



City of Chicago



O2013-9094

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 11/13/2013

Sponsor(s): Suarez (31)
Fioretti (2)
Moreno (1)
Waguespack (32)

Type: Ordinance

Title: Honorary designation of plaza bounded by N Ashland Ave,
W Division St and N Milwaukee Ave as "Polonia Triangle"

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Housing and Real Estate

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, northwest Chicago is home to one of the nation's oldest and most prominent Polish settlements; and

WHEREAS, an existing plaza located in the area bounded by the intersection of Ashland Avenue, Division Street and Milwaukee Avenue is at the heart of Chicago's Old Polish Downtown; and

WHEREAS, the surrounding area functioned as the de-facto capital for Polish Americans from the 1870s through the first half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the headquarters of many major Polish organizations were once clustered within the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, four Polish-language daily newspapers were published in the surrounding area and delivered throughout the United States and to several foreign countries; and

WHEREAS, the surrounding area was once home to multiple polka clubs, Polish-owned banks, Polish bars and pierogi spots; and

WHEREAS, the plaza is still at the center of a large Polish American community in Chicago; and

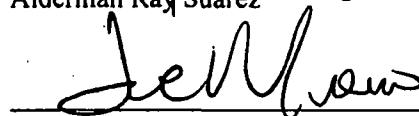
WHEREAS, Polish American businesses and institutions such as the Polish Museum of America, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, the Chopin Theater and the Podhalanka Polska Restauracja are located in the surrounding area near the plaza; and

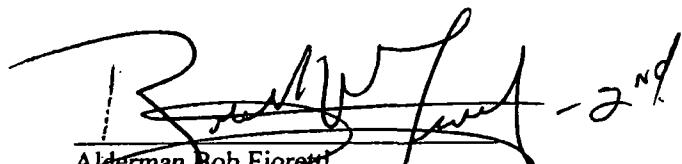
WHEREAS, the historically Polish parishes of St. Stanislaus Kostka, Holy Trinity, and St. John Cantius are also located near the surrounding area; and

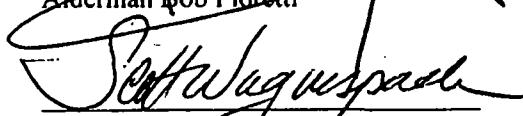
WHEREAS, naming the plaza to reflect this rich historical heritage will pay tribute to the many Polish Americans that have settled and contributed to the City of Chicago over the past 150 years; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, that an honorary designation is hereby conferred upon the aforesaid plaza, which shall hereafter be referred to as the "Polonia Triangle".


Alderman Ray Suarez


Alderman Joe Moreno

 - 2nd
Alderman Bob Figoretti


Alderman Scott Waguespak