



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

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

Consent Agenda

Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 9:00 AM

Consent Calendar Meeting Third Set

19-1916

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**REMEMBERING LIVES LOST IN PARKLAND, FLORIDA ON THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SCHOOL SHOOTING**

WHEREAS, tragedy struck on February 14, 2018 in Parkland, Florida when a school shooting occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School; and

WHEREAS, 17 individuals senselessly lost their lives in the shooting; and

WHEREAS, many brave students, parents, and community members affected by this tragedy became advocates for sensible and necessary gun control measures; and

WHEREAS, through the advocacy of members of the Parkland community, particularly students that were present at the shooting, the Florida State House passed several gun reform measures for the first time in several decades; and

WHEREAS, the Parkland students were active in planning a national March For Our Lives event in Washington D.C. on March 24, 2018 with over 800 partner events held across the country with over 1.5 million participants; and

WHEREAS, Parkland students and parents of students who lost their lives have been active in directly lobbying Congress and being an active part of the gun control debate in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Parkland students in collaboration with Chicago students affected by gun violence created the Vote For Our Lives initiative with the intent of engaging young people in the political process by holding voter registration events across the county; and

WHEREAS, this group made it a priority to speak about gun violence in all communities recognizing that this movement needed to be intersectional; and

WHEREAS, Cook County stands with the Parkland community as they still grieve the loss of 17 wonderful students and faculty and all those affected by gun violence; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor those who have lost their lives to gun violence and the survivors of gun violence who continue to advocate for important gun control reforms such as comprehensive background checks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution are presented to Marjory

Stoneman Douglas High School.

19-1956

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING BLACK FIRE BRIGADE

WHEREAS, Black Fire Brigade is an organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the fire rescue service and EMS personnel, to provide continuing education and networking opportunities to members, and preserve the history and heritage of African-American fire and EMS service people; and

WHEREAS, Black Fire Brigade represents members' interest on public issues, discussions, and decisions affecting fire rescue and EMS rescue services, and promotes fundraising for those services; and

WHEREAS, opened in June 2018, Black Fire Brigade's clubhouse is located at 8404 South Kedzie Avenue in Chicago's Ashburn neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the clubhouse serves as a place for mentoring, support, training, historical remembrance and community for Chicago's firefighters, EMS personnel, and the next generation of leaders; and

WHEREAS, Black Fire Brigade contributes to the community by working to improve employment standards, introducing fire service initiatives, creating opportunities for community collaboration and celebrating art and culture; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby recognize and honor Black Fire Brigade for their contributions to the viability of Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to Black Fire Brigade as a means of communicating our appreciation.

19-1957

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE AUSTIN AFRICAN AMERICAN BUSINESS NETWORKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

WHEREAS, the Austin African American Business Networking Association, Incorporated (AAABNA) is a nonprofit corporation established in 2003 by Founder and Executive Director Malcolm Crawford and

by local business owners; and

WHEREAS, Malcolm Crawford and local business owners, proud of their African American heritage, foresaw a need to pool together resources to bring about effective change in the African American community; and

WHEREAS, AAABNA came together to fulfill moral, mental and community obligations, in the hopes that their joint effort could only serve to enhance and ultimately benefit the total community at large; and

WHEREAS, as the Austin community develops and grows, AAABNA members and Board Chairperson Charmaine V. Rickett recognize the need for business opportunities, education, training and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, AAABNA is in partnership with Mayor Emanuel's *Retail Thrive Zone Initiative*, a program aimed at strengthening the economic vitality of the West Side's commercial corridor, utilizing an evolving package of financial assistance to entrepreneurs and businesses offered by the City, building community-based wealth, employment and improved access to amenities in the neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, AAABNA collaborated with the City's Planning and Development Department in 2013 to create a commercial thrive zone initiative called the "Soul City Corridor", stretching along Chicago Avenue from Cicero Avenue to Austin Boulevard, to serve as a cultural touch point where residents and visitors may experience the music and food that is unique to Austin's African-American population via small business development; and

WHEREAS, Austin African American Business Networking Association, Inc. continues to be at the forefront of economic impact by creating and stimulating business growth, and providing advocacy and business education in Chicago's Austin neighborhood; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honors the Austin African American Business Networking Association, Inc. and praise its essential contribution to the health and viability of Cook County.

19-1958

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Honoring the Founders and Co-Owners of Vee-Jay Records, Vivian Carter-Bracken, James Bracken and Calvin Carter

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records was one of the first black-owned American independent record label established in 1953 in Gary, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, its principal office, and longest tenancy, was located at 1449 S. Michigan Avenue, today a historic landmark site for that very reason; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records label name was derived from the first name initials of the husband and wife team of Vivian Carter-Bracken (Vee) and James Bracken (Jay); and

WHEREAS, The Brackens along with Vivian's brother, Calvin Carter, prospered Vee-Jay Records into a successful black-owned independent record company specializing in blues, jazz, gospel, rhythm and blues, and rock and roll; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records produced major acts on the label in the 1950s including blues singers Jimmy Reed, Memphis Slim, and John Lee Hooker, and rhythm and blues vocal groups the Spaniels, the Dells, and the El Dorados; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, Vee-Jay Records became a major soul label with Jerry Butler and the Impressions, Gene Chandler, Dee Clark, and Betty Everett having hit singles on both the pop and R&B charts; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records was also the first label to nationally issue a record by The Pips, who eventually became Gladys Knight and the Pips in 1962 when they moved to Fury Records; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records had significant success with pop/rock and roll acts, such as the Four Seasons (their first non-black act) and the Beatles; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records acquired the rights to some of the early recordings by the Beatles through a licensing deal with EMI, as the EMI American affiliate Capitol Records was initially uninterested in the group; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records was the only American label willing to give the Beatles an opportunity in the United States and became the first U.S. record company to release recordings by the Beatles including "Twist and Shout", "Please Please Me", "From Me to You", "Do You Want to Know a Secret", and "Love Me Do"; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1960s, Vee-Jay Records signed the former successful child singer Jimmy Boyd, known for the hit "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus", ventured into folk music with Hoyt Axton and New Wine Singers, and also picked up Little Richard who re-recorded his special hits and recorded (1965) "I Don't Know What You've Got (But It's Got Me)", an R&B success with Jimi Hendrix, Don Covay, Bernard Purdie, Ronny Miller, and Billy Preston; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records' jazz line accounted for a small portion of the company's releases, recording artists such as Wynton Kelly, Lee Morgan, Eddie Harris, and Wayne Shorter; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records also had a major gospel line, recording such acts as the Staple Singers,

the Argo Singers, Swan Silvertones, the Caravans, Dorothy Love Coates and the Gospel Harmonettes, and Maceo Woods; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records even released comedy on LPs, with records by Dick Gregory, and Them Poems, Mason Williams' early nightclub act recorded with a live studio audience in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Vee-Jay Records were pioneers who contributed immensely to black art and culture, entrepreneurship, black pride, diversity, and gave opportunities to all the persons it recorded, released and employed including those who received Grammys, American Music Awards and are Inductees in the Rock N Roll and Blues Hall of Fame; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Vivian Carter-Bracken, James Bracken, and Calvin Carter, Founders and Owners of Vee-Jay Records and praise their contributions to the African-American art and culture of Cook County.

19-1959

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Honoring Dr. Lyn Hughes, Founder of the National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum

WHEREAS, Dr. Lyn Hughes, a former international entertainer - now an activist and scholar - moved to Chicago in the late 1980s; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, she began speculating real estate on Chicago's south side and discovered the Pullman historic district; and\

WHEREAS, after discovering an important slice of African American history, in 1995 Dr. Hughes founded The National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum (NAPRPPM), a public museum located in the National Park Service-Pullman National Monument on the south side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, not only is the museum about history, it's founding also made history by being founded by an African American female with predominantly private funds, and to this day operates on an entrepreneurial model; and

WHEREAS, NAPRPPM is the first Black Labor History Museum in the United States that exclusively tells the story of A. Philip Randolph, a New York magazine publisher, turned union organizer and civil rights leader, who after organizing the Pullman Porters in 1925, became founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; and

WHEREAS, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was the first African American labor union in

America to be chartered under the American Federation of Labor, and the first to win a collective bargaining agreement with a major U.S corporation, the Pullman Company; and

WHEREAS, the museum presents and interprets content intended to educate the public on the impact the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters union had on organized labor and on America's modern day civil rights movement; and

WHEREAS, the registry garnered the interest of Amtrak, who partnered with the National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum and developed a national program using the registry to locate, acknowledge and honor surviving members of the union, in ceremonies nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hughes's dedication and efforts to illuminate the museum's existence and its thematic content has resulted in global recognition in the tourism industry, for its unique interpretation of this significant component of American history; and

WHEREAS, the museum attracted the attention of the SHOWTIME network and inspired the creation of the 2003 docudrama, *10,000 Black Men Named George*, yielding an interest in history, of an entirely new generation; and

WHEREAS, the interest in the history Hughes excavated continued, and garnered the attention of ABC's Good Morning America, who was prompted to bring their crew to Chicago to the boutique museum and film a segment on the Pullman Porters; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Dr. Jon Jarvis, then, director of the National Park Service also made his way to Chicago to see the museum and meet Dr. Lyn Hughes; and

WHEREAS, in February 2015, President Barack Obama designated the historic Pullman District a national monument; and

WHEREAS, the museum has now made history again by becoming a historical black history site in Chicago's national park service; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Dr. Lyn Hughes, founder of the National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum and praise her essential contribution to the health and viability of Cook County.

19-1960

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING JIM PETERIK, MUSICIAN AND SONGWRITER

WHEREAS, from 1964 to the present day, Jim Peterik has been a founding member of Chicago's own musical group The Ides of March, known throughout the world for their hit record "Vehicle" and their equally popular "L.A. Goodbye," both of which were written and performed by Jim; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, as an original member of the Chicago Rock Band "Survivor" Jim Peterik co-wrote "The Eye of the Tiger" for the hit movie "Rocky III," and additional songs for the movie that reached platinum status, resulting in the sale of over 40 million copies; and

WHEREAS, from the 1980's to the present day, Jim has written, or co-written smash hit songs for groups such as .38 Special, The Beach Boys, and Sammy Hagar; and

WHEREAS, Jim has influenced and inspired countless songwriters through his best-selling book "Songwriting for Dummies" his memoirs "Through The Eye of the Tiger" and his numerous educational seminars throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Jim has donated his talent and services to many charities, including the campaign to raise funds for Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, after their disastrous fire in 2008, and The San Miguel Schools in Chicago; and,

WHEREAS, Jim has won several awards, including a Grammy award for "Eye of the Tiger" in 1983, a People's Choice award, and a nomination for an Academy Award (Oscar) in the same year; and

WHEREAS, Jim was born and raised in Berwyn, and has remained a resident of Cook County his entire life, and continues to be an ambassador of Chicago in his extensive travels throughout the world,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Jim Peterik and praise his essential contributions to the musical and artistic culture of Cook County.