



Legislation Text

File #: R13039, Version: 0

R13039

Original

The Chair

Resolution commending Ms. Sue Kenealy for 44 years of service to the citizens of Milwaukee, including 13 years of service to the City of Milwaukee and the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

WHEREAS, Ms. Susan Kenealy has retired from the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) after 44 years of service to the people and neighborhoods of the City of Milwaukee, including the last 8 years with HACM; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kenealy started her career as a VISTA volunteer assisting students who needed remedial instruction in reading and math, and implementing a GED program for young adults; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kenealy spent the next eighteen years working to assist those impacted by alcohol and drug abuse in Milwaukee's neighborhoods, first as a Drug and Alcohol Counselor with United Community Center from 1977 to 1984; then as a Supervisor and Prevention Education Specialist for the Milwaukee Council on Drug Abuse from 1984 to 1992, then as the Program Manager for the Neighborhood Partners Program from 1992 to 1995, which was named by the United States Congress as an exemplary program in substance abuse prevention; and

WHEREAS, during the next ten years from 1995 to 2005, Ms. Kenealy successfully managed the Weed & Seed Program for Community Partners, facilitating a broad coalition of law enforcement, community groups, prosecutors, community-based organizations, schools, and neighborhood residents to develop and implement anti-crime strategies within high crime neighborhoods in the city through a community outreach and organizing approach; and

WHEREAS, the Weed & Seed model was nationally recognized and resulted in a 21% reduction of crime in 18 months in three of Milwaukee's most troubled neighborhoods and eventually spun off into the Safe and Sound initiative in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kenealy also served the City of Milwaukee as a Grants Manager from 2005 to 2011 and the Housing Authority as Grants Manager from 2011 to 2019, and assisted the City and Housing Authority in developing and implementing grants that total several hundred million dollars, to assist with law enforcement and crime prevention, youth development, homeland security, education, housing stabilization, flood prevention and federal emergency management, workforce development, neighborhood revitalization, building bridges, and other areas; and

RESOLVED, by the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee that Ms. Susan Kenealy be and is hereby thanked and commended for her 44 years of dedicated service to improving the lives of citizens of Milwaukee, including public housing residents and other low-income families; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that best wishes be extended to Ms. Susan Kenealy for a long and fulfilling retirement.