

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: November 8, 2022

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Johnnie Taylor, Assistant City Manager
William L. Royston, Recreation Director

Council Action Requested:

Resolution to Name the Salem Lake Marina Event Center in Honor of Former Alderman Dr. Virginia K. Newell (Southeast Ward)

Strategic Focus Area: Livable Neighborhoods

Strategic Objective: No

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

On November 1, 2022, the Recreation and Parks Commission received a request from Mayor Allen Joines to name the Salem Lake Marina Event Center in honor of former Alderman, Dr. Virginia K. Newell.

In 1977, Dr. Virginia K. Newell was elected as one of the first African American females as a member of the Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen (now City Council) for the East Ward. She served 16 years and worked tirelessly for better housing, racial unity, and economic independence.

In the East Ward, Dr. Newell initiated the African American bank, the East Winston Shopping Center, ten investment clubs, and served on an economic platform that developed and built Ivy Arms Apartments and Community Center.

Being a strong advocate for children, Dr. Newell was the founder of the YWCA's "Best Choice Center," an academically focused program that provides afterschool care, enrichment activities, and summer camp for children of low-income families.

Committee Action:

Committee	<u>CDHGG 11/7/2022</u>	Action	<u>Approval</u>
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For	<u>Unanimous</u>	Against	<u></u>
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Remarks:

On October 7, 2022, Dr. Newell celebrated her 105th birthday (at the Salem Lake Marina Center). She continues to support the importance of voter registration and remains an integral part of Winston-Salem's community through her tireless dedication to education and the betterment of her fellow citizens.

As required by the City Council's adopted policy on naming of City-owned buildings and facilities, the advisory body overseeing the facility, the Recreation and Parks Commission, supports a resolution recommending the naming of the Salem Lake Marina Event Center in honor of former Alderman, Dr. Virginia K. Newell.