



City of Chicago



R2018-442

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

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| Meeting Date: | 4/18/2018 |
| Sponsor(s): | Burke (14) Dowell (3) |
| Type: | Resolution |
| Title: | Congratulations extended to Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr. on retirement as senior pastor of Progressive Community Center - the People's Church |
| Committee(s) Assignment: | |

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council would like to congratulate Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr. on his retirement after serving 37 years as the senior pastor of Progressive Community Center – The People’s Church; and

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

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr. was born in Mound Bayou, Mississippi and received the call to ministry at the age of 9; and

WHEREAS, He came of age during the Civil Rights Movement, suffering violence at the hands of Mississippi racists, but became involved with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Martin earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Philander Smith College in 1967, then attended Payne Theological Seminary and Garrett Evangelical Seminary, from which he earned his Master of Divinity degree in 1971; and

WHEREAS, He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letter from Monrovia College, an academic Doctor of Ministry from McCormick Theological Seminary and an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Martin served as a Methodist pastor for twenty years at two churches, one on the west side of Chicago, and the other on the south side, before finding his calling as a Senior Pastor at the Progressive Community Center – the People’s Church, where he served from 1981 until the present; and

WHEREAS, Outside of the church, Reverend Martin gave back to his community and served as Executive Director and eventually President of the Chicago Southside Branch of the NAACP, the Board of Directors and Chairman for the Chicago Housing Authority, was appointed by Mayor Eugene Sawyer as Chairman of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, led “Operation Safe Passage,” and co-chaired the African-American/Jewish Seder; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, Reverend Martin also served as the spiritual mentor for Mayor Harold Washington and delivered his eulogy after he was called to eternal life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Martin is known for his community and spiritual leadership in Chicago, striving to heal the racial divide in the City and spearheading efforts for healing, reconciliation and forgiveness in times of sorrow; and

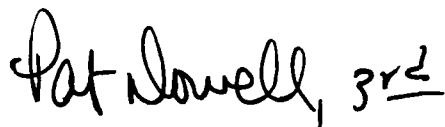
BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council assembled this eighteenth day of April, 2018, do hereby congratulate Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr. on his retirement and do hereby extend our best wishes to him; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That April 29th shall be known as Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr. Day throughout Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Dr. B. Herbert Martin, Sr.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. H. B." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alderman - 14th Ward

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Pat Howell, 3rd" with a stylized flourish at the end.