



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

HUMAN RESOURCES, APPOINTMENTS & EQUITY COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
4th FLOOR

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026—10:00 A.M.

Committee Members

Martin J. Sweeney, Chair | Dist. 3
Michael J. Gallagher, Vice Chair | Dist. 5
Yvonne M. Conwell | Dist. 7
Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10
Meredith M. Turner | Dist. 9

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Sweeney asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Committee members Sweeney, Gallagher, Conwell Houser and Turner were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Councilmember Robert Schleper was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 17, 2026 MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Gallagher and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2026 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2026-0057: A Resolution adopting various changes to the Cuyahoga County Non-Bargaining Classification Plan; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Albert Bouchahine, Co-Director of the Personnel Review Commission, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0057. Discussion ensued.

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

On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2026-0057 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.

- b) R2026-0058: A Resolution approving the reappointment of various individuals to serve on the Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission Board of Trustees for various terms, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:

a) For the term 4/16/2024 – 4/15/2029

i) The Honorable C. Ellen Connally

ii) Berj Shakarian

b) For the term 11/6/2025 – 11/5/2030

i) Brigadier General Peter Collins

c) For the term 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2030

i) The Honorable Donald C. Nugent

ii) Matt Previts

iii) William ("Bud") T. Doyle

iv) Jon Silvis

Ms. Laura Black, Council staff, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0058. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Connally; Mr. Shakarian; Brigadier Collins; Judge Nugent; Mr. Previts; Mr. Doyle and Mr. Silvis submitted written correspondence regarding their nominations, experience, expertise and qualifications and expressed their interest to continue to serve on the Cuyahoga County Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission Board of Trustees.

Chair Sweeney asked questions of Ms. Black pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Turner with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2026-0058 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Ms. Turner requested to have her name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- c) R2026-0082: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of the Honorable Annette M. Blackwell to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity for the term 7/15/2025 – 7/14/2028, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Chris Alvarado, Director of Regional Collaboration, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0082.

Mayor Annette Blackwell addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity. Discussion ensued.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

On a motion by Ms. Turner with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2026-0082 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.

Mr. Sweeney, and Ms. Turner requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- d) R2026-0083: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Reverend Kenneth W. Chalker to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity for the term 7/15/2025 – 7/14/2028, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0083 and requested an amendment to reflect that Reverend Chalker is being reappointed to the Board.

Reverend Kenneth Chalker addressed the Committee regarding his nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity. Discussion ensued.

Chair Sweeney commented that Reverend Chalker is the conscious of Cleveland and thanked him for his years of service.

Committee members had no questions.

On a motion by Ms. Turner with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2026-0083 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda as amended, with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Mr. Sweeney and Ms. Turner requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- e) R2026-0084: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Habeebah Grimes to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity for the term 7/15/2025 – 7/14/2028, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Habeebah Grimes addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity. Discussion ensued.

On a motion by Ms. Turner with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2026-0084 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.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

- f) R2026-0085: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Glen Shumate to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity for the term 7/15/2025 – 7/14/2028, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0085.

Mr. Glen Shumate addressed the Committee regarding his nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Citizens' Advisory Council on Equity. Discussion ensued.

Committee member Turner commended the leadership group for the Council on Equity and commented that these are difficult times and they are literally the frontline. Ms. Turner said she enjoyed the meetings that she attended and encouraged her colleagues to drop in on a meeting; acknowledged Reverend Chalker and the amazing women who serve on the Council and thanked everyone for their service.

Nailah Byrd, Clerk of Courts, addressed the Committee and stated that Cuyahoga County is fortunate to have strong leaders, individuals and representative Conwell on the Council, and thanked them for their service.

On a motion by Mr. Sweeney with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2026-0085 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.

Mr. Sweeney and Ms. Turner requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- g) R2026-0086: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Dr. Shenise J. Thomas to serve on the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Board of Trustees for the term 4/1/2026 – 3/31/2029, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.**

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0086.

Dr. Shenise Thomas addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Board of Trustees. Discussion ensued.

Chair Sweeney asked questions of Dr. Thomas pertaining to her experience, expertise and qualifications, which she answered accordingly.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2026-0086 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.

Mr. Sweeney and Ms. Turner requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- h) R2026-0087: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Daniel Blakemore to serve on the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Board of Trustees for the term 4/1/2026 – 3/31/2029, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.**

Michael Gallagher, Vice Chair, presided over the meeting for this item.

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0087.

Mr. Daniel Blakemore addressed the Committee regarding his nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Board of Trustees.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2026-0087 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.

- i) R2026-0088: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Gloria Blevins to serve on the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Advisory Board for the term 3/1/2026 – 2/28/2030, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Gloria Blevins addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Advisory Board. Discussion ensued.

Chair Sweeney asked questions of Ms. Blevins, which she answered accordingly.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Ms. Conwell, Resolution No. R2026-0088 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.

- j) R2026-0089: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Delaney Jones to serve on the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Advisory Board for the term 3/1/2026 – 2/28/2030, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0089.

Ms. Delaney Jones addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Advisory Board. Discussion ensued.

Chair Sweeney asked questions of Ms. Delaney, which she answered accordingly.

Committee members had no questions or comments.

On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Ms. Conwell, Resolution No. R2026-0089 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.

- k) R2026-0090: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Loree Potash to serve on the Cuyahoga County Law Library Resources Board for the term 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2030, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Alvarado addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0090. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Loree Potash submitted written correspondence regarding her nomination, experience, expertise and qualifications and expressed her interest to continue to serve on the Cuyahoga County Law Library Resources Board.

Mr. Sweeney asked questions of Mr. Alvarado pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

Ms. Laura Black, Council staff, addressed the Committee and provided the location of the Law Library.

On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Mr. Houser, Resolution No. R2026-0090 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.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m., without objection.