



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

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

**Consent Agenda**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 1:00 PM**

**Consent Calendar Meeting - Third Set**

[20-0762](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING FATHER GEORGE CLEMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, Rev. George Clements was a longtime civil rights advocate from Chicago's South Side who was also known as the first Catholic priest to adopt a child, and later, three more; and

**WHEREAS**, active in the civil rights movement, Rev. Clements marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., in Chicago, Alabama and Mississippi and was arrested during the protests; and

**WHEREAS**, Father Clements spearheaded the "One Church-One Child" program in 1980, which aimed to spur Catholic churches to find adoptive parents for orphaned black children; and

**WHEREAS**, Friday, 51, one of Father Clements' adopted sons, said "This morning our dad decided that he needed to go home, that his work here on earth was done"; and

**WHEREAS**, Friday reflected, "The rectory was always open. If the doorbell rang, it had to be opened. And guess what, when the staff was gone, it was our responsibility. We had to open that door and our father would come downstairs and try to calm the situation," His son stated: "Despite being pulled in all directions, Father Clements still found time to be a great dad. We never lacked for anything in life," said Friday, an investigator with the Cook County Public Defender's office. "I graduated from college without having a student loan", and

**WHEREAS**, Father Clements hid Bobby Rush, when he was a Black Panther, and police were searching for him, while on the run following a police raid on the West Side that left Black Panther leader Fred Hampton dead in 1969; and

**WHEREAS**, Rev. George Clements made black Catholics proud to be black Catholics. He was a pioneering voice when black Catholics felt excluded, forgotten, and ignored in the Catholic church; and

**WHEREAS**, Father Clements' career inspired a made-for-TV movie in 1987 By Carlos Ballesteros and Mitch Dudek, "The Father Clements Story," which made the priest "a pioneering voice in the movement for adoptions by priests."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor Father George Clements and praise his essential contribution to the health and viability of Cook County

[20-0808](#)

**Sponsored by:** DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING MICHAEL TROUT FOR HIS LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE NORTH LAWNSDALE COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout is first and foremost a husband of 28 years to his wife Karen, a father of five (four sons and a daughter) and a grandfather of 7 and counting; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout sought to live a life where his love of God and his love for his wonderful neighbors in the North Lawnsdale community is the action most reflected in his life. In 1992, Mike and Karen move to the neighborhood to partner with local schools and churches. In 1996, Mike and a group of twelve boys started their own community-based organization called the Young Men's Educational Network, or YMEN as its known in Lawnsdale. Mike Trout, as founder, became YMEN's Executive Director; and

**WHEREAS**, YMEN continues to steadily grow since its inception in Michael Trout 's apartment over the past 24 years. YMEN now serves 300 youth each year by partnering with five local schools and by offering after school and weekend programs six days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, YMEN's main goal is indigenous leadership and its commitment to its student leaders does not end until the young person graduates college and hopefully returns to North Lawnsdale to re-invest in the next generation; and

**WHEREAS**, YMEN's commitment to growing community leaders also includes a college debt forgiveness program, a home ownership program, and affordable housing through this college and career residences; and

**WHEREAS**, Younger students at YMEN achieved a 90% high school graduation rate, with more than half of their students receiving a 3.0 or better GPA. Researchers at the University of Illinois at Chicago concluded YMEN is one of the most innovative and effective youth organizations in the city, if not the country. One of the keys to YMEN's success is its student voice, which shapes the day to day programs and Significant Board Decisions; and

**WHEREAS**; Mike Trout continues to faithfully lead YMEN helping it secure more than \$10million in additional external resources back to North Lawnsdale. Several of these resources helped YMEN create five lots for urban gardening, an outdoor sports court, and a club house which served more than 500 youth and their mentors; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout enjoys his calling to help youth leave the community and connect to a much

larger world through hands on learning and service projects. YMEN conducts annual trips ranging from to work with the Lakota Sioux in South Dakota to helping build two schools in Uganda Africa, YMEN students travel the world helping other communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout says, “Students who develop a love for learning and an appreciation of diverse cultures will make better and more collaborative leaders. This next generation is being equipped to build better bridges with others in the world”;and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout is also an aspiring rapper earning the nickname, White Chocolate, from his students. Michael Trout confesses you will not find him on an album any time soon;

**WHEREAS**, Michael Trout loves Chicago, the Cubs, food, his neighborhood of North Lawndale where he has lived his whole adult life, his children, and the people of his community; and

**WHEREAS**, above all, Michael Trout loves God and is grateful every day he can wake up and live out his calling; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County Government acknowledges Michael Trout for transforming lives through community engagement.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Toni Preckwinkle President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners as well as the Board of Commissioners along with the 5.3 million residents of Cook County do hereby recognized Mr. Michael Trout and his invaluable, leadership, dedication and commitment to the residents of North Lawndale and herewith express our sincere gratitude for your service to the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Mr. Michael Trout and copy be placed upon the official record of the honorable body recognizing this auspicious occasion.

[20-0809](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING MAYOR JOHN A. OSTENBURG FOR HIS WORK AND DEDICATION TO THE COOK COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY AS A LONGSTANDING BOARD MEMBER**

**WHEREAS**, Mayor John A. Ostenburg joined the Cook County Land Bank Board of Directors in 2013. He served as Secretary of the Board as well as a member of the Finance Committee. He also served on the Cook County Land Bank Authority Land Transactions Committee until 2018; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor John A. Ostenburg served as Mayor of Park Forest for 5 terms (20 years) starting in 1999 following seven years as a trustee and two years as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor John A. Ostenburg of Park Forest served as chairperson for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. Mayor Ostenburg is a former president of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) and has served on the SSMMA Executive Committee for several years. He is chairperson for the Chicago Southland Housing & Community Development Collaborative, which is a subset of the SSMMA; and,

**WHEREAS**, on the national level, Mayor Ostenburg has been a long-time member of the Community & Economic Development Committee of the National League of Cities (NLC) and serves on the NLC First-Tier Suburbs Council; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 he was named to the then 40-member NLC's Race, Equity, and Leadership (REAL) Council and served as a representative of suburban municipalities. When the REAL Council was incorporated into the formal structure of the NLC in 2017, he was named as co-chair and continues to serve in that post; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, under his leadership as mayor, Park Forest was one of three south suburban municipalities that created the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority (SSLDA). The SSLDA now has over 20 municipal members; and,

**WHEREAS**, upon retirement, Mayor Ostenburg is writing a book relating to housing and racial equity.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners honor Mayor John A. Ostenburg for his work and dedication to the Cook County Land Bank Authority as a longstanding board member.

[20-0810](#)

**Sponsored by:** DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING MRS. DONNA HAMPTON-SMITH FOR HER LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE WASHINGTON PARK COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Donna Hampton-Smith is the President and Founder of the Washington Park Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Mrs. Hampton-Smith worked in both the public and private sectors, including Illinois government as Chief of Staff for an Illinois State Legislator and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith attended Northeastern Illinois University, majoring in Political Science before owning and operating her own business for over twenty years. Mrs. Hampton-Smith also served

as a personal banker at one of the largest banks in Chicago, The 1st National Bank of Chicago, now known as J.P. Morgan Chase Bank. and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith's family raised her in the Robert Taylor Homes, and Mrs. Hampton-Smith lived on both the south and north sides of Chicago, Mrs. Hampton-Smith noticed the vast differences in the communities. Mrs. Hampton-Smith's love for community work came from a desire to make a difference in her community and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith and her husband purchased their home, and raised their beautiful daughter, Mrs. Hampton-Smith additionally set out making positive change around her family and community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith served her community in different capacities since the 1990s. Her first community work began by starting the 5700 S. Indiana Avenue Block Club and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith is a member of the Apostolic Church of God, where Dr. Byron T. Brazier serves as the lead Pastor and;

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Hampton-Smith continues to reside in the Washington Park community for over 30 years continuing her commitment to working with residents, business owners, and stakeholders to improve the quality of life for the people in the Washington Park Community and;

**WHEREAS**, in her spare time, Mrs. Hampton-Smith enjoys stepping, the Opera, and being with friends and family and;

**WHEREAS**, Cook County Government acknowledges Mrs. Donna Hampton-Smith for transforming lives through community engagement.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Toni Preckwinkle President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners as well as the Board of Commissioners along with the 5.3 million residents of Cook County do hereby recognized Mrs. Donna Hampton-Smith or her invaluable, leadership, dedication and commitment to the residents of the Washington Park Community and herewith express our sincere gratitude for your service to the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Mrs. Donna Hampton-Smith and copy be placed upon the official record of the honorable body recognizing this auspicious occasion

[20-0819](#)

**Sponsored by:** BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING MAYOR JEFFREY SHERWIN FOR HIS WORK AND DEDICATION TO THE COOK COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY AS A LONGSTANDING BOARD MEMBER**

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin has served as Mayor of Northlake since 1997; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Sherwin is a lifelong resident of Northlake and graduated from St. John Vianney Grade School and West Leyden High School; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Sherwin attended Triton College and graduated from Northeastern Illinois University and Chicago Kent College of Law; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 21, 2012, President Preckwinkle appointed Mayor Sherwin to the Cook County Land Bank Advisory Committee (CCLBAC). This committee carefully examines the challenges and tools available in Cook County as well as the experiences of land banks around the country to understand the range of options and identify best practices; and,

**WHEREAS**, on February 6, 2013, President Preckwinkle appointed Mayor Sherwin to the Cook County Land Bank Authority Board of Directors. Mayor Sherwin served as the Chair of the Data Analytics Committee and was responsible for selecting the eProperties Plus Asset Management System. He also served on the Cook County Land Bank Authority (CCLBA) Finance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Sherwin has been involved in many committees and organizations over the years, bringing his experiences and knowledge to his job as Mayor; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Sherwin was a private practice attorney focusing on real estate matters. Mayor Sherwin has served as Chairman of the Metropolitan Mayors, President of the West Central Municipal Conference, Chairman of the North Central Council of Mayors and Chairman of the Lower Des Plaines Advisory Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners honor Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin for his work and dedication to the Cook County Land Bank Authority as a longstanding board member.