



# City of Chicago



R2013-829

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	9/11/2013
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Burke, Edward M. (14)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Congratulations extended to Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council on 75th anniversary
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council (BYNC) is the country's oldest non-profit community organization and 2013 will mark its *75th Anniversary*; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this event by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council (BYNC) is a community organization whose mission is to enhance the general welfare of all residents, organizations, and businesses by integrating social service and economic development programs; and

WHEREAS, The Back of the Yards neighborhood was originally part of the Town of Lake until its annexation by Chicago in 1889; and

WHEREAS, The expansion of the neighborhood began in the mid-nineteenth century with the establishment of the Union Stockyards; and

WHEREAS, BY 1900, the neighborhood had been transformed into a series of Slavic enclaves, dominated by Poles, Czechs, Lithuanians, and Slovaks; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Meegan, the superintendent of Davis Square Park and Saul Alinkski, a professional organizer founded the BYNC in 1939 to be a unified voice for the neighborhood to improve the quality of life for residents and businesses alike; and

WHEREAS, In the early years, the BYNC forged a path as a confrontational, anti-establishment organization that often conflicted with the Stockyards' owners and the government; and

WHEREAS, Over the decades the community has evolved into a predominately Hispanic neighborhood; and

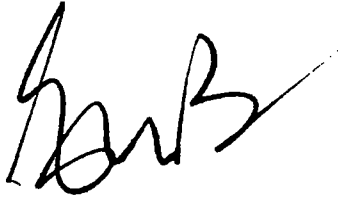
WHEREAS, The BYNC responded to the demographic, social, and economic changes of the neighborhood, by working closely with local businesses and elected officials to improve the conditions in the neighborhood and create new community programs; and

WHEREAS, Today the BYNC offers a variety of programs, including the Ballet Folklorico, a free senior citizen shuttle bus, a public computer lab with computer literacy training, GED classes taught in Spanish, ESL classes, an After School Tutoring program, senior home repair, senior advocacy, job readiness and linkage services, an Industrial Retention program, an organization for the annual Fiesta Back of the Yards, technical assistance to small businesses, LISC's New Communities Program, and the administration of four Special Service Areas; and

WHEREAS, On October 3, 2013 the BYNC will celebrate its *75th Anniversary* with a Diamond Jubilee Gala at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this eleventh day of September 2013, do hereby congratulate the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council on the occasion of its *75th Anniversary* and do hereby declare that October 3, 2013 shall be officially recognized as the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council Day throughout the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. B.', written over a horizontal line.

***Alderman – 14<sup>th</sup> Ward***