



Office of the Chicago City  
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R2012-562

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	6/6/2012
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Fioretti, Bob (2)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Tribute to late Iola McGowan
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

## **TRIBUTE TO IOLA McGOWAN**

WHEREAS, In His Infinite Wisdom, Almighty God has granted eternal rest to Iola McGowan, an outstanding public servant and beloved member of her community, on May 24, 2012; and

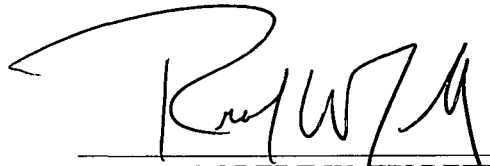
WHEREAS, Iola McGowan started life as Iola Stewart on September 8, 1936, on this city's West Side. She graduated from Farragut High School in 1954. In 1962, she married the late Adam McGowan, started a family and began involving herself with community improvement efforts. Inspired by such crusading activists as the late Nancy Jefferson, she pursued her education and, by 1980, she earned a degree in inner city studies from Northeastern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS, Starting her community activism through writing grants for establishment of a much-needed day care center in Lawndale, Iola McGowan climbed up the ladder in the Illinois Democratic Party from working precinct-level politics to vice chair of the state party and director of consumer services under former Mayor Jane Byrne, the same job Byrne had held under the late Mayor Richard J. Daley. As Commissioner, she was also in charge of the Model Cities community services program and helped produce a coloring book aimed at educating young people about nutrition and food shopping that eventually found statewide approbation. She ran for several elective offices but found more success in appointed politics, serving as commissioner of the Chicago Park District as well as a Illinois State Democratic Central Committeewoman and vice-chair of the Illinois Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Robert W. Fioretti, Alderman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, has informed this august body of the passing of this remarkable and noteworthy servant of the public; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council gathered together this 6<sup>th</sup> Day of June, 2012 AD, do hereby express our sincere sorrow at the passing of Iola McGowan and extend our deepest condolences to her family and the many persons whose lives she touched.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and given to the family of Iola McGowan.



ROBERT W. FIORETTI  
Alderman - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward