



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Chair: Dee Durham, Second District

October 21, 2025
2:30 PM

VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING &
LOUIS L. REDDING CITY/COUNTY BUILDING
1ST FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 N. FRENCH STREET, WILMINGTON, DE 19801**

MINUTES

A. Meeting Call to Order

Councilwoman Durham called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Present: Mr. Smiley, Ms. Durham, Ms. George, Mr. Hollins, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Tackett, Mr. Carter

Present Via Zoom: Mr. Cartier, Mr. Toole, Mr. Street, Ms. Johns joined at 2:39

Not present: Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Caneco

B. Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2025

Mr. Smiley motioned to approve the minutes of September 16, 2025.

Mr. Carter seconded the motion.

Minutes were approved.

C. Boards & Commissions Interview

CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF ALIA GRIER TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CLAYMONT DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor: Mr. Cartier

Ms. Durham introduced Alia Grier's nomination to the Claymont DRAC.

Mr. Cartier spoke to the DRAC's useful activity and its importance to the Claymont area. He added that it imparts a sense of home rule.

Ms. Grier talked about her background and experience as a supervisor in various state roles and as a real estate agent. She expressed her enthusiasm about serving in this role.

Ms. Durham explained the nomination process going forward

CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF EMILY KNEARL TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

Prime Sponsors: Mr. Cartier, Ms. Durham

Ms. Durham introduced Ms. Knearl's nomination.

Emily was not present, but Mr. Cartier spoke to her qualifications as a policy advisor and her strong interest in open space preservation.

Ms. Durham noted that Ms. Knearl works for The Nature Conservancy but that there is no conflict of interest.

Mr. Hollins complimented her on her previous work for Council.

CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF IRINA TURNER TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

Prime Sponsor: Mr. Carter

Ms. Durham introduced the nomination of Ms. Turner.

Mr. Carter spoke about her impressive resume and artistic endeavors in southern NCC and that she will be an excellent addition to the Public Arts Commission.

Ms. Turner briefly addressed Council and detailed her experience working with other artists.

Ms. Durham explained the nomination process going forward.

D. Boards & Commissions Re-appointments

CONSENTING TO THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SIMEON HAHN TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Cartier

Ms. Durham introduced Mr. Hahn's reappointment nomination.

Mr. Cartier elaborated on Mr. Hahn's experience remediating brown fields and his experience working for NOAA

CONSENTING TO THE REAPPOINTMENT OF STEWART RAMSEY TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor: Ms. Durham

Ms. Durham introduced Mr. Ramsey's reappointment nomination and noted that she is happy to sponsor his reappointment. She added that the Ag Preservation Committee is now meeting regularly.

CONSENTING TO THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF NELSON WHITLOCK TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CLAYMONT DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor: Mr. Cartier

Ms. Durham introduced the reappointment nomination of Nelson Whitlock.

Mr. Cartier explained that Mr. Whitlock is a small business owner in the Claymont hometown overlay, adding that Mr. Whitlock had refurbished a gas station.

Mr. Cartier pointed out that Mr. Whitlock is an expert and is happy that Mr. Whitlock is willing to serve again on the Claymont DRAC.

CONSENTING TO THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF KEN RICKOSKI TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CLAYMONT DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prime Sponsor: Mr. Cartier

Ms. Durham introduced the reappointment of Mr. Rickoski.

Mr. Cartier noted that he was gratified how many people were willing to serve on the Claymont DRAC and said that Mr. Rickoski does a great work in the community.

CONSENTING TO THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES MCALLISTER TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY BOARD OF LICENSE INSPECTION AND REVIEW

Prime Sponsor: Ms. Durham

Ms. Durham introduced the reappointment of Mr. McAllister, saying that she is happy at his willingness to continue to serve in this role.

E. Other

Mr. Street commented that he would like to have ALL boards and commissions paid.

Ms. Durham noted in response that that is in the works in the form of an impending ordinance.

Mr. Smiley noted by way of objection that we might have to start paying Civic Association leaders, etc.

F. Public Comment

A Mr. Tracy Slack was present online and expressed concern that many Boards and Commissions haven't met very often if at all and don't seem to be operating.

He noted that County code requires each board to file a yearly report but that only 5 did so in the last year.

Many boards, he added, don't even submit or publish their meeting minutes.

Continuing, he said that just three boards approved 88% of the variances brought before them which creates a situation in which zoning/design requirements end up being meaningless. He argued that the boards don't do what they're supposed to do.

Ms. Durham thanked him for his comments, saying that County Council is looking into some of these issues and will hopefully address them in the near future.

G. Adjournment

Mr. Smiley motioned to adjourn.
Mr. Sheldon seconded.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:50.