

Clean Pittsburgh Commission May 14, 2026

Members in attendance:

Omoye Aikhuele (Co-Chair)
Lyssa Eberhardt (Co-Chair)
Aftyn Giles (Co-Treasurer)
Larson Scheller (Co-Treasurer)
Debbie Steinberg (Secretary)
Will Allison
Anna Bagwell
Emily Embrey
Sanjeeb Manandhar
Juno Martin (pending)
Kelsey Ripper
Erin Tobin (pending)
Katie Wettick

Members absent:

Halena Procopio Ross (Outreach Coordinator)
Ben DeVore (pending)
Pat Kelly (pending)

Guests in attendance:

Jonathan Alexander, President of Sheraden Community Council

I. Welcome & Introductions

- A. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am on May 14, 2026.

II. Minutes Review & Approval

- A. Motion was made by Larson Scheller and seconded by Omoye Aikhuele to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

III. Guest Speaker: Jonathan Alexander, Sheraden Community Council President, presented on results of funding awarded by the CPC - Great Sheraden Garbage Derby

- A. Intention of the event to increase the number of volunteers. To do so, they mapped the streets of Sheraden allowing a shift from general volunteers to recruiting neighbors to clean up their own streets.
- B. Funding to create marketing signs, which are reusable. Signs went up 2 weeks prior to the event.

- C. Goal to increase from 86 in 2025 to 100, but had 146 volunteers in 2026. Volunteers said they learned about the event from the signs. 41 tons were collected during the event.
 - D. This also led to food donations and discounts from neighborhood businesses who learned about the event through the signs.
 - E. Participation was not about a lack of caring, but rather a challenge to get the word out about the event. The funds successfully managed that.
- IV. Will Allison, Mayor's office representative, introduced himself and provided a brief introduction to his role with the City and his work in support of the commission.
- A. His role is as a community affairs liaison – south of the river and some of the east end territory
 - B. Will will help with questions to the administration and to support the mission of CPC, supporting basic city services is a goal of the current administration.
- V. Finance committee update
- A. Aftyn Giles presented the current status of the budget and funding requests. \$12,000 remaining in the budget.
 - 1. Proposal for use of remaining budget is to offer mini-grants to NoF participants. Need to decide on amounts; initially suggested a maximum of \$500 per mini-grant. This would allow one grant per neighborhood in NoF. Also propose adding this as an ongoing NoF funding opportunity, but need to create a guidelines document, including who would receive the funds, as it needs to go to a 501c3.
 - B. A motion to approve \$4,000 funding request for 2026 Garage Olympics was made by Lyssa Eberhardt and Aftyn Giles seconded. Abstentions included Erin Tobin, Anna Bagwell, and Omoye Aikhuele. Motion passes.
- VI. Neighborhood of Focus (NoF) Committee update
- A. Lyssa Eberhardt presented updates which included mention of a move to focus on Trail Street head. Ongoing work by Cleanways happening in Sheraden. Work pending on the camera program.

B. Proposed projects:

1. Council litter kits, which are supplies maintained by the Council members to store materials; NoF mini-grants;
2. Bob Awards still to be planned. Have had preliminary discussions with Will Allison about the City's participation.

C. Suggestions received for next year's NoF programs in District 3 and 4, without overlapping with recent NoF areas. Still accepting suggestions.

VII. Membership Committee update

- A. No meeting

VIII. Outreach Coordinator update

- A. The 2025 Annual Report was released and published on the CPC website.

IX. Member organization updates

- A. Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy: Successful annual What the Muck?! event removed 15,000 tons of muck from Lake Elizabeth. Also saw a dramatic decrease in litter that was found in the lake at this year's clean up. Kudos to everyone's work!

X. Adjourn

- A. Motion was made by Omoye Aikhuele and seconded by Erin to adjourn the May meeting at 10:59. Motion carried.

Next Virtual Meeting: August 2026