. Thank you to all of you who carried petitions and to those who signed them. Compact, competitive, and contiguous districts have been the League's goal for several decades. This is not new. The coalition was formed to increase manpower and funding for the cause, not to redraw the districts in favor of any political agenda.

As I said, this is the season. Next month's Voter will tell you where you can hear the 10/15 City Club Senate candidates debate, will provide more info on Issue 2, and will contain a Voter's Guide in time for early voting.

Don't know where the summer went, but I look forward to an interesting, if challenging, year. Thank you for your support and your belief in a democracy that works for everyone.

Linda Lissauer, President
LKLissauer@yahoo.com or 752-0875

EDUCATE PARTICIPATE ADVOCATE

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**Register your Heinen's
Shoppers Card Today!
See page 5**

Need more information?

Visit us online at

shakerlwv.org

Corrections to the Directory

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LWV-SHAKER HEIGHTS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Linda Lissauer
VICE PRESIDENTS	Patricia Burgess, Pearl Ling
SECRETARY	Marcia Goldberg
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Susan Troia
TREASURER	Holly Wang
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Dorothy Greenslade

ELECTED DIRECTORS

**Anne Batzell, Gail Gibson, Barbara Guy, Evelyn Krent, Lucille Mayne, Meryl Simon,
Susan Stechschulte, Terry Stoller, Jennifer Sullivan, Elizabeth Welch, Baird Wiehe**

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Linda Lehman, Mary Mulligan, Jeanne Shatten, Jan Wallace



CALENDAR

September

- 13 US Senate Candidates Debate - CANCELLED
- 14 Cabinet Meeting
- 20 "Buckeye Battleground," Hudson Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 23 SH Fair Housing film series, Community Bldg., 3-5 p.m.
- 23-29 Ohio Voter Registration Week
- 28 Board Meeting, Shaker Main Library, 9:30 a.m.

October

- 2 Vote by Mail Opens (you will get a ballot application in the mail)
- 9 Voter Registration and Change of Address closes at 9 p.m.
- 12 Cabinet Meeting
- 15 U.S. Senate Candidates City Club Debate, Renaissance Hotel, noon
- 26 Board Meeting, Shaker Main Library, 9:30 a.m.

November

- 2 Last day to vote early at the Board of Elections, by 6 p.m. (this changed after a Federal Court decision this past week that would allow early voting during the weekend before Election Day; but it could change again on appeal)
- 3 Last day to request Vote by Mail ballots
- 5 Postmark deadline for mailed - in ballots
- 6 Election Day

Please join us for the LWVO All-Member Monthly Conference Call on Tuesday, September 4, at 12 noon.

Our guest speaker this month will be Kathay Feng, the executive director of California Common Cause. Kathay ran both California redistricting campaigns and will share tips and tricks for advocacy in support of Voters First redistricting reform (Yes on Issue 2).

LWV Ohio All-Member Conference Call

Date: Tuesday, September 4, 2012, Time: 12:00 noon until 1:00 PM
Call-In Number: 866-740-1260 PIN Number: 4691505#

Shaker Heights Fair Housing Film Series Presents:

"A wonderful and warm Irish tale"

Search for Independence - A Story of Disability and Accessibility to Life

Sunday, September 23 - 3-5 p.m.

Stephanie Tubbs Jones Community Bldg., 3450 Lee Rd

Panel Discussion and Light Refreshments

Free and open to the Public



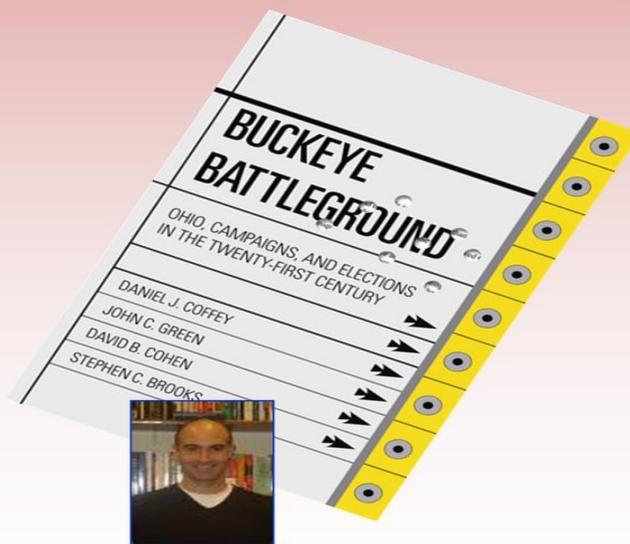
The Battle for OHIO

Ohio, Campaigns & Elections in the 21st. Century

Daniel J. Coffey

University of Akron Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics

Thursday
September 20
7 p.m.
 No registration
 Books on sale



TIME TO REGISTER YOUR HEINEN'S CARD, AGAIN!

Heinen's will donate 1% of your purchases between September and April. All you have to do is register your shopper's card on the Heinen's website and then shop at Heinen's.

You have to do this once every year, in September.

1. Go to www.heinens.rewards.com
2. Log into Heinen's Tasteful Rewards by entering your email address and password. If this is your first time to the site, you will have to register your Heinen's card and create a password.
3. Select "My Profile" in the upper right.
4. At the bottom of the "My Profile" page, in the section called "ABC School Donation Program," select the State: OH, City: Shaker Heights, and The League of Women Voters of Shaker Heights (listed with the schools).
5. Click to save changes on the bottom right.

If you do not have access to a computer, call Customer Service at 216-475-2300.

Thank you for supporting LWVSH!

Ask your friends and neighbors to join in!

LOCAL OBSERVER REPORTS

Neighborhood Revitalization Committee

Aug. 8, 2012

Present: Council member Nancy Moore, chair; Council members Lynn Ruffner and Julianna Johnston Senturia; citizen members Felicia Melton, Myra White, Brian Yusko, Citizen Members; Robert O'Neal; Board of Education member Norman Bliss; Heinz Akers, Building Commissioner; William Hanson, Housing Inspection Director; Kamla Lewis, Neighborhood Revitalization Director; Ann Klavora, Senior Planner; Sharra Thomas, Housing Programs Specialist, Planning Department; Jeri Chaikin, CAO

This meeting was devoted mostly to a mid-year review of department activities. However, Ms. Moore first expressed appreciation for the 66 percent approval rating in passing the income tax increase the previous day, particularly since we are in the middle of a recession. She also expressed the need to heal because of the strong opposition to the tax.

Sale of 16633 Lomond Blvd.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Department is proposing that the city sell this property to the rehab firm Property Renewals, Inc. This is the second transaction under the guidelines of the purchase-private rehab sale procedures agreed to by the committee in 2010. The city will acquire the property through the low-cost pool agreement with HUD and the county land bank. A single family house with a double lot, it will require substantial rehab.

Property Renewals, Inc. has rehabbed several houses in Shaker. They are a qualified Shaker Renovator, which is the city designation for rehabbers who have an excellent track record of rehabs in the city. The company estimates the expected cost of renovations to be between \$80,000 and \$100,000. It had previously rehabbed a house at 16713 Lomond Blvd. at a cost of \$110,000 and sold it in 2012 for \$157,000.

It is estimated that rehabbing this property would add approximately \$4,500 in annual property tax revenue as well as \$1,500 in income tax revenue.

After several members of the committee expressed positive feelings regarding this sale, a motion to sell the property to Property Renewals, Inc. was passed.

Building Department – Heinz Akers

Mr. Akers reported that the department processed 521 over-the-counter permits for various renovations in the first half of the year, and processed 70 mailed-in permit requests. It also conducted 15 reviews of residential addition plans, which were completed within the five-day turnaround. Plans were reviewed for many commercial properties as well. Through June 26, 2,737 inspections were conducted. Applications for biennial occupancy licenses were mailed to all businesses. Fifty businesses paid a \$25 late fee, which totaled \$1,250. The department has also prepared a guide for the business

community in an effort to streamline the application and permit process.

Housing Inspection – William Hanson

Mr. Hanson reported that there have been 291 point-of-sale inspections and 662 point-of-sale re-inspections to date this year. There have been 61 escrow accounts established for correction of violations. To date, \$145,719 (17.9 percent) of these funds has been released because the corrections have been completed.

In order to ensure that rental properties meet standards of safety and habitability, 236 interior/ exterior inspections (a 30.2 percent decrease compared to prior-year levels) have been completed. The department reviewed 58 units proposed to be occupied by tenants in the Housing Choice Voucher Program; of those, 41 were approved and 27 rejected. The city entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Parma Public Housing, and tenants from that agency are currently occupying units. Also, the city is pursuing an MOU with EDEN, a large property management company that provides housing to homeless persons with disabilities under their Shelter Care program. It is not known how many units EDEN manages, but there have been some problems associated with the company. Mr. Bliss said that he has worked with the company in the past and offered to help resolve some of the issues.

Also noted was an increase in the number of condominiums up for sheriff's sale. Ms. White said that condos are a very depressed market, and associations are filing for foreclosure. It's an "invisible but real problem."

The department collected \$10,460 in late fees from landlords who failed to obtain their Certificates of Occupancy by the deadline.

There were 98 residential foreclosures filed, a 29 percent decrease from last year, with 383 foreclosure cases pending. There were 58 properties sold at sheriff's sale compared to last year's 40. A new city ordinance that requires foreclosure registration became effective June 1 and resulted in the city's receiving 14 registrations out of 17 foreclosures filed, for a total of \$2,250 in revenue.

The Housing Inspection Department will take a one-year hiatus from doing inspections in order to reassess its program, so there will be no inspections for the next year.

Neighborhood Revitalization Department – Kamla Lewis

Because the staff of the NR Department currently consists only of Ms. Lewis, the following functions have been transferred to the Planning Department: Dominion East Ohio Energy Audit Program, technical assistance, promotion of county loan programs and Transit Village. Therefore, the department no longer provides direct assistance to homeowners.

The update included:

21 technical assistance calls taken

Construction completed on three new homes on Pennington Road. The market prices are \$85,000, \$75,000 and \$109,900

Sale of three side lots approved on Menlo, Riedham and Enderby roads

Transfer of a lot on Daleford Road to Heights Community Church for use as a community garden
Construction of three houses completed on Strathavon Road
Acquisition of two houses, both as donations. Will issue design-build RFP in August.
Prevention of vacancy, abandonment and blight. There have been 14 acquisitions; 11 were vacant lots, one is scheduled for rehab and two are slated for demolition.
Work being done with county administration on issues related to vacant properties and reform of county processes to reduce likelihood of abandonment and irresponsible property flipping
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revised with EDEN to ensure that the same standards will be adhered to as with CMHA and Parma Housing Authority

Planning Department – Ann Klavora

Ms. Klavora introduced Sharra Thomas, the new Housing Programs Specialist, who will be the go-to person for information on low-interest loans and technical and financial assistance.
Nora Kancelbaum, 283-2562

Board of Education

Aug. 14, 2012

At the meeting, held at the Administration Building, all board members were present, including Amy Fulford, the member appointed to fill the vacancy left by Jennifer Mearns when she moved to Kentucky. The meeting lasted 35 minutes so that the board could go into executive session for the evaluation of Treasurer Bryan Christman.

The board approved a number of routine personnel and business items. Included under business items was an urgent-necessity action to approve a modification to the high school's large auditorium stage in order to comply with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act). Mr. Clawson asked if the cost of this modification would be more expensive because it was the result of an urgent action. The answer was no. The board also approved a one-year contract with AVI Foodsystems of Warren, Ohio. (The board decided to outsource all food services two years ago. Hot lunches are also being served at K-6 buildings.) There was some discussion about the quality of the food, with answers varying from "great" to "lousy." Mr. Clawson raised the issue of a lot of waste (food being thrown away). Ms. Fulford raised the issue of more vegetarian options. Of course, there must be a delicate balance between offering healthy food and food that students will eat. Since there appeared to be erratic reports, Mr. Clawson suggested that a student/parent survey should be done. The possibility of doing such a survey will be discussed with AVI. During open questions to the board, resident Dan Hoffman congratulated the board on the financial savings gained by outsourcing and encouraged the board to continue to look at additional opportunities, such as transportation.

Dr. Freeman mentioned some items of interest that were not on the agenda:

Enrollment for 2012/13 appears to be steady

Suggested board members and school personnel be visible during the city's Centennial Labor Day

celebration. He felt this was a prime opportunity to show off the new football field and track to the community.

Reported that Shaker does not use school “seclusion rooms”, an issue where students with disabilities and behavioral issues are locked in very confine spaces. See:

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/ohio/2012/08/05/locked-away-how-ohio-schools-misuse-seclusion-rooms>

Commented on the ethical violation of school districts that remove underperforming students from their rolls before state tests are given and then re-enroll students after the tests are taken. (One might conclude that not only individual school districts but the state superintendent should be held accountable: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2011/03/15/state-school-superintendent-forced-out.html> and <http://stateimpact.npr.org/ohio/tag/stan-heffner>

Mr. Christman presented his monthly financial report, which was unanimously adopted. He also noted some important legislative issues:

The redistricting amendment will be Issue 2 on the November ballot

Westerville (Gov. Kasich’s home district) has gathered enough signatures to put a repeal of a 6.7 mill school levy on the November ballot. The signatures have not yet been certified by the Secretary of State.

The district is receiving an increase in Title I funds that correlate with an increase in low-income students. However, he warned the board if the Budget Control Act takes effect in fiscal 2013, a portion of these funds may be in jeopardy.

Mary Mulligan, 283-5880

Board of Education Finance and Audit Committee

Aug. 21, 2012

Citizen members Karen Schuele, John Lalley and Martin Kolb were present. Citizen member Paul Carleton was present via a conference call. Board of Education members Amy Fulford and Williams Clawson were also present. Treasurer Bryan Christman presented an extensive five-year budget forecast for the committee’s review.

After much discussion focusing on budget assumptions, the committee decided to write a letter to the board requesting clarification on the budget cycle. The current budget being reviewed assumed that, after two four-year cycles, the schools would return to a three-year cycle with a request of 9+ mills. The committee would like to understand what the “schools would look like” if the board committed to a four- or five-year cycle with a request of 7+ mills.

Mary Mulligan, 283-5880

Shaker Heights City Council**Aug. 27, 2012**

Council present: L. Ruffner; E. Williams; B. Gleisser; N. Moore; R. Zimmerman; J. Johnston-Senturia; absent: J. Brady

Also present: Mayor Leiken, chair; W. Ondrey Gruber, Law Director; J. Chaikin, CAO

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Leiken.

The first item of business was approval of the minutes of the special meetings of July 9, 2012, and July 18, 2012, and of the regular meeting of July 23, 2012. Minutes approved as presented.

Next Council was asked by Economic Development Director Tania Menesse to confirm appointments to the Shaker Heights Development Corporation (SHDC). The SHDC, a nonprofit 501c3 organization, was legally formed as a Community Investment Corporation (CIC) in 1981 but had been dormant until 2011. In 2011 the city revitalized the SHDC to fulfill the public/private partnership agreement with Shaker LaunchHouse. Throughout 2011 and much of 2012, the SHDC focused its efforts on putting the governing documents and processes together to operate a CIC and to formalize its equity and services agreements with Shaker LaunchHouse.

The Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights (FFF), a nonprofit organization established in 1985 voted to transfer the organization's assets to the SHDC in March 2012. The FFF board of trustees determined that supporting the SHDC's commercial and economic development efforts would be an appropriate way to continue its commitment to developing strong, diverse and vibrant neighborhoods.

The initial five-member citizen board of SHDC has been augmented with four members of the FFF and two new citizen appointees, bringing the board to 11 citizen members, three city employees and a City Council representative. The board members nominated by the FFF are: Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Graham Lenz, Effrum Garnett and Ben Woodcock. Board members nominated by the SHDC are: Jack Boyle, Scott Garson and Mike Laskey. The Shaker LaunchHouse representative on the board will be Morris Wheeler. A board member will be recommended in September to replace Amy Fulford, who has resigned (and was recently appointed to the Board of Education).

It is requested that Council confirm the slate of board candidates as nominated by the SHDC for an initial three-year term from September 2012 through September 2015. Request confirmed by Council.

Mayor Leiken next called for public comments on any agenda items. Deborah Hegler, president of the Shaker Heights Chamber of Commerce, voiced her objection to an item included in No. 11 on the agenda regarding the release of \$70,000 in storefront renovation grant funds to Cellular Technolo-

gies Ltd. Ms. Hegler encouraged Council to deny the grant, stating that it would be a disservice to the city and that the application process was not transparent. Mayor Leiken stated that this issue would be addressed when item No. 11 is up for discussion.

The next public comment came from Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells, newly confirmed SHDC board member and Ludlow resident. Mr. Dreyfuss-Wells voiced his support of item No. 7 on the agenda regarding a contract for the creation, installation and related services for outdoor public art in the Ludlow neighborhood.

With public comments concluded, the meeting continued with agenda items.

Office of Emergency Management

Fire Chief Kevin Jacobs requested Council's approval of a resolution regarding adoption of an agreement with the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management. The Ohio Revised Code requires political subdivisions to either enter an agreement to establish a countywide emergency management agency or establish their own emergency management agency. With the City of Shaker Heights formally establishing the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management (CCOEM) as its emergency management agency, CCOEM, if necessary, will conduct damage assessments and act as the liaison with the State of Ohio. Request approved by Council.

Street Lighting/Tree Maintenance Assessments

Finance Director Baker requested that Council proceed with levying the special assessments for street lighting and tree maintenance at the annual rates of \$.88 and \$1.16 per front foot respectively for the one-year period 2012 for street lighting and the three-year period 2013 through 2015 for tree maintenance. Public notice, as required by Section 145.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the City, appeared in the June 14 and June 21, 2012, editions of the Plain Dealer and Sun Press, and the Board of Review of Assessments has approved and adopted the assessment lists and filed its final report with Council, as required. Requests for street lighting and tree maintenance and the levying of assessments approved by Council.

Sale of 16633 Lomond Blvd.

Neighborhood Revitalization Director Kamla Lewis requested that Council approve and authorize execution of a development agreement with Property Renewals, Inc. for the sale, rehabilitation and resale of the City-owned property located at 16633 Lomond Blvd., and authorizing the disposition of the property without competitive bidding. The goal of this transaction is to get the property back into productive use by transferring it to a reputable firm for rehabilitation and sale to an owner-occupant. Request approved by Council.

Ludlow Public Art – Request to Award Contract

Planning Director Joyce Braverman requested that Council accept the proposal and authorize a contract for professional art creation, installation and related services with LAND Studio in an amount

not to exceed \$27,979 for outdoor public art in the Ludlow neighborhood. The city has awarded Community Project Grants from the capital budget for the past several years. In 2008 Council awarded and appropriated \$30,000 to the Ludlow Association for a Community Project. Approximately \$2,640 was used by the neighborhood association to purchase flower baskets and \$27,979 remains in the fund.

Over the past year, the Ludlow Association has created a public art subcommittee, issued a request for proposals, provided a stipend to the artists and selected Mark Reigelman as the artist. Mr. Reigelman developed a unique piece of art that commemorates the neighborhood's history and will be installed in the Onaway median near Van Aken Boulevard. Ludlow Association funds and grant funds will be used to install a companion piece at Hampton and South Woodland roads in Cleveland. Request approved by Council.

Juma Gallery – 20100-20104 Chagrin Blvd.

Ms. Braverman requested Council's acceptance of the approval of the City Planning Commission and confirmation of the granting of a conditional use permit for a Local Sign District at Juma Gallery at 20100-20104 Chagrin Blvd. The City Planning Commission approved the permit at its Aug. 9, 2012, meeting. The signs will be used as primary signs in order to provide visible signage on Chagrin Boulevard for the two new tenant spaces in the building located the corner of Lomond and Chagrin boulevards and Farnsleigh Road. Request approved by Council.

HIDTA Agreement and Additional Fund Award

Police Chief Scott Lee requested that Council authorize acceptance of a Supplemental License Agreement with the U.S. General Services Administration – Public Buildings Service for parking fees for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) in the total amount of \$65,100 for the period Oct. 1, 2012, through Sept. 30, 2013, and that Council authorize acceptance of an additional HIDTA grant in the amount of \$320,000 for a total of \$3,683,107 and acceptance of an agreement for the grant commencing Jan. 1, 2012. Requests approved by Council.

2012 Budget Corrections

Finance Director Bob Baker requested that Council approve the adoption of an ordinance making 2012 budget changes and corrections for 22 separate items contained in the memorandum before Council. These budget changes will not change the total General Fund budget except for adding the unexpended grant funds to the 2012 budget. Mr. Baker next asked Ms. Menesse to respond to the remarks made by Ms. Hegler during the public comment period regarding release of \$70,000 storefront renovation grant funds to Cellular Technologies Ltd. (CTL).

Ms. Menesse stated that in July 2006, Council approved a storefront renovation grant to assist CTL in establishing its offices at 20521 Chagrin Blvd. The city's \$70,000 appropriation provided the match for an Ohio Department of Development Job Creation Tax Credit of \$350,000. The grant from the city was to be paid out in two installments: \$35,000 after initial construction was completed and \$35,000 if the business expanded in its new home. CTL has completed both phases of the project but did not request the first installment during the first phase. CTL has met all of the requirements

of the grant and has now asked that the total storefront grant be released, as its expansion is complete. The release of funds to CTL will require a new appropriation from the Economic Development/Housing Fund as the initial appropriation has expired. Ms. Menesse said that the process has been totally transparent and that CTL is consistently one of the city's top income tax generators. This request, along with the other 21 items contained in the request for budget corrections, was approved by Council.

Then and Now Certificate

Mr. Baker requested that Council authorize the execution of certificates by the Director of Finance pursuant to state law and the payment of amounts due for one purchase order for which the Finance Director has issued a Then and Now Certificate. The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification is seeking reimbursement from HIDTA for overtime dating back to January 2012 in the amount of \$5,249.58, which precedes the date of the purchase order. Request approved by Council.

Liquor Permit Renewals/Transfer

Council had no objections to the renewal of all liquor permits presented nor did it have any objection to the transfer of CVS's permit from 17075 Chagrin Blvd. to its soon-to-be-opened location at 17120 Chagrin Blvd. All permits granted.

Agreement for Outside Counsel Services

Mr. Ondrey Gruber requested that Council authorize the City to enter into a contract with the law firm of Walter & Haverfield for the services of Margaret Anne Cannon and other attorneys in the firm, as needed. The city previously entered into a contract with Ice Miller for the legal services of Ms. Cannon and the firm Ice Miller for the year 2012. Effective Aug. 31, 2012, Ms. Cannon will be a member of Walter & Haverfield and the city proposes to terminate the agreement with Ice Miller and enter into a new agreement with Walter & Haverfield under the same terms and conditions as the Ice Miller agreement. Request approved by Council.

Mayor Leiken next called for public comments on any other items. There being none, a brief discussion followed regarding the sunshine calendar. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Joyce Shaw, 921-6820

COUNTY OBSERVER REPORTS

County Council Regular Meeting: August 28, 2012

Observer: Mary Warren

This report contains member observations and selected highlights of a meeting of the Cuyahoga County Council and is not an official statement by any League of Women Voters in the county. For the official disposition of all agenda items, consult the Cuyahoga County Council website at council.cuyahogacounty.us

I. Introduction

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:05 with all members present.

Three naval officers were introduced. They are here to celebrate the war of 1812 with war ships in our harbor. All are invited to visit the ships through this weekend. They then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive FitzGerald reported meeting with the Turnpike Commission and state reps. for discussion. There is broad interest in its future and effect on our county. The BOE is meeting today and is supportive of extended hours, as is Mr. Fitz Gerald. He said money is not a concern, as we have already budgeted sufficient funds. The executive branch has reduced employee numbers by 112 in the past year, some by retirement and some fired because of problems. He plans better supervision of employees whose work is off site.

Before the regular meeting there had been a Committee of the Whole session to vet an ordinance permitting some persons with criminal records to be county employees depending on the job applied for. Then, at a 4pm Work Session, Mr. Jeff Applebaum presented his progress report on the Medical Mart/ convention center. The projected date for completion is 08-01-13, ahead of schedule and within budget. Mall completion date is 12 -01-12. 600 persons are working each day and 52% live in the county. 31 conventions are already booked and 63 more are prospects. Four naming rights are for sale -- contributors could have their name on a mall, a meeting room or an auditorium.

II. Business Transacted

Two appointments were made, one to the Cuyahoga County Natural Resource Council and to the Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees.

A Resolution passed 10 to 1 to amend the county charter to allow a 2 year budget to replace the 1 year budget mandated in the original charter. A second Resolution passed to amend article 11, section 1 & 3, to adjust and stagger the internal auditor's term. This action assures that these two proposed amendments will go to the electorate on November 6.

Among the eleven resolutions for first reading and referral to committee were the following: Retention of several land bank parcels for public use, such as League Park expansion and improvement and Financial allocations to social service agencies.

Among the thirteen resolutions passed on 2nd reading (rules suspended) were ones involving employee benefits, road construction, loan applications, allocation of Community Development Block Grant money to 8 cities., and allocation for juvenile residential treatment programs. The county

has cut in half in the last 4 years the number of youth sent to the state facilities [ODYS], with a record in stead of successful treatment in the community.

The Council did not act on an ordinance which would have prohibited inquiries into or consideration of criminal convictions of applicants for Cuyahoga County employment positions not related to the type of offenses committed. The previous Committee of the Whole meeting, while agreeing with the concept, did not recommend it for a final vote.

III. Notes.

Two amendments proposed to the county charter will be on the Nov. 6 ballot. The deadline to submit to the Board of Elections is Sept. 9. The ballot language was not mentioned. The next meeting is Sept.11, 2012 at 5:00