



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



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Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/14/2012
Sponsor(s):	O'Shea, Matthew J. (19)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to Karen Danczak Lyons
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Karen Danczak Lyons has announced her resignation from the Chicago Public Library effective April 13, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this by Alderman Matthew J. O'Shea; and,

WHEREAS, Karen was born on May 8, 1958, to her loving parents Walter and Diane in Alsip, Illinois, joining her were her sister Sue and brother Walter; and;

WHEREAS, earning a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Psychology from Loyola University, Karen then received her Masters in Library Science from Dominican University; and,

WHEREAS, beginning her Library career in 1993, Karen came from being the Chicago Budget Director, to her dream job as 1st Deputy Commissioner; and,

WHEREAS, in her position, Karen's responsibilities included the development and implementation of the Library's Strategic Plans, the oversight of several Chicago Public Library departments including Human Resources, Building Operations, Labor Management, Staff Development, Library Automation, and Interagency and Transportation; and,

WHEREAS, during Karen's tenure, 52 new or fully renovated libraries have been built through the Library's Capital Improvement Program, an unparallel accomplishment which makes the City of Chicago Library the envy of the entire nation; and,

WHEREAS, Karen is a member of Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Science Honor Society and past co-President of the Dominican Alumni Council; and,

WHEREAS, not one to rest on her laurels, Karen is involved in many Library Associations, as President of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Library System, former Chairman of the Illinois Library Association's Public Policy Committee and former American Library Association Councilor representing the State of Illinois. She is currently President for the Illinois Center for the Book, a member of the Service Club of America, Board member for the Public Policy Committee of ILA, and President of the Friends of Loyola Libraries. She is also involved with the PLA Leadership Taskforce and is the conference chair for the upcoming PLA 2012 National Conference; and,

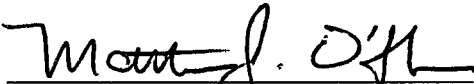
WHEREAS, after the retirement of Commissioner Mary Dempsey, Karen was appointed Acting Commissioner of the Chicago Public Library pending confirmation of a new commissioner, in this capacity she is responsible for the daily administration of the Library, which has more than 800 employees in 79 locations and an annual operating budget of \$100 million.

WHEREAS, Karen married the love of her life, Brian, a short twenty two years ago, settling in the Beverly Community and became a world traveler, a avid reader, a marvelous cook, a passionate gardener and a knitting machine; and,

WHEREAS, while Karen is leaving the City of Chicago, her legacy is left on every person who visits a Chicago Public Library to take out a book, DVD, audio book, downloadable book, and music, do sophisticated research, use a computer, join an author discussion, visit an exhibit or attend one of the many programs that are offered free of charge; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this fourteenth day of March, 2012, do hereby express our appreciation to Karen Danczak Lyons for her many years of service to residents of the City of Chicago and wish her well as the Director of the Evanston Public Library; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Karen Danczak Lyons.


Matthew J. O'Shea
Alderman, 19th Ward