Resolution

The Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Park District



Presented by Rosa Escareño, Interim General Superintendent & CEO on February 16, 2022

WHEREAS, the Chicago Park District exists to provide recreation and leisure services for all residents with disabilities who live in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, State Senator and United States Congressman Harris W. Fawell served in the Illinois State Senate from 1963 to 1977 and was named the "Outstanding Freshman State Senator" by the Illinois Press Association; and

WHEREAS, State Senator and United States Congressman Harris W. Fawell during his time in the Illinois legislature sponsored legislation that enabled and promoted the formation by park districts and municipalities of Special Recreation Associations (SRAs) to serve children and adults with disabilities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, as State Senator, Harris W. Fawell, also sponsored legislation that amended the Park District Code to authorize a specific tax levy for SRAs and the Chicago Park District that provided a reliable source of funding earmarked to enhance programs and their reach; and

WHEREAS, said levy funding has become a primary and essential Chicago Park District special recreation programs resource, facilitating an eventual four-fold budget increase and further expanding recreation opportunities for and transforming the lives of thousands of people with disabilities and their families throughout the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, State Senator and United States Congressman Harris W. Fawell, who passed away November 11, 2021, strove to represent and serve ALL people, applying his intelligence, patience, empathy and understanding toward the betterment of humanity, and indisputably enhanced the lives and futures of all people including those with disabilities in the State of Illinois during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) formally honored the late State Senator and United States Congressman Harris W. Fawell on January 28, 2022, in concert with SRAs and park districts across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Park District recognize the late State Senator and United States Congressman Harris W.

Fawell for his contributions to and support of the Illinois Parks and Recreation and Therapeutic Recreation community for the past 58 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be filed by the Secretary of the Chicago Park District on this 16th day of February 2022, and also presented to the late State Senator and United States Congressman's wife, Ruth Fawell, as a sign of our deep appreciation and esteem.

Tim King

Vice President, Board of Commissioners

Rosa Escareño

Interim General Superintendent & CEO