



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE NAMING OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, FACILITIES AND STREETS

John Gurda - Chair

Carl Baehr, Clayborn Benson III, Carrie Fix, Reuben K.

Harpole, Matthew O'Neill

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Monday, January 6, 2025

9:30 AM

Virtual

Please join this meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Access Code:

464-941-125

United States:

+1 (408) 650-3123

Meeting convened: 9:30 AM

All members present.

1. [240907](#) Substitute resolution assigning the honorary street name "Judge Clarence R. Parrish" to North Teutonia Avenue from West Center Street to West Clarke Street in the 15th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Atty. Sheila Parrish, daughter of Judge Parrish, present on this item. She said how much he gave of himself to the community for the benefit of the people in the community. His law office was on Teutonia and Center for decades and was the Mayor of Bronzeville when the family lived on 9th and Chambers. He was a Court Commissioner and he believed in community and offered many scholarships. He was constantly reaching out to make it a better place and was a licensed minister. He was the lawyer for Black Jim vegetables and helped with the label design. He was the first African American elected as a Milwaukee County Circuit Court judge in 1981 and served until his demise in 1992. He spoke to many students in many grades about the law. He was the president of the NAACP Milwaukee and one of the founders of the Wisconsin Black Lawyers Association. He was also instrumental in getting the Milwaukee Star on 6th and Center started and served as its lawyer.

Mr. Benson moved, seconded by Mr. Harpole, for approval. The vote was unanimous. Judge Ashley, Milwaukee County Circuit Court, also lauded the trailblazing work of Judge Parrish. The fact that he was the first African American to win an election was

groundbreaking.

Yance Marti, Dept. of Public Works, reviewed the application and all is in order. Two street signs will be required.

2. [241370](#)

Substitute resolution assigning the honorary name "Gary P. Grunau Memorial Plaza" to the stub end of West Highland Avenue abutting the Milwaukee River in the 4th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Atty. Bruce Block, counsel for BID #15, present on this item. Mr. Grunau was a life-long Milwaukeean who had a knack for serving as a linchpin for catalytic projects in this city. The Schlitz complex was transformed over 30 years to a modern office park due to his vision and hard work. A decommissioned energy building was converted into office space where Time-Warner currently exists and he prevailed upon Manpower to move from a suburb to downtown. His most significant contribution was his role in creating the Wisconsin Center District and he worked for two years on creating a body that had taxing authority. His most visible contribution to the community is the creation and implementation of the Milwaukee riverwalk. He devised the system to fund the riverwalk, which continues to this day to extend the riverwalk. He created the Milwaukee Riverwalk District, a private nonprofit that supports the riverwalk. He also started the crew races along the river, which continue to this day. He passed in 2019 and served on many boards during his lifetime.

Mr. Yance Marti, DPW, said the application is good and the signage will be put together as part of the project.

Mr. Baehr moved, seconded by Ms. Fix, for approval. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 9:50 AM

Linda M. Elmer

Staff Assistant