

RENAMING BENNING PARK RECREATIONAL CENTER TO THE “WOODY WARD RECREATIONAL CENTER”

WHEREAS, under DC Official Code 9-204.01 any name change, symbolic name or commemorative works as to Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) parks and builds is prohibited without Mayoral and Council approval.

WHEREAS, the ANC 7E Commission is an appointed body established to advise the Councilmember of Ward 7 on long-range matters related to Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, Benning Park Recreation Center has recently been approved for modernization and the new facility will provide programmatic opportunities for all ages, interests and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the late Woody Ward was born on January 9, 1943, in Washington, Pennsylvania and moved to Washington DC in the early 1960's where he was an active member and leader of the Benning Park Community; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Maryland Eastern Shore in 1964 with a Bachelor of Arts in Recreation to pursue his love for sports and recreation.

WHEREAS, in 1965 he was accepted to play for the Buffalo Bills, a National Football League (NFL) team, until he was injured in 1966.

WHEREAS, he was a 47-year career D.C. Parks and Recreation employee during which he established the Woody Ward Basketball League and continued his love for sports and work with youth sports programs.

WHEREAS, due to his many years of outstanding and dedicated community service and interaction, he was a well known and highly respected member of the Benning Park community.

WHEREAS, the neighborhood residents of the Benning Park Community at large suggested that the name of the facility be changed to honor his love of youth recreation and committed service not only to the residents of Benning Park, but the greater Community of Ward 7; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Benning Park Community and ANC 7E Commission recommends to the City Council and the Mayor that Benning Park Recreational Center be renamed to “The Woody Ward Recreational Center”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the District of Columbia requests the Department of General Services (DGS) erect appropriate signage and approve the placement of such signage at the center; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Director of Parks and Recreation and the family of the late Woody Ward.

Adopted by the Benning Park Community and ANC 7E Commission on March 12, 2019:

Approved: Yeas __6__
 Nays __0__
 Absent __1__

Resolution Attested by:

Delia Houseal

ANC 7E Commission Chair
Delia L. Houseal

ANC 7E03 Commissioner
Ebbon A. Allen