



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

**Second Consent Agenda**

**for the**

**Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2015, 11:00 AM**

**15-2530**

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE 47th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT AND PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, April 2015 marks the 47th Anniversary of the passage of the U.S. Federal Fair Housing act. Adopted in the wake of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Fair Housing Act transformed the legal rights that all Americans have to rent and own homes in communities across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Fair Housing Act created a national policy of fair housing and today prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status or disability; and

**WHEREAS**, 2015 additionally marks the 36th anniversary of the Illinois Human Rights Act, a law which prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color religion, national origin, sex, physical or mental disability, familial status, age, ancestry, marital status, disability, military status, unfavorable discharge from military service, sexual orientation or order of protection status; and

**WHEREAS**, housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are corrosive and undermine a common sense of decency and fairness; and

**WHEREAS**, economic stability, community health and human relations in all communities are advanced by diversity and integration; and

**WHEREAS**, advocates and non-profits for fair housing assisted by the Federal Fair Housing Act have worked tirelessly to promote just and nondiscriminatory practices; and

**WHEREAS**, one of those non-profits is Open Communities, a leading voice for housing, economic and social justice in north suburban Chicago. Their mission is to educate, advocate and organize to promote just and inclusive communities in north suburban Chicago. Open Communities will host a celebration of the Fair Housing Act at their 11th Annual Fair Housing Month Event entitled "Coloring; A Film and Discussion" on Monday, April 27 at the Skokie Public Library; and

**WHEREAS**, the talents of grassroots and non-profit organizations, housing service providers, financial institutions, elected officials, state and county agencies, and others must be combined to promote and

preserve integration, fair housing and equal opportunity; 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 takes great pleasure in honoring and celebrating the 47th Anniversary of the FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT and herewith honors the progress and impact that the Fair Housing Act has made in bettering the lives of the citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the month of April be proclaimed Fair Housing Month in Cook County; 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 Open Communities at their 11th Annual Fair Housing Month Event on Monday, April 27 2015.

**15-2565**

**Sponsored by:** ROBERT STEELE, County Commissioner

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**BLUE BOW CAMPAIGN**

**WHEREAS**, child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout the community including the courts; and

**WHEREAS**, statistics of children who are abused and neglected escalate each year, last year, Cook County had 9,678 reported cases; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and must be addressed by the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, in Cook County Court there were 1,214 child abuse cases filed in 2013, 1,531 cases filed in 2014 and over 200 cases filed in the first three months of 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among the courts, social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement and the business community; and

**WHEREAS**, Parents Care + Share, a prevention program of Children's Home + Aid, offering positive parenting alternatives to help break the cycle of abuse, is sponsoring a Blue Bow Campaign to heighten awareness of the need to support families; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens should become more aware of child abuse within the community and to become involved in its prevention and supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Cook County calls upon all its citizens to create awareness and show their support of child abuse prevention month by wearing a blue ribbon and telling their family, friends and co-workers what the blue ribbon represents, building a blue ribbon tree to create a visual display of awareness and by signing the Parent Pledge to protect the children in their families and communities and prioritize child safety and well-being; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Children's Home + Aid, in recognition of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and a suitable copy of the same be placed upon this auspicious body.

**15-2575**

**Sponsored by:** LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE JOAN BARR-SMITH**

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Joan Barr broke the glass ceiling and made history in the city of Evanston politics when she was elected the first woman mayor of the city in 1985; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Joan Barr died March 21, leaving behind a lasting legacy of positive change that is realized both in the sustained prosperity of Evanston as well as the full involvement of women in their local government; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Barr confronted frequent challenges during her two terms as mayor. She boldly confronted the city's enduring and problematic landfill issue. She deftly faced the contentious issue of downtown re-development. She played a major role in diplomatically addressing the needs of the rapidly growing city; she was an early champion of smart development and the building of the Evanston Public Library, improvements that have helped make Evanston what it is today; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Joan Barr was a tireless civil servant who diligently served the city of Evanston first, as alderman for eight years and later as mayor for eight years. She was uniformly regarded as collegial and respectful. She was a consensus builder who worked to get results through full participation and arduous debate and without rancor or aggression; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith was dedicated to church life and was a prominent and treasured member of the Episcopal Church. She was a deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago in 2007 and later was ordained as a deacon at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Evanston. She was well known and admired in the Saint Mark Congregation as the champion of countless outreach projects to the community. She will long be remembered for her tireless work in the church's monthly food drives and annual collections of mittens and scarves as well as the hours she spent caring for parishioners who were sick or home-bound. She later became active with Grace Episcopal Church in Manchester, New Hampshire; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith was born in Rogers Park into a politically active family; her father was a former assistant secretary of commerce and raised Joan to be very active in politics. She moved to Evanston in the early 1960s and later became a successful small business owner. She took her impressive resume as community organizer and manager and put it to work as the governmental affairs director for the American Dental Hygienists Association. She later worked as the Deputy Director of Administration and Finance for the Illinois Department of Employment Security; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith was a major force for good in the community. She was active in many civic organizations. She served as president of the Dewey Community Conference and was involved with Northlight Theatre and Connections for the Homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith was a life-long learner. She received her under graduate degree from Syracuse University and much later in life she earned a master's degree in management from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith was an early feminist, one who proudly paved new territory for the next generation. While mayor, she served as President of the Northwest Municipal Conference and was on the Executive Committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. She was decades ahead of her time and was a role model for countless young women leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith's dedication to community, impressive volunteer work and groundbreaking achievements in politics were inspirational to numerous young people, including the two daughters she was raising, oftentimes as a single parent. She will be sorely missed by her two daughters Jennifer Bell and Debra Nee, son-in-law Kevin Nee as well as her husband Wayne Smith; and

**WHEREAS**, Joan Barr-Smith's loss will be felt acutely by her all of her grandchildren: Patrick Nee, Emmet and Murphy Bell and step-grandchildren Ean and Neal Smith; 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 life of Joan Barr-Smith, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the contributions she 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

Joan Barr-Smith..

**15-2576**

**Sponsored by:** LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING ROBERT BERRY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH SHORE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, Robert Berry has dutifully and tirelessly served the community for over a decade as Executive Director of the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District. In those years he served with great distinction and earned the respect and affection of his co-workers, many of whom also describe themselves as friends; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 31, 2015 Robert Berry will retire as Executive Director of the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District in order to focus his attentions on his avocation: creative writing. And, while many future retirees make elusive and oftentimes unkept promises of becoming writers in retirement, Robert Berry has the distinction of already having had two of his books published while still in the work force; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert Berry's visionary thinking helped modernize and make "green" the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District. On his watch the district installed solar panels achieving 100% solar powered status. He oversaw the installation of an ecological permeable paving system, a groundbreaking system that allows the movement of storm water through the surface. Working with staff, he helped introduce the use of Gambusia fish to assist in the abatement of mosquitos; Gambusia fish are also known as "mosquitofish" and their diet consists of large numbers of mosquito larvae; and

**WHEREAS**, originally from Massachusettes, Robert Berry has been described as a "Jack-Of -All Trades". He is a former teacher, newspaper reporter and even farmer. He is a talented baker, history buff and political theorist; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to joining the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District Robert Berry was the Superintendent of Operations of Municipal Utilities in Jacksonville, Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to spearheading the annexation of certain areas of Glenview, Robert Berry, will long be remembered for improving the district's communications with the community leaders and elected officials and for playing a major role in improving the district's image. He will also be fondly remembered for the role he played in crafting a tuition program for the employees; 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 takes great pleasure in honoring Robert Berry on his

retirement herewith honors and thanks him for all that he has done bettering the lives of 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 Robert Berry on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District.

**15-2584**

**Sponsored by:** ROBERT STEELE, County Commissioner

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. WILLIA L. SMALL**

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Willia L Small of Chicago, Illinois recently celebrated her 90th birthday surrounded by her children, Marcia Nicholson, Eric Small and Elliott Small Jr; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Small was born March 16, 1925 in Uniontown Alabama and has been a resident of Cook County since 1942; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Small is a graduate of Wendell Phillips High School, a graduate of Olive Harvey College with an Associate's Degree and a Graduate of National Lewis University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business; and

**WHEARAS**, Mrs. Small was married to the late Dr. Elliott C. Small a prominent Chicago dentist for 43 years until his passing in 1991; and

**WHEARAS**, Mrs. Small had had an outstanding dedicated and professional career as a Real Estate Broker, Tax Consultant, Property Manager, and Real Estate Appraiser just to name a few; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Small contributions to the civic community have included the Episcopal Women's Board of Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, appointed by the Bishop of Chicago, a member of the Women's Board of Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital, service to the Board of Metropolitan Community Services for over 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Small attributes her longevity and health to her faith in God, and maintaining a joyful attitude.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and Board of Commissioners of Cook County congratulate Mrs. Willa L. Small on the occasion of her 90th birthday and wish her continued

health and happiness for years to come.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text is spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy of same be tendered to Mrs. Willa L. Small to celebrate the auspicious occasion.