



**Minutes of the November 5, 2025 meeting of the
NORTHEAST OHIO FIRST SUBURBS CONSORTIUM
At Bedford Heights Community Center**

In Attendance:

Romona Brazile, MetroHealth
Patrick Grogan-Myers, City of Euclid
Christopher Alvarado, Cuyahoga County
Agatha Hickerson, Cuyahoga County
Jennifer Howland, City of Bedford
Mayor David E. Weiss, City of Shaker Heights
Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, City of Maple Heights
Janice Tubbs, City of Garfield Heights
Wendy Grant, County Home Consortium Member
Mayor Ron Van Kirk, City of Brooklyn
Tom Ott, Cott Media
Kim Steigerwald, Cuyahoga Land Bank
Michael Love, City of South Euclid
Fulton Benya, City of South Euclid
Mayor Bradley Sellers, City of Warrensville Heights
Charmane Martin, City of Bedford Heights
Raymon Turner, City of Warrensville Heights
Howard E. Katz, CSU Law School
Dawn Ford, Cuyahoga County
Victoria Berry, Cuyahoga County
Benjamin Brown, City of Warrensville Heights
Geoff Englebrecht, City of Maple Heights
Mayor Michael Brennan, City of University Heights
Josie Moore, City of Cleveland Heights
Mayor Tony Cuda, City of Cleveland Heights
Nat Ziegler, PCFO
Nicole Harris, City of Warrensville Heights
Patrick Hewitt, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
Mary Cierebiej, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
Paul Herdeg, Cuyahoga County
Mayor Tim DeGeeter, City of Parma
Jennifer Kuzma, NEO-FSC

Mayor DeGeeter opened the meeting at 9:07 AM, welcomed attendees to the meeting and thanked Bedford Heights for hosting the meeting at the Bedford Heights Community Center.

Mayor DeGeeter introduced the staff from various County Offices who provided updates including County Planning Commission's launch of the Unified Zoning Code Pilot, Residential Vacant Lot Analysis and Department of Development's TOD Program launch, Greater Cleveland Works contact and Destination Cleveland's new staff person implementing the regional attraction of young professionals in conjunction with TeamNEO and Greater Cleveland Partnership. Launch of the County Building Department Pilot was also discussed to round out the County Update.

Mayor DeGeeter then moved the meeting to the first order of business – approval of the August 2025 NEO-FSC meeting minutes. Mayor DeGeeter asked those present if any corrections or edits were needed for the minutes as they were presented. Hearing no edits needed, a motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Ron Van Kirk and seconded by Mayor Michael Brennan. All members then unanimously approved the minutes following those motions.

Mayor DeGeeter next opened the discussion on the proposed 2026 NEO-FSC operating budget. Jennifer provided a review of the proposed budget provided to members in the meeting materials sent directly to them. After some discussion, Mayor Tim DeGeeter made a motion to approve the proposed budget as presented. Mayor Ron Van Kirk seconded the motion to approve the proposed 2026 NEO-FSC budget and all members present were in favor passing the motion unanimously.

Mayor DeGeeter asked Jennifer to give the report on 2026 leadership nominations. Jennifer reminded those present that the opportunity to self-nominate or nominate others was made available via email. Jennifer then provided the following nominations:

Chair: Mayor Tim DeGeeter
Vice-Chair: Mayor Annette Blackwell
Members: Mayor Kirsten Holzheimer Gail, Mayor Matthew Burke, Mayor Marie Gallo, Mayor Ron Van Kirk, Mayor David Weiss

Jennifer asked if there were any additional nominations to be considered and none were given. Mayor DeGeeter thanked Jennifer for the report and asked if there was a motion to approve the slate as presented and vote the slate into 2026 office. Mayor Bradley Sellers made a motion to approve the slate as presented and vote the slate into office. Patrick Grogan-Myers seconded that motion, and all members present unanimously approved the motion approving the slate as presented and voting the slate into office. Mayor DeGeeter thanked the membership for their support and welcomed returning and new members to their positions on the Executive Committee.

Mayor DeGeeter moved the meeting into an update on the First Suburbs Executive Committee which included discussion on the upcoming CSU Mayors Forum on February 11 lead by former mayors Earl Leiken and Mike Summers.

In the First Suburbs Housing Committee and Development Council Reports, Jennifer reported on the group's recent meetings with Cleveland Restoration Society and Key Bank regarding the proposed changes to the Heritage Home Program in 2026.

In her Staff Report, Jennifer reviewed the proposed 2026 NEO-FSC Quarterly Meeting dates of 02/04, 05/06, 08/05 and 11/04 all with a 9 AM start. Anyone interested in hosting should contact Jennifer directly. Jennifer also reported that 2026 marks the First Suburbs 30th anniversary and she would love ideas from members on how to best mark this special

moment.

In Other Business, a number of announcements were made including some discussion on the how communities were working to help residents during this time when federal programs are not providing services. Dr. Berry informed those present that the tax lien sale was retracted until 2026. Elena Stachew from PCFO shared comments on the newly reformed First Suburbs Sustainability Committee including the release of a survey to members to gain information on their priorities.

Jennifer reminded members that the next quarterly meeting of the NEO-FSC was scheduled for Wednesday, February 4 at 9 AM and anyone interested in hosting should contact her directly. Mayor DeGeeter thanked everyone for attending, offered warm holiday greetings to all and adjourned the meeting at 10:41 AM.