

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2017-016

Approving the renaming of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Community Center to the "Durham E. Carter Community Center at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park"

WHEREAS, the late Durham E. Carter was born and raised in Columbia, graduated from Booker T. Washington High School and obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Social Studies from Allen University and Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Indiana University; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter was no stranger to hard work, working his way up at the Wade Hampton Hotel as a dishwasher, to the soda foundation and then to the cash register in the Wade Hampton Hotel Drug Store while in high school, and earned his Master's Degree from Indiana University while teaching in the Aiken County School system; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter was a career counselor and educator, having worked as a teacher and guidance counselor in the Aiken County School system and in Ridge Spring, South Carolina, and a vocational rehabilitation evaluator, named the first African American supervisor in the Vocational Rehabilitation Department before retiring in 1994 as the Assistant to the Commissioner for Client Relations; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter was a community activist and visionary, having served as President of the Carolina Action Organization (ACORN), lead the movement for single-member districts in the City of Columbia, was the founder of the Waverly/Valley Park Neighborhood Association (now the Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association), and worked as a poll worker on election days for decades; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter was the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council, President of the S.C. State Employees Association, Chairman of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation, lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a deacon at Brookland Baptist and member of the Brotherhood Ministry and Christian Counseling Center Ministry; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter received numerous awards for his community involvement including the Community Service Award from the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council, in 1994 the City of Columbia presented him with a proclamation for "Durham E. Carter Day" and he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by then Governor Carroll Campbell, Jr.; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia this 10th day of January, 2017, that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Community Center is hereby renamed the "Durham E. Carter Community Center at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park".

Requested by:

Senior Assistant City Manager Baker



Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Introduced: 1/10/2017
Final Reading: 1/10/2017

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