

Allegheny West Civic Council, Inc.
Membership Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2025

7:37 PM Call to Order by Elizabeth Barbush, President. A quorum was achieved at the outset.

Motions Passed:

1. The Treasurer's report was accepted for audit.
2. AWCC will move money to different financial institutions to ensure full coverage under the FDIC limits and generate a greater return.

I. Reports of Elected Officials, City Departments, and Other Organizations

A. City of Pittsburgh Zone 1 Police (Ofr. Defeo)

- There were four reports, including one arrest in our area.
- The arrest occurred at Wendy's restaurant on Allegheny Avenue under a "failure to appear" warrant.
- There was a theft from a vehicle (\$300 pair of headphones) in the 800 block of Western Avenue.
- Many neighbors then complained about multiple continued incidents of problems around Lefty's bar. Ofr. Defeo then promised to send us reports on Western Avenue 911 calls and incidents.

B. City of Pittsburgh Mayor's Office (Lindsey Acquino-Robles)

- Ms. Robles did not attend.

C. Pennsylvania State Representative – Rep. Aerion Abney (Thomas Harnett)

- Mr. Harnett announced the new "Dads Matter" information campaign.
- There is a complaint hotline at the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. Neighbors can lodge their complaints concerning problem bars. The number is 800-932-0602.
- Mr. Harnett said that Rep. Deasy is on the PLCB committee in the Pennsylvania House.

D. City Planning Department (Nazia Tarranum)

- Ms. Tarranum did not attend.

E. Pittsburgh City Council District 1 – Cllr. Bobby Wilson (Jordyn Gilliard)

- Ms. Gilliard could not attend but sent the following information.
- There is a "vape" shop ordinance in the works.
- There is an "Annual Fleet Inspection Report" ordinance in the works to summarize the condition of the city's emergency vehicles.
- A "No Trucks" sign recently was installed on Galveston Avenue. D. Lantz stated that she is still trying to work on GPS routing with the city's Department of Mobility & Infrastructure.
- C. Serventi stated that the city's Registered Community Organizations program is being revised.

F. Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Erin Tobin)

- Ms. Tobin did not attend but sent word on October events at Frick Park and Schenley Park.

G. ONE Northside - Education (C. Sweeney)

- Mr. Sweeney made a presentation concerning the upcoming Pittsburgh School Board's building consolidation plan. It would have a major impact on Northside schools.
- ONE Northside is conducting meetings on the matter and wants to speak with one voice for the community.
- He expects the school board to make a decision soon (probably November).

H. 1112 Galveston Avenue (C. Furman and S. Pulz)

- Mr. Furman and Ms. Pulz announced that they will be requesting the Allegheny Court of Common Pleas to appoint them conservators of this property. They feel that the property qualifies for conservatorship, and that they qualify to be the conservators, under the relevant statute.
- They presented a history of the building from the date that Terry Long owned it as the "Value-added Foods" building, to its current vacant condition under the ownership of Hard Lofts, LLC (owned by Tom Schweitzer).
- They announced that there are several development possibilities for the property, and promised to involve the neighborhood in the process.

II. Minutes

- The September 9, 2025 minutes were approved. (C. Gomrick / J. Beatty)

III. Reports of Officers, Standing Committee Chairs, and Others

A. Treasurer's Report – Cathy Serventi

- Ms. Serventi presented the current financial report. The members approved it for audit. (F. Barbush / D. Kelly).
- The Finance Committee has met twice. This month, the committee discussed moving our bank funds to a) keep all funds covered under the FDIC insurance limits and b) gain a greater rate of return. C. Sweeney spent considerable time comparing bank rates and discussing the matter with various bank managers.
- The members approved a motion to move the funds in accordance with the Treasurer's recommendation. (C. Sweeney / T. Barbush)

B. Communications – Sarah Cook

- Ms. Cook had no report.

C. Friends of Allegheny West – Trish Burton

- Ms. Burton was unable to attend.

D. Housing & Planning – Tom Cihil

- Mr. Cihil was unable to attend.

E. Ways & Means Committee – Carol Gomrick

- The annual Victorian Christmas House Tour sold out in a record six days.
- The tour will be held on Friday and Saturday of the week after Thanksgiving.

F. Membership – Yulia Bhonsle

- Ms. Bhonsle was unable to attend.

G. Property – Aaron Bryan

- Mr. Bryan is installing a lock for the use of the contractors who will be renovating 806 Western Avenue.

H. Executive Committee and Old Business – President Elizabeth Barbush and Secretary Bob Griewahn

- **Ten-Year Master Plan** – President Elizabeth Barbush appointed an ad hoc committee to the AWCC's 10-Year Master Plan for the Allegheny West neighborhood.

- **Light of Life** – President Elizabeth Barbush announced that she will be executing the written agreement between Light of Life and Allegheny West Civic Council.
- **Executive Committee** – the executive committee did not take any formal actions at its last meeting.

I. Old Business

- **Western Avenue Disturbances**– The members were reminded that an online spreadsheet has been created to log problems on Western Avenue.

J. New Business

- **None**

Meeting adjourned (A. Bryan / S Graubarth).

— Bob Griewahn, secretary