

City of Chicago



R2015-545

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 7/29/2015

Sponsor(s): Dowell (3)

Type: Resolution

Congratulations extended to Conel Eugene F. Scott and Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. on Bud Billiken Day Title:

Parade and Picnic

Committee(s) Assignment:

A Resolution Honoring the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. and the Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic

WHEREAS, the Chicago Defender Newspaper was founded in 1905 by Robert S. Abbott as a literary medium for local and national news and to raise awareness of the injustices suffered by African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. was founded to continue the tradition of addressing the needs and concerns of African Americans set forth by the Chicago Defender Newspaper; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. achieves its mission through cultural, social and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, the Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic is an annual event planned by the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. to entertain, encourage and empower children across Illinois who are returning to school; and

WHEREAS, the Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic is the largest African-American parade of its kind and will mark its 86th anniversary on August 8, 2015, when it will continue to highlight the importance of education and supporting students, teachers, schools and principals; and

WHEREAS, in addition to running the Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic, the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. also offers programs to improve the quality of life for African-Americans students including a scholarship initiative that has supported the education of hundreds of students by offering more than 1.5 million dollars in scholarships funds since its inception. Scholarship receptients are represented at educational institutions in various states throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the current President of Chicago Defender Charities, Inc., Colonel Eugene F. Scott, US Army – Retired, has served in this capacity for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, this year's Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic will be the final parade with Colonel Scott at the helm of the Chicago Defenders Charities, Inc., who, as president, deepened and continued to emphasize the importance of education as the true pillar of the Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the City Council members of the City of Chicago hereby assembled on this the 29th day of July, 2015, do hereby honor the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. Bud Billiken Day Parade and Picnic as well as Colonel Eugene F. Scott, and urge all citizens to join the festivities on August 8, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. and to Colonel Eugene F. Scott and his family.

Pat Dowell

Alderman, 3rd Ward

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