

ALD. ZIELINKSKI

Resolution honoring the Avalon Theater in Bay View on the occasion of its grand reopening on December 18, 2014.

WHEREAS,

THE AVALON THEATER

celebrated its grand reopening on December 18, 2014 after more than a decade of vacancy followed by extensive renovations to the Bay View landmark at 2473 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.; and

WHEREAS, *Opened in 1929, the Avalon Theater was the first cinema venue in Wisconsin built to accommodate motion pictures with sound, and it became well-known for its iconic twinkling “starlight” ceiling and atmospheric ambience; and*

WHEREAS, *After its closure in 2000, the Avalon Theater was pitched as a venue for several other types of businesses before it was bought in 2005 by Lee Barczak, an experienced businessman and developer who swore that he would return the theater to its former glory and grandeur as a neighborhood movie house; and*

WHEREAS, *With the support of city and business leaders in the area, Lee Barczak pieced together millions of dollars in funding to restore the Avalon Theater, modernizing equipment to offer spectators the very finest in viewing experiences, adding a second screen to provide patrons with multiple features and renovating the building’s signature marquee; and*

WHEREAS, *Offering patrons a bar and culinary amenities in addition to fine cinema, the newly-rechristened Avalon Atmospheric Theater & Lounge is an iconic landmark of which Bay View and Milwaukee residents can be proud for generations to come; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith honors the Avalon Theater in Bay View on the occasion of its grand reopening, thanks owner Lee Barczak for his extensive efforts and the investment in his community, and extends best wishes for the iconic theater’s continued success; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Avalon Theater.*

Introduced by Common Council member Tony Zielinski and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on January 21, 2015.