



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

Consent Agenda

for the

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, July 13, 2016, 11:00 AM

16-4146

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. RONALD ‘KWESI’ HARRIS

WHEREAS, Ronald “Kwesi” Harris was born on November 22, 1959, the second eldest of Willie Lee and Jannie Mae Harris’ five children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was a graduate of Simeon High School on the Chicago south side and later received his degree in Child Development and Social Work from Central State University in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, while at Central State University, Mr. Harris became a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 1990, Mr. Harris married his best friend and his “Queen” Donna F. Edgeworth; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Mr. Harris worked alongside the Illinois Attorney General, other attorney generals from 30 states, grassroots organizations, local public health advocates and hip-hop organization worked against the KOOL cigarettes company to bring down the advertising campaign aimed at young urban population; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris became the Program Director of the African American Resource Center (AAMRC) at Chicago State University in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was a strong advocate in improving the rate of African American males at Universities by making them more efficient and independent learners; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 Mr. Harris began his work with the African American Coalition for Prevention and the State of the Caner Union; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was a committed and passionate family man to his wife, daughter, three sons and four grandson; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Cook County shall recognize and honor the life and accomplishments of Mr. Ronald “Kwesi” Harris; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Ronald “Kwesi” Harris.

16-4030

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING MARIA POPKIEWICZ ON HER RECEIPT OF THE JANICE HILL MEMORIAL AWARD

WHEREAS, this year, Maria Popkiewicz of Chicago received the Janice Hill Memorial Award; and

WHEREAS each year, the Janice Hill Memorial Award recognizes 15 teachers from among the more than 20,000 teachers who work at child care and early childhood education centers run by Bright Horizons across the United States, Canada, and Europe; and

WHEREAS the award is named in memory of Janice Hill, a teacher at the Bright Horizons Campbell Child Care Center for ten years, where she dedicated her life to children and families before she died of cancer; and

WHEREAS Janice Hill Memorial Award is a prestigious award that recognizes teachers who demonstrate dedication and passion for early childhood education and create a positive nurturing environment for the center or school as a whole; and

WHEREAS the Janice Hill Memorial Award winners demonstrate excellence in early childhood education; and

WHEREAS Maria Popkiewicz is an Infant Teacher at the Cook County/City of Chicago Bright Horizon's Child Development located in the George Dunne Building at 69 W. Washington, Chicago Illinois and has been an example for two decades of everything that should be right in childhood education; and

WHEREAS by receiving this award, Maria Popkiewicz was recognized by her peers, child care center director, and parents of the children in her care for her commitment to excellence in early education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the people of Cook County, the President and Board of Commissioners congratulates Maria Popkiewicz on her achievement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable body and that an official copy of the same be presented to Maria Popkiewicz in recognition of her years of service and dedication to the children of Cook County.

16-4341

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL “BE HEARD: ONE VOTE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD” ART AND ESSAY CONTEST ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

WHEREAS, in 2016 students from all over Cook County submitted entries as part of the Second Annual “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” Essay and Art Competition cosponsored by Comcast’s Intergovernmental Affairs Department; and,

WHEREAS, the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” Essay and Art Competition, by focusing on the importance of voting and civic education, seeks to teach youth the importance of active citizenry and democratic participation to young people; and,

WHEREAS, out of 106 entrants, seven students submitted entries that stood out for their creativity, insightfulness and overall excellence; and,

WHEREAS, Joyce Lin from Stevenson Middle School is awarded the 4th place prize of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” art contest; and,

WHEREAS, Alex Walker from Percy Julian Middle School is awarded the 3rd place prize of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” art contest; and,

WHEREAS, Camari Ingram from Stevenson Middle School is awarded the 2nd place prize of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” art contest; and,

WHEREAS, Aaliyah Merrick from St. Agnes School is awarded the 1st place prize of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” art contest; and,

WHEREAS, Jennifer Perez from Proviso East High School is awarded the 3rd place prize in the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” essay contest; and,

WHEREAS, Solomon Lee from Johnson College Prep is awarded the 2nd place prize in the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” essay contest; and,

WHEREAS, Wilson Constable from Oak Park River Forest High School is awarded the 1st place prize in the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” essay contest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners that congratulations and best wishes on behalf of the President and Cook County Board be extended to the winners of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” art contest: Joyce Lin, Alex Walker, Camari Ingram, and Aaliyah Merrick; and,

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the congratulations and best wishes of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners be extended to the winners of the “Be Heard: One Vote Can Change the World” essay contest: Wilson Constable, Solomon Lee, and Jennifer Perez.

16-4342

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE PUBLICITY CLUB OF CHICAGO ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Publicity Club of Chicago was established in 1941; and,

WHEREAS, through its promotion of membership, networking, and professional support activities, the Publicity Club has grown, since its founding, into the nation’s largest independent public relations membership organization; and,

WHEREAS, the members of the Publicity Club represent hundreds of Public Relations firms, businesses, and non-profit organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the Publicity Club is also notable for having founded “The Golden Trumpet Awards,” the region’s most prestigious awards program honoring achievements in the professional field of public relations; and,

WHEREAS, for decades, the Publicity Club has afforded and continues to afford educational and networking opportunities to Chicago’s professional practitioners in the area of public relations and communications; and,

WHEREAS, the Publicity Club of Chicago has provided an invaluable contribution to the civic and economic fabric of Cook County by advancing and promoting the professions of public relations and communications in the Midwest for the last three-quarters of a century;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the president and Cook County Board of Commissioners that the Publicity Club of Chicago is to be congratulated on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners extend best wishes to the Publicity Club of Chicago for another 75 years and beyond.

16-4343

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE DETERMINATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DARIUS JAMAL JOHNSON

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has been in the news lately for being a dangerous location for its youth, but as the news continues to fill the airways with heart-wrenching stories of violence, there is a story of unending hope that comes to the forefront; and

WHEREAS, Darius Jamal Johnson was born in Chicago to a loving and caring mother in 1994; and

WHEREAS, at 5 weeks of age, Darius' mother was a victim of a drive-by shooting and Mr. Johnson was raised by his dedicated grandparents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson attended Burnside Scholastic Academy and participated in the National Junior Beta Club, where the mission of the program is to honor high academic achievement, empower youth, and create the leaders of tomorrow through service to others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson took those mission statements to heart for the rest of his academic career; and

WHEREAS, Darius Johnson graduated from King College Preparatory High School in 2012 after participating in the South Shore Drill Team and the King High School band that traveled to Washington D.C. for the 2008 Presidential Inauguration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson enrolled in Morehouse College with a major in psychology and political science, but later made the pivotal decision to change his major to English with a minor in Journalism and to pursue his dream of working for CNN; and

WHEREAS, he started his writing career on the Morehouse student newspaper, The Maroon Tiger, which led to the opportunity to become the Public Relations intern at Perfect Pitch Media Group in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, his internship at Perfect Pitch Media Group led him to his current internship with CNN National Content Center in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, upon Mr. Johnson's graduation from Morehouse College he will be one of six African-American graduate students and the only African-American male at Columbia University School of Journalism entering in the class of 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson will have the possibility of continuing his work with CNN in New York; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Cook County shall recognize Darius Jamal Johnson's determination and strong resolve to not let the challenges he faced growing up to deter him from aiming for his dreams; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to be presented to Darius Jamal Johnson in recognition of this important milestone.

16-4346

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING OAK PARK BOY SCOUT TROOP 16 ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, on March 16, 1916, Oak Park Boy Scout Troop 16 was chartered under the sponsorship of First Presbyterian Church; and,

WHEREAS, 100 years later it is the oldest remaining scout troop in Oak Park; and,

WHEREAS, community service is a staple for troop 16, and has been since World War I, when it sold \$25,000 in victory bonds; and,

WHEREAS, Troop 16 has conducted the annual Thatcher Woods cleanup for the last twenty years, thereby contributing to the health and vitality of the Cook County Forest Preserve; and,

WHEREAS, Troop 16's outdoor program teaches scouts problem solving, perseverance, and teamwork; and,

WHEREAS, Troop 16 is committed to developing Oak Park area boys into productive and responsible young men;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the president and Cook County Board of Commissioners recognize Oak Park Boy Scout Troop 16 in its centennial year, and support its growth and continued success for 100 more.

16-4368

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND MEMORY OF JOHN FLYNN ROONEY

WHEREAS, John Flynn Rooney, an award winning journalist, and reporter for the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin for nearly three decades died June 30, leaving behind family, countless friends, devoted readers and a community enriched for having known him; and

WHEREAS John Rooney was one of the legal community’s greatest chroniclers; he was noted for his intelligence, exceptional attention to detail and excellence. “No detail seemed too minor to escape his attention. No question appeared too tough to ask. No story was too big or too small, or too difficult, to handle,” 1st District Appellate Justice Michael B. Hyman said as he presented Rooney with a lifetime achievement award last month during The Chicago Bar Association’s Herman Kogan Media Awards; and

WHEREAS, John Rooney had the unique ability to work without rancor and as a result was genuinely admired and respected; there was never a personal, partisan, or ulterior motive when it came to the way he wrote. He was known as a reporter who could be hard-hitting with his sources when he needed to be and as someone who reflected the very best of the free press; and

WHEREAS, while he was in high school and college, John Rooney worked as a runner for renowned personal-injury attorney Philip Corboy. He and the Rooney siblings who followed him did such a good job, lawyers at the firm started calling the runners “Rooneys,” The title to this day is still used at Corboy and Demetrio and according to Thomas Demetrio “It’s a badge of honor to be called a Rooney”; and

WHEREAS, John Rooney was a second-generation news man. His father, Edmund J. Rooney Jr. was a reporter for the old Chicago Daily News. John Rooney graduated from Marist High School. He earned his bachelor’s degree in communications from Loyola University of Chicago and a master’s degree in public affairs reporting at Sangamon State University, now known as University of Illinois Springfield.; and

WHEREAS, John Rooney spent three years as an editor and reporter at the City News Bureau of Chicago, where he covered education, transportation and federal courts. After a short time spent as a reporter for the Tampa, Florida Tribune and a producer for Walter Jacobson at WBBM-TV Channel 2, Rooney started with the Law Bulletin, covering the county courts from the Daley Center and reporting on 1st District Appellate Court decisions. After four years, he moved to the Dirksen Federal Courthouse where he would spend another four years covering the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. His intelligent and insightful reporting were much admired; he covered notable corruption cases against lawyers, judges and other elected officials, including Thomas J. Maloney and Adam N. Stillo Sr., both former Cook County circuit judges. Rooney returned to the Daley Center in 1997 and began reporting on the tenures of Cook County chief judges Harry G. Comerford, Donald P. O’Connell and Timothy C. Evans before becoming a general-assignment reporter in 2003. He held this position until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, John Rooney will long be remembered for breaking the story in 1982 about the Chicago-area deaths from cyanide-laced Tylenol. His reporting was honored with the Peter Lisagor Award from the Chicago Headline Club; and

WHEREAS, John Rooney is survived by his wife, Margaret, and their three sons, Ned, Jack and Dan. He will be sorely missed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County commemorates the extraordinary life of John Flynn Rooney and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of John Flynn Rooney.

16-4378

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, SEAN M. MORRISON, County Commissioners, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF DONALD E. CHAPMAN AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PLOWS COUNCIL ON AGING

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Donald E. Chapman is retiring as the Executive Director of the PLOWS Council on Aging; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman is a long-time Oak Lawn resident and former Village of Oak Lawn Building Commissioner who assisted the victims of the destructive tornado that ravaged the Village in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman served as Director of Planning and Development for the Village of Oak Park; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman served as the Executive Director of the Oak Park Housing Authority and oversaw the construction of their 20-story low income senior housing building; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman was named interim Director of the PLOWS Council on Aging in June of 1975, an organization that grew out of a grass roots initiative to provide funding for services for seniors in Palos, Lemont, Orland and Worth Townships; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman has served as Executive Director for of the PLOWS Council on Aging for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, under Donald E. Chapman’s leadership the PLOWS Council on Aging has grown to 67 employees and 100 volunteers and serves 12,000 people annually; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman’s diligent work has ensured that the PLOWS Council on Aging will continue to provide the highest level of service to persons 60 years of age or older who are physically, psychologically, or financially in need; and

WHEREAS, Donald E. Chapman’s commitment to the senior community has helped to ensure that local seniors are treated with dignity, compassion and respect; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby extend its warmest wishes and congratulations to Donald E. Chapman on the occasion of his retirement, and join all who have had the pleasure of his friendship in wishing him still more years of good health and richly deserved happiness, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and an official copy of same be presented to Donald E. Chapman to commemorate this joyous occasion.

16-4387

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF BERNARDA “BERNIE” WONG AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE CHINESE AMERICAN SERVICE LEAGUE

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Bernarda “Bernie” Wong is retiring as the President & CEO of the Chinese American Service League; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong was born and raised in Hong Kong and came to the United States in 1962 to get her degree in social work from Blair Cliff University in Sioux City, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong completed her master’s degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong worked as a social worker in Chicago’s Chinatown community; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong and a small group of dedicated Chinese American friends came together to bridge the gap in services for Chinese Americans in Chicago and formed the Chinese American Service League in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong became President and CEO of the Chinese American Service League; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Bernarda “Bernie” Wong, the Chinese American Service League has become the largest, most comprehensive, social service agency in the Midwest dedicated to serving the needs of Chinese Americans; and

WHEREAS, Bernarda “Bernie” Wong was instrumental in growing the Chinese American Service League into an organization with 500 multilingual and multicultural staffers that offers vital physical, economic, mental and social support services; and

WHEREAS, the hard work and dedication of Bernarda “Bernie” Wong has helped numerous Chinese American Service League clients become thriving members of the greater Chicago Community and productive members of society; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby extend its warmest wishes and congratulations to Bernarda “Bernie” Wong on the occasion of her retirement, and join all who have had the pleasure of her friendship in wishing her still more years of good health and richly deserved happiness, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and an official copy of same be presented to Bernarda “Bernie” Wong to commemorate this joyous occasion.