

2020-08 A RESOLUTION HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH, 2020

WHEREAS, the story of African-Americans is one of resilience and perseverance, tracing a people who refused to accept the circumstances under which the greatest majority arrived to this continent, who resisted and struggled through slavery, emancipation, Jim Crow, the modern civil rights movement, and onward through today; and

WHEREAS, 2020 marks the sixty-fifth anniversary of Rosa Parks refusing to surrender her seat on a bus which launched the Montgomery bus boycott and sparked nationwide efforts to end racial segregation of public facilities; and

WHEREAS, 2020 marks the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches and Bloody Sunday, when civil rights marchers led by John Lewis and Rev. Hosea Williams were beated by Alabama state troopers and county posse at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, which fueled the effort to introduce and pass the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

WHEREAS, Black history is American history, and in the celebration of Black History Month, we celebrate both the unique aspects of the African-American experience in this country and the remarkable contributions of African-Americans to the nation and culture, so that we all may carry appreciation, understanding, and celebration, in to the rest of the year: and

WHEREAS: during Black History Month, we pay tribute to the contributions and accomplishments of past generations and we reaffirm our commitment to keeping the American dream alive for generations to come, in pursuit of the righteous cause of a nation that is more just for all people, to address the inequalities and injustices that remain, and to the birthright promise of freedoms for all people that hold all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OHIO, THAT:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> We call upon all residents of University Heights to observe the month of February 2020 with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in celebration and recognition of Black History Month.

SECTION 2. We reaffirm our commitment to justice and against illegal discrimination in the City of University Heights, Ohio.

<u>SECTION 3</u>. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance of all legal requirements.

City of University Heights

John Rach, Councilwoman

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect at the earliest time allowed by law.

Michala Waiss Visa Mayor

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Passed: February 3, 2020

Kelly M. Thomas, Clerk of Council

Approved as to Form:

Attest:

M. Cila