

The Council Ledger

Council at Large Members Sworn In, New Officers Elected for 2011



Newly elected at Large County Council Members, Jon Poda, Ilene Shapiro and Bill Roemer.

Re-elected at Large Council Members, **Jon Poda** and **Ilene Shapiro** and new at Large Council Member, **Bill Roemer** were officially sworn in prior to the Summit County Council Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 3 in Council Chambers.

The swearing in ceremony marked the beginning of a four-year term for each at Large Member district member that expires on December 31, 2014. Their oaths were administered by Attorney, Joel Aberth (Mr. Poda); Judge Elinore Marsh Stormer (Ms. Shapiro) and Judge Alison McCarty (Mr. Roemer).

Jerry Feeman (District 6) was elected President and **Nick Kostandaras (District 1)** was elected Vice President.

Mr. Roemer, a resident of Richfield and a retired Ameritech executive and certified public accountant, replaces long-standing member **Pete Crossland**, who served on Council for more than 20 years as both a district and an at-large member.

Roemer becomes the second Republican member on Council, along with Councilwoman **Gloria Rodgers (District 2)** who was elected in 2008.



Newly elected Council Officers, President Jerry Feeman (District 6) and Vice President Nick Kostandaras (District 1).

INSIDE: Councilman Poda Resigns to take Fiscal Office Post... Council Hosts 2011 Planning Retreat... Sandra Kurt Joins Council Commendations and Community Notes.

Councilwoman Prentice Heads “Let’s Move Summit County” Event

In support of reducing childhood obesity, Summit County Council member **Paula Prentice (District 8)** is spearheading “Let’s Move, Summit County!” – a new program designed to promote health and wellness for children and families. The kick-off of the initiative was held during the City of Akron’s 15th annual “First Night” downtown New Year’s Eve celebration. The event took place at the Summit ArtSpace, located at 140 E. Market St. in Akron.

“Let’s Move Summit County” featured a number of special guests and various activity programs, with free backpacks full of items handed out to the first 300 kids to arrive, followed by dancing, hula hooping and jump-roping activities. Guests were

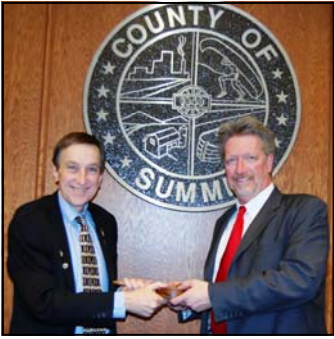


Councilwoman Paula Prentice (District 8) jumps rope and dances with kids at Let’s Move Summit County event (photos at left). At right kids hula hoop and pose with “High Point” the Summit County Mascot Dog.

asked to sign their names on a large pledge card stating that they will follow the family fitness suggestions to become a family of healthy citizens.

The idea behind “Let’s Move, Summit County!” stemmed from **First Lady Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move!”** campaign, which aims to end childhood obesity in the United States.

The initiative was a collaborative effort between the Summit County Council Office, Summit County Executive’s Office, Akron Public Schools, MetroParks Serving Summit County, Akron Children’s Hospital, Akron General Medical Center and the Summit County General Health District.



Former Council President, John Poda (right) passes the gavel to new Council President, Jerry Feeman, following the Council's Organizational Meeting in January.



Council Members discuss Executive Office projects and issues with Executive Office Chief of Staff, Jason Dodson.



Councilman Cazzell Smith gives an update on the work of the Abandoned and Vacant Properties Committee.



Council President Jerry Feeman (right, center) leads a discussion on County Initiatives and Collaborations.

Councilman Poda Resigns to Take Fiscal Office Post

Councilman at Large, **Jon Poda** announced his resignation from the Summit County Council, effective Monday, February 14. Poda was re-elected to serve his second term in November, 2010, but has recently accepted a position with the Summit County Fiscal Office that would pose a conflict as an elected official.

In a prepared statement, Poda states, "During my time on Summit County Council I have had the opportunity to work with many good people who have had Summit County's best interest at heart-including my colleagues, county, city, village and state elected officials and

staffs, as well as various board members, business people, professionals, union members, volunteers, and citizens from all walks of life.

I am proud to have been a supporter of the Summit County Veterans' Services Commission Center, the new Animal Control Facility, the Bridgestone/Firestone and Goodyear Projects, and the Austen Bioinnovation Institute, to mention a few of the many issues we have addressed.

Many of you know of, and have worked with me on my passion and efforts for consumer protection, which resulted in the Methamphetamine Property

Awareness Task Force and Website, and Summit County being the first county in Ohio to pass legislation banning texting while driving.

I am excited to announce that I have accepted a position with Summit County Fiscal Officer John Donofrio, as the Deputy Fiscal Officer of Weights and Measures, which will allow me to continue work on consumer related issues.

It has been an honor to serve the citizens of Summit County, and I look forward to continuing to serve in this new capacity," he concluded.

Council Hosts Annual Planning Retreat at Akron Zoo

Friday evening, February 25 and Saturday morning and afternoon February 26, County Council members and staff met for their annual planning retreat. The retreat was held at the Akron Zoo.

Friday's agenda included a "Pay to Stay" presentation from the Summit County Sheriff's Office and Intellitech Corporation; member discussions on the Summit County Reentry Program for Youth Aging out of Foster

Care; Summit County Task Forces and Committees; and Other Council Initiatives and Collaborations.

Saturday's session included discussions on Council Rules and Roles; Updates on Executive office projects and issues; Operations and Program Budget Procedures; 2010 Census & Redistricting; and a review of County supported agencies and upcoming property tax levies.

"This retreat is a wonderful opportunity for us to talk more in depth about important issues and share information on various projects we're involved with in an informal setting. It's also a good orientation for new members to get a better understanding of how Council works," said Council President Jerry Feeman. Thanks to the Akron Zoo for their great hospitality over the week-end," he concluded.



Council Members received a surprise visit during a break on Saturday, from the Akron Zoo's "Animal Ambassadors." Councilwoman Gloria Rodgers (left) poses next to a kinkajou, and Councilman Tim Crawford (right) meets "Pickpocket," a Dumeril ground boa constrictor.



Former Akron City Councilwoman Sandra Kurt Joins County Council

Summit County Democrats selected **Sandra Kurt** in a special precinct committee election to fill the at-large vacancy on County Council created by the resignation of **Jon Poda**. Kurt beat out four others who were seeking the appointment, including former county councilman **Pete Crossland**, who lost his at-large seat last fall. The precinct committee members voted three times before Kurt received the 51 percent majority needed.

A resident of Akron, Kurt is an industrial engineer at Good-year Tire & Rubber Co. She was formerly an Akron city councilwoman representing Ward 8 until winning the county seat.

"Summit County at-large will allow me to serve a broader part of the community and also allow me to focus on bigger initiatives and policies," Kurt said.

Kurt immediately resigned her seat on Akron City Council and was sworn in to serve on County Council following the election. She will have to run for election in the fall of 2012 to serve the remaining two years of the term.

Kurt will serve on the Council's Finance, Long Tern Planning, Planning and Economic Development, Public Works and Rules Committees.



New Council Member at Large, Former, Akron City Councilwoman (Ward 8) Sandra Kurt.

Commendations



Councilwoman Ilene Shapiro (at Large) presents a Commendation to Summit County Juvenile Court Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio for her work with the Crossroads Program.

In December 2010, Summit County Juvenile Court Judge **Linda Tucci Teodosio** received statewide and national recognition as the founder of the Crossroads Program, an intensive probation program offered at the Juvenile Court that serves the community in the capacity of a combined drug and mental health court. Judge Teodosio began the program shortly after her election to her first term on the juvenile bench in 2002. Judge Teodosio was

honored for her work with the Crossroads Program by both the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the state Juvenile Judges Association with a Community Recognition Award. Judge Teodosio was also honored at the national level for Crossroads with the Champion for Change award from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for her, innovation, open-mindedness and commitment to youth involved with the juvenile justice system.

"Judge Teodosio is a compassionate leader who understands the need for accountability, yet recognizes that the court is more than just a mechanism for punishment. This Council recognizes the outstanding work of Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio and her dedication to youth in our community," said **Councilwoman Ilene Shapiro** who presented her with a Commendation from County Council on January 31st.

In February, County Council honored the **Akron-Canton Airport** and its President & CEO, **Richard B. McQueen**.

One of the fastest growing airports in the United States, Akron-Canton (CAK) offers the lowest average fare in the State of Ohio. In 2010, more than 1.5 million customers traveled to and from Akron-Canton, beating the old record set in 2008 by more than 93,800 people – a six percent increase. For the full year, total passengers were up 118,000 - more than eight percent than 2009. Additionally, the month of De-

ember 2010 was the airport's best with more than 126,000 total passengers, a nine percent increase compared to 2009.

Akron-Canton Airport broke passenger records nine out of 12 months in 2010, and in the past decade, passenger figures have doubled.

McQueen, President and CEO since 2008, is responsible for leading a 47 member team of airport employees, strategic planning, and managing CAK's new 2018 Capital Improvement Program; a 10-year, \$110 million plan that includes a 600 ft. runway extension and other

projects including a customs and border patrol facility and an extended upper level concourse.

"Akron-Canton Airport continues to connect this community to the globe and projects an enthusiastic outlook toward the future. This Council recognizes the outstanding work of Richard B. McQueen and his staff and partners at the Akron-Canton Airport and their commitment to this community," said **Council Vice President Nick Kostandaras**.



Council Vice President Nick Kostandaras (right) presents a Commendation to Akron-Canton Airport President & CEO, Richard B. McQueen prior to a Council Meeting on February 14th.

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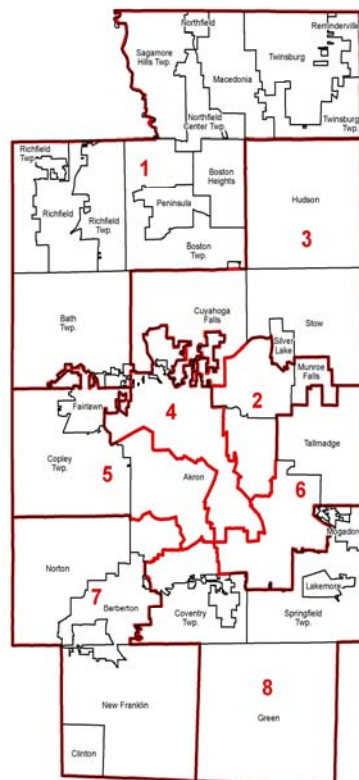
Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
March 21	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
March 28	Council Committee Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 4	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
April 11	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
April 18	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
April 25	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 1	<i>Let's Move Summit County Spring Event</i>	Goodyear Metro Park	2-4 p.m.
May 2	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
May 9	Council Committee Meeting	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 16	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
May 23	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
May 30	<i>Council Offices CLOSED for Memorial Day</i>		
June 6	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
June 13	Council Committee Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.
June 20	Council Meeting	Council Chambers	5:00 p.m.
*June 27	Council Committee/Council Mtg.	Council Chambers	4:30 p.m.

* *Last meeting before Council Recess during month of July.*

2011 County Council Members

Nick Kostandaras
District 1
John Schmidt
District 2
Gloria Rodgers
District 3
Frank C. Comunale
District 4
Cazzell Smith, Sr.
District 5
Jerry Feeman
District 6
Tim Crawford
District 7
Paula Prentice
District 8
Sandra Kurt
At Large
Bill Roemer
At Large
Ilene Shapiro
At Large



County Council Staff

K. Darlene Mims
Chief of Staff
Sharley Greer
Clerk of Council
W. Kent Starks, II
Constituent Services Coordinator
Mark Potter
Senior Research Analyst
Faylin Mutch
Executive Assistant