

REGULAR MEETING

Chambers of the City Council

Thursday, March 15, 2018

CITY COUNCIL

Municipal Building

7:05 p.m.

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PRESENT: Council President Morad, Councillors Carney, Coelho, Giesta, Gomes, and Lopes, and Markey.

LATE: Councillor Rebeiro 7:08 p.m.

ABSENT: Councillors Abreu, Dunn and Lima

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Council President Linda M. Morad called the meeting to order and presided.

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Councilor Carney led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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COMMUNICATION, Councillor Dunn, to Members of the City Council informing that he will be absent for the Celebration Meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2018, due to a work commitment.

Received and Placed on File. (#0412)

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COMMUNICATION, Councillor Abreu, to Members of the City Council informing that he will be absent for the Celebration Meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2018, due to being home sick.

Received and Placed on File. (#0413)

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COMMUNICATION, Council President Morad, to City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council Dennis W. Farias, calling a SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL for THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SECOND FLOOR OF CITY HALL, for the celebration and awarding of Official City Council Citations and Resolutions. (To be Received and Placed on File.)

Received and Placed on File. (#0414)

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CITATION, Councillors Gomes, Markey and Council President Morad, honoring GLEN GRIMES, in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to the City of New Bedford as a member of the Traffic Commission.

TABLED. (#0415)

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CITATIONS, Councillor Abreu, honoring the BARBOZA FAMILY, in recognition of their representing the City of New Bedford proudly on the "Family Feud" Game Show.

TABLED. (#0416)

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CITATION, Councillors Giesta and Abreu, honoring the BRIAN HARRINGTON, in recognition of his Charitable Cause "Operation Give Warmth", that supplied over 650 winter coats to the needy in the Greater New Bedford Area.

Adopted. (#0417)

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Lopes, Council President Morad, Councillors Gomes, Abreu and Carney.

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CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 15, 2018

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE DENNISON MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER  
ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**WHEREAS**, The Dennison Memorial Community Center, one of the oldest community organizations in New Bedford, is named after its founder, the Reverend Tristan Dennison, and was incorporated in 1868 to serve the poor and needy of New Bedford, through free dental clinics, public baths and social activities; and

**WHEREAS**, Prior to its 1868 incorporation, the center was founded in the 1850's, as a place for immigrants who had come here to toil on the boats, docks and mills of New Bedford; and

**WHEREAS**, Initially named the New Bedford Ladies Mission, Reverend Tristan Dennison became the heart and soul of the organization and the Center became a pillar of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Today, still located in the South End, the Dennison Memorial Community Center's programs, individualized services and staff focus on children and seek to promote self-esteem and values, encouraging each child to grow into a responsible adult, working with at-risk youth and their families, providing intervention services in a safe environment; and

**WHEREAS**, The Dennison Memorial Community Center is also a State licensed, school-aged day care facility accessed through the PACE voucher system, promoting active learning through play-based and child initiated activities, they provide tutoring and homework assistance and computer science labs; and

**WHEREAS**, The Dennison Memorial Community Center also offers afterschool and summer athletic, artistic and academic programs for youth from first grade through high school, educational and recreational field trips, a free summer lunch program and for older youth, career exposure and college planning support; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2004, the old building that housed the Dennison Memorial Community Center was torn down to make way for a new, \$1 million, 12,000 square foot facility, spearheaded by a fundraising drive led by Executive Director Sean Hargraves, who has been with the Center since 1982, and was accomplished without any government funding; and

**WHEREAS**, Most of the five hundred kids at the Dennison Memorial Community Center come from the West and South ends of the City and, according to President and CEO Jim Mathes, there are more than one hundred children in the building on any given day; and

**WHEREAS**, For 150 years the Dennison Memorial Community Center has provided a refuge for local youth to play, socialize, study, learn and build friendships:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That the New Bedford City Council hereby honors the **DENNISON MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**, commends them for their dedication to the education and well-being of our City's children, thanks them for their invaluable service and the positive impact they have made on each succeeding generation and wishes them continued success in the many years to come.

Adopted.

(#0421)

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The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Lopes.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

**WHEREAS,** Because Multiple Myeloma is a rare disease there can be a delayed diagnosis, leading to delayed treatment; and

**WHEREAS,** Continued investment and innovation is critical in achieving early diagnosis and implementing the most effective and safest treatments for Myeloma patients; and

**WHEREAS,** Understanding and treatment of Multiple Myeloma has been greatly furthered by the role of advocacy initiatives promoting awareness, education, research, peer review, increased awareness of the disease on the part of clinicians and the general public can lead to earlier detection and treatment, improving health outcomes; and

**WHEREAS,** Although we have seen important advances in the last decade, there is still no cure for Multiple Myeloma; and

**WHEREAS,** Founded in 1990, the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education, research and treatment of Multiple Myeloma, committed to finding a cure, they support the treatment of people suffering with Myeloma and encourage private efforts to enhance research funding and educational programs:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the New Bedford City Council hereby recognizes **MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2018**, and encourages all residents to participate in voluntary activities that support funding of research programs to find a cure for Multiple Myeloma.

Adopted.

(#0422)

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The following Resolution was presented by Council President Morad, Councillors Coelho, Carney, Rebeiro and Giesta.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 15, 2018

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH -  
MARCH 2018**

**WHEREAS,** American women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways and have served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

**WHEREAS,** Founded in 1980, the National Women’s History Project is a non-profit educational organization committed to recognizing and celebrating the diverse and significant historical accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials and programs and led the drive to write women back into history by recognizing the achievements of women in all facets of life; and

**WHEREAS,** The National Women’s History Month 2018 Theme is “*Nevertheless She Persisted*” – “*Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*”, it is an opportunity to honor women who have shaped our country’s history and its future through their tireless commitment to ending discrimination against women and girls, through this theme we celebrate women fighting to dismantle the structural, cultural and legal forms of discrimination that have plagued American women for far too long, we celebrate women fighting not only against sexism, but also against the many intersecting forms of discrimination faced by American women, *Nevertheless She Persisted* is a phrase born in February 2017, when Senator Elizabeth Warren, D-MA, was silenced during Senator Jeff Sessions’ confirmation hearing for Attorney General, at the time Senator Warren was reading an opposition letter penned by Coretta Scott King (a past NWHP honoree) in 1986, referring to the incident, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-KY, later said “Senator Warren was giving a lengthy speech, she appeared to violate the rule, she was warned, she was given an explanation. *Nevertheless She Persisted*” feminists immediately adopted the phrase in

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the New Bedford City Council hereby recognizes March as **NATIONAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**, thanks all the women locally and nationally who have made a mark on our City, State and Country’s culture, government and society.

Adopted.

(#0423)

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On a motion, the Council then adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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ATTEST:

DENNIS W. FARIAS, CITY CLERK/  
CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL