



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

Consent Agenda

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 10:00 AM

**Third Set
Issued on: 4/12/2024**

[24-2769](#)

Sponsored by: SCOTT R. BRITTON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING PROSPECT HEIGHTS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION'S 10 ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, April 22, 2024, is Earth Day, first celebrated in 1970; and

WHEREAS, the first Earth Day brought together millions of people and gave rise to the modern American environmental movement; and

WHEREAS, sustainable communities is one of the six key pillars of Cook County's Policy Roadmap and over the next decade the County is committed to implementing policies that support healthy, resilient communities that thrive economically, socially and environmentally; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is dedicated to the health and well-being of the community, tasking the Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability with improving the quality of the environment for all Cook County residents; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is investing \$45 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds towards sustainable, resilient, and healthy communities across the County; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's Climate Resiliency Planning for Communities has awarded \$16 million to support environmental planning in the Villages of Bellwood, Franklin Park, Justice, Lynnwood and the City of Markham; and

WHEREAS, numerous communities in the 14th District have commissions, task forces, and plans centered around the environment and sustainably including the Village of Arlington Heights, Village of Glencoe, Village of Glenview, Village of Northbrook, City of Rolling Meadows, Wheeling Park District, Village of Wilmette, and Village of Winnetka; and

WHEREAS, in Prospect Heights, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission was founded by Dr. Agnes Wojnarski in 2014 and turns 10 years old this year; and

WHEREAS, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission is an all-volunteer network designed to enhance, restore and manage the natural areas and resources in order to maintain and improve their ecological health and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission is still chaired by Dr. Wojnarski and is comprised of individuals who are recognized by their peers as leaders in the environment and natural

resource sphere including Dana Sievertson, Ed Madden, Jill Moskal, John Kamysz, John Kamysz, Peter Hahn, Seth Marcus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wojnarski's work as the chairman of the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission was celebration in 2020 when she was named District 14's Unsung Heroine, following a nomination by the late Prospect Heights Mayor Nicholas Helmer; and

WHEREAS, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission is credited with rooting out invasive species and returning open spaces to their natural splendor; and

WHEREAS, at the moment, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission is restoring wildlife habitat and biodiversity to the Prospect Heights Slough, a historically important wetland in the heart of the community, as well as prairie restoration along the Prospect Heights bike path; and

WHEREAS, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission collaborates with the City of Prospect Heights, the Prospect Heights Park District, Com-Ed, private landowners and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission Education and Outreach Program "Nature Speaks," held in partnership with the Prospect Heights Public Library, brings four featured regional and national speakers to the community; and

WHEREAS, the hard work done by the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission leadership and volunteers yields benefits to the residents of the 14th District including flood-water retention, erosion control, air-quality benefits, and the opportunity to enjoy beautiful and inspiring nature; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Cook County Commissioner Scott Britton and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby acknowledge and applaud the dedicated stewards of the Prospect Heights Natural Resource Commission, their work to promote environmental justice, climate resiliency, and energy efficiency which are central to thriving communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this text be presented to the members of the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission as a means of conveying our thanks and congratulations.

[24-2778](#)

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

YVONNE N. DAVIS, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Yvonne Davis Arelia Nicholas Davis was born to Harry Nicholas and Irma Catherine Shane on January 11, 1937 in Evansville, Indiana and sadly passed away March 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Davis was an educator and a guide in academics and life; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Davis regularly shared with pride that she received her education at schools designated for people of color, including the all-Black Lincoln High School (1954), and her beloved Fisk University (1958) where she earned a BA Speech and Dramatics; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Alpha Beta Chapter while attending Fisk. After graduating from Fisk, Yvonne moved to Evanston, Illinois where she met her husband of 54 years, Carl Edwin Davis; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne later earned a Master's Degree in Education Administration at Northwestern University, as well as a Reading Specialist Certification from Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne began her career as an educator at Jenner School, in Chicago's Cabrini Green neighborhood, where she had as many as forty students in her first-grade classroom. As a testament to her commitment, Yvonne made it a point to make sure every child in her first-grade classroom learned how to read by the time they completed the school year; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne brought her talents to Evanston/Skokie School District 65. During this time she served on and led a number of boards, committees, and initiatives, including Director of Title VI, a district-wide multicultural awareness initiative partnership with A World of Difference; and

WHEREAS, Upon Yvonne's retirement from District 65, she led the successful efforts to rename Timber Ridge School to Dr. Bessie Rhodes Magnet School (a tech and innovation centric school at the time), in honor of the school's principal and Yvonne's friend and colleague; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne served as Second Baptist Church's chairman of the trustee board, trained new trustees, chaired a host of committees, lent her lovely soprano voice to the sanctuary choir and senior singers, initiated a number of different programs in the life of the church and had a special place in her heart for the seniors and youth of the church; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne served as Education Superintendent for the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne played a pivotal role in researching and compiling crucial information, essential to the successful implementation of the Family Employment Security Act (**FESA**) of 1981. This was the country's first iteration of what is now the Family Medical Leave Act (**FMLA**); and

WHEREAS, Yvonne's local activism in the Evanston community saw her become the first woman to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors at the Evanston Public Library; Yvonne was a co-founder the UNITY Scholarship Fund in 1985; and Yvonne also helped to charter the Theta Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta at Northwestern University in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne's great joy in life was her grandchildren. She was a constant support and source of education and activity for them, taking them to music and theatre productions, attending their school functions, making sure they knew their history, and providing loving care to them and their friends; and

WHEREAS, Preceding Yvonne in death was her husband, Carl Davis who passed away in 2014. Yvonne is survived by her sons Karl Gregory and Jared Nicholas Davis (Beatrice); Aunt Ruby J. Mason of San Carlos, CA; Grandchildren: Allyssa of Tampa, FL., Aarynn of Atlanta GA, Nicholas, Lauren, and Myah of Evanston, IL.; as well as a number of cousins and lifelong friends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County hereby honors Yvonne Davis for her contributions to society and a life spent devoted to her faith, family and community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be provided to the sons and extended family of Yvonne N. Davis.

24-2780

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MARTHA ANN JOHNSON, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Martha Ann Johnson was born November 6, 1931 and transitioned March 30, 2024 at the age 92; and

WHEREAS, Martha Ann Johnson was raised by her parents Rev. Martha Louise and William Dobbins of Evanston, IL. and was the third of three children. At the tender age of three, Martha later developed spinal meningitis. This also resulted in her becoming deaf and mute; and

WHEREAS, Martha attended a residential school for the hearing impaired in Jacksonville, IL. until the 6th grade when she returned home to Evanston; and

WHEREAS, Martha became active in and was baptized in her mother's church, Church of the Living God, as a child and young adult. She later symbolized her dedication to Jehovah through water baptism becoming a Jehovah's Witness where she was very active in the Kingdom Hall; and

WHEREAS, Martha's joy for field service, Bible studies, and sharing Jehovah's word provided time for her to also fellowship with her spiritual brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, Martha felt pride in her rewarding jobs as a homemaker, a devoted wife, and a loving mother to her four children, she took pride and honor in taking care of her family. As a loving, kind, and

caring person she helped to assist anyone that she could. Often, Martha cared for young children in the neighborhood, and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Martha becoming a seamstress often created clothing for her children, knitting and crocheting decorations for the home and as gifts for family and friends. Martha also often hosted family dinners and displayed her passion for cooking; and

WHEREAS, Martha A. Johnson was preceded in death by her parents, William Dobbins and Rev. Martha L. Dobbins, brother Henry, sister Alice, a stillborn son, and her husband of 45 years, David T. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Martha leaves a host of family to cherish her memory, four children (from her union with David T. Johnson) Bettye Ann Cohns (David), Louise Peakes (Lee), Charonna Johnson, David Johnson Jr., a sister-in-law, Alberta Lee, ten beloved grandchildren, Kaila Hutchen (Terry), David Cohns III (Satoya), Damon Peakes, Leila Peakes, Perry Thomas Sr. (Shavon), Briyanna Briscoe, Danelle (Kenny), Davia Ruff, Kaylyn Clark Johnson, Travareus Jordan, seventeen great-grandchildren, and a host of loving nieces, nephews, and friends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County hereby honors Martha Johnson for her contributions to society and a life spent devoted to her faith, family and community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be provided to the family of Martha A. Johnson.

[24-2797](#)

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING MARGOT HAGER AS A 2024 EARTH MONTH BIRD CALL CONTEST WINNER

WHEREAS, Cook County Commissioner Josina Morita hosted the 2nd Annual Earth-A-Palooza on Sunday, April 14th at Linne Woods in Morton Grove; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago Bird Alliance, founded in 1971, connects people in all our communities with birds and nature through educational programming, field trips, advocacy, stewardship and research. Chicago Bird Alliance has a vision for all communities to care about, protect, and cherish wild birds and their habitat; and

WHEREAS, Judy Pollock is a renowned bird expert and serves as the President of the Chicago Bird Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Commissioner, The Chicago Bird Alliance and Judy Pollock hosted the 2024 Earth Month Bird Call Contest to reclaim the outdated mnemonic bird call of the Carolina Wren, previously known as “maid, maid, maid, put on the tea kettle, kettle, kettle,” and

WHEREAS, Margot Hager, a 9-year-old elementary school student at School District 74, Rutledge Hall, and member of Girl Scout Troop 47805 in Lincolnwood, Illinois, won the bird call contest with the mnemonic, “Trash, Trash, trash throw away-away-away, every single day-day-day; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County to take this opportunity to congratulate Margot Hager on winning the Earth Month Bird Call Contest and to commend her for her commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a suitable copy of this resolution will be presented to Margot Hager and her family.

[24-2798](#)

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING ALAINA KRITICOS AS A 2024 EARTH MONTH BIRD CALL CONTEST WINNER

WHEREAS, Cook County Commissioner Josina Morita hosted the 2nd Annual Earth-A-Palooza on Sunday, April 14th at Linne Woods in Morton Grove; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago Bird Alliance, founded in 1971, connects people in all our communities with birds and nature through educational programming, field trips, advocacy, stewardship and research. Chicago Bird Alliance has a vision for all communities to care about, protect, and cherish wild birds and their habitat; and

WHEREAS, Judy Pollock is a renowned bird expert and serves as the President of the Chicago Bird Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Commissioner, The Chicago Bird Alliance and Judy Pollock hosted the 2024 Earth Month Bird Call Contest to reclaim the outdated mnemonic bird call of the Carolina Wren, previously known as “maid, maid, maid, put on the tea kettle, kettle, kettle,” and

WHEREAS, Alaina Kriticos, a 9-year-old elementary school student at School District 74, Rutledge Hall, and member of Girl Scout Troop 47805 in Lincolnwood, Illinois, won the bird call contest with the mnemonic, “Bird, bird, bird why are you glad-glad-glad”; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County to take this opportunity to congratulate Alaina Kriticos, on winning the Earth Month Bird Call Contest and to commend her for her commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a suitable copy of this resolution will be presented to Alaina Kriticos, and her family.