Formal agenda July-10, 2018

# TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTIONS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

## Testimonial Resolution



## In Memoriam Beecher Anna Stewart Key February 24, 1936 – June 26, 2018

#### **WHEREAS**

Beecher Anna Stewart Key was born on February 24, 1936 in Fairmont, West Virginia to Samuel and Katherine Stewart. She was the third born of five children and was to become a loving, caring, and spiritual young woman; and

#### **WHEREAS**

Upon moving to Detroit, she attended the Detroit Public School System and graduated from Cass Technical High School in 1952. In her early twenty's, she met and married James Douglas Key and to this union four children were born. Beecher joined Revelation Missionary Baptist Church and it was here that she made her mark. She filled many roles and overcame many challenges, but it was her role as Sunday school teacher that brought her the most joy; and

#### WHEREAS

Mrs. Key wore many hats; mother, homemaker, business owner/operator of Key's Cleaners, "wife of the coach" and concerned neighbor. She gave unwillingly of herself and provided meals, guidance and support to anyone who needed help, but she was most passionate about her family. She was blessed with four biological children but she embraced and loved countless numbers of others, making everyone feel as if they were the 'favorite'; and

#### **WHEREAS**

Being known for her beautiful smile and immeasurable strength, Beecher endured the best and worst of life with style and grace. Our God in his infinite wisdom has seen fit to move Beecher Anna Stewart Key from our midst, we pay our respects to the memory of one whose life was full of love and now was called to join him in heaven; **THEREFORE**, **LET IT BE** 

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councilwoman Janeé L. Ayers and the entire Detroit City Council express heartfelt sympathy and extends condolences to her family. "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3

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#### REVEREND GREG ROBERTS

October 14, 1950 – June 25, 2018 In Memoriam

**WHEREAS** 

Reverend Greg Roberts was a devoted family man. He was a graduate of Central Michigan University and the father for four daughters; and

WHEREAS

Reverend Greg Roberts was a God fearing man that relentlessly spread the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the State of Michigan. In 1975 he was ordained by Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman, founder of the Shines of the Black Madonna, Pan-African Orthodox Christian Church. There he grew in faith and responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS** 

Reverend Greg Roberts dedicated his life to serving the community. He was the Director for Metropolitan Detroit Youth Foundation's Learning Centers for Achievement, a high school dropout prevention program. He also helped create the Detroit Mentoring Center for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit; and

WHEREAS

Reverend Greg Roberts held multiple positions as a clergyman. He served as the District Director for Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Director of community outreach for Wayne County's Department of Community Justice and Governor Granholm's liaison between the Administration and Detroit. In 2002 the governor appointed him as the Faith Based Director for Michigan. By 2003 he was sent to Benton Harbor to Co-Chair a Task Force designed to work with residents to address social and economic issues. Due to his commitment and talent of bringing peace and collaboration, Governor Granholm signed an executive order formally creating the Office of Community and Faith-Based Initiatives. In 2015 he served as the Faith Based Director for Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans; and

WHEREAS

It being the will of our Lord to call our beloved home after a long life of service, Reverend Greg Roberts transitioned from this life, from labor to reward on June 25, 2018; **THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** 

RESOLVED

That the Office of Councilman Scott Benson and Detroit City Council expresses their deepest condolences and share the sympathy in the loss of your loved one, *Reverend Greg Roberts*. Your loss is heaven's gain. May God bless you and comfort you during this time and always.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PROTEI

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July 2, 2018

#### **DETROIT CITY COUNCIL**

### Testimonial Resolution



## May Evelyn "Miss PelWee" Richardson

90th Birthday Celebration

WHEREAS:

May Evelyn Richardson, known as Miss PeeWee all over the City of Detroit, will celebrate her 90th birthday on July 7, 2018 at the Encore Banquet Center in St. Clair Shores, Michigan,; and

WHEREAS:

Miss PeeWee founded the Children's Crusade after the 1967 riot. It is headquartered in her home where the walls are covered with awards, letters from politicians and newspaper accounts of her half century of work. She started the Children's Crusade just to help the children of her beloved west side neighborhood. If they came to her door hungry, she fed them. If they were looking for a place to play, her backyard and swing set was open to them. If they needed a break from drug-addled parents, they spent the day with her in tutoring sessions or Bible study; and

WHEREAS:

In recent years, the free meals, job skills training and Bible classes have stopped but her love and support of the community continues. On September 23, 2017, Evelyn "PeeWee" Richardson Park was dedicated in her name at the corner of 30th and Herbert Street honoring her love and support for her community. The original name was 30th - Herbert Park but even then it was the result of Miss PeeWee. The children in the neighborhood needed a place to play, but there was opposition from some pastors in the neighborhood. With the help of TV reporter and two motorcycle clubs, Miss PeeWee helped them to see the error in that way of thinking; and

WHEREAS:

Miss PeeWee is small in stature, thus the source of her nickname, but tall and powerful in the community she loves. Watching over her "babies", as she calls the children in the neighborhood, she is often found sitting placidly in a chair on the side walk surveying her block; and

WHEREAS:

Miss PeeWee will tell you she gets her directions from God. She says He speaks to her regularly. More than 50 years she has followed what the Lord says and is the most powerful person in the neighborhood. She's fed thousands of kids from her little house. She's held street fairs and block parties that draw hundreds of neighbors. She lectures young and old, even arranging a lasting truce between two warring gangs. NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED:

Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López and her colleagues on the Detroit City Council celebrate 90 years of the life of May Evelyn "Miss PeeWee" Richardson. Thank you Miss PeeWee for listening to the voice of God. May you continue to do His will, protecting the children and being an inspiration to the City of Detroit for many more years.

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