

Resolution #31108

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners is proud to recognize and honor individuals who have a vision and are dedicated to serving Kansas City with distinction; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners shall directly superintend, control, manage, develop and extend all parks, boulevards, parkways, greenways, recreation facilities and other properties and resources as assigned by the City Council upon recommendation of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board retains the right to name Parks, Boulevards, Parkways, Greenways, and Recreation facilities in honor of individuals, living or deceased, who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the City and Parks and Recreation in particular; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Starks Wilson, a child of Leeds Neighborhood spent many happy hours relaxing and playing in Liberty Park; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Wilson provided stability, passion and guidance for students and teachers for over 35 years, serving as principal of three elementary schools at one time and also, served as the Director Elementary; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Stark Wilson spent her entire life working to enhance the lives of people in Kansas City and the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, following her career as an educator, she helped with the creation of the Spirit of Freedom Foundation and guided the development of the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center by producing legislation to provide for funding for maintenance of the center; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Starks Wilson also, served on the Lincoln University Board of Curators; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Starks Wilson was sworn in as House Representative to the Missouri Legislature in 1999 and went on to be elected as Senator of the Ninth District serving admirable for several years; and

WHEREAS, Former Senator Wilson represented the citizens of Kansas City while in the Missouri House of Representatives and the Missouri Senate for 11 years, focusing on issues of education children and families, housing, and public safety; service to her community, city and state remain a constant in her life


WHEREAS, one of former Senator Wilson's achievements was the sponsored and passage of Senate version of House Bill NO. 2297, which created the Kansas City

Zoological District and a funding mechanism that financed significant improvements the Kansas City Zoo; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS: To recognize and Former Senator Yvonne Starks Wilson for her leadership and distinguished service to the citizens of Kansas City and to the preservation of the history of African American's in Kansas City, by naming Liberty Park located at E, 34th Terr. & Stadium a 17.78-acre park the Yvonne Starks Wilson Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this Resolution be entered into the Official Minutes of the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners.

I, Karmen Houston, Secretary to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution #31108, approved by the Board on September 11, 2018.


Karmen D. Houston, Secretary