



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, During the 1900's business men in the Homewood-Brushton community organized the Homewood Board of Trade. Their crowning achievement was convincing Andrew Carnegie to build a library in Homewood. Carnegie originally established a fund, to build a small library. This did not sit well with the board. They dreamed of a large building to be both a library and a community center; and,

WHEREAS, From 1902 to 1906 the board made requests to Carnegie. They reminded Carnegie that he had lived in Homewood, and enjoyed his time in the neighborhood. In 1906 he agreed to finance a larger building. On March 10, 1910 the Homewood branch of the Carnegie library opened. It was one of the largest and best endowed libraries in the country. With its large collection of books and other materials, spacious reading rooms, and an auditorium, the library has served generations of Homewood residents; and,

WHEREAS, In February 2003 the Homewood Branch was the first location to be transformed in a system-wide renovation plan. The building that housed the former caretaker's apartment on the third floor is now a very popular meeting space. The auditorium has become a state of the art facility which recently became home to the Kuntu Repertory Theater. There are activities for children such as storytelling and craft programs. Teens meet weekly for games, and the United Black Book Clubs of Pittsburgh (UBBCP) holds its annual Celebration of Reading at the Homewood Branch. Jazz Workshop, Inc. has offered classes and concerts at the library for over 30 years; and,

WHEREAS, On March 9, 2013 The Homewood Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) celebrated its 103rd Birthday with cake and refreshments, guest speakers, and poets. The current staff has put in many years of service, including Manager, Denise Graham, 36 years with CLP, Clerical Supervisor, Yvonne Lipscomb, 16 years with CLP, Library Clerk, Raymond Clancy, 21 years with CLP, Librarian, Ian Eberhardt, 10 years with CLP, and Library Clerk, Kira Yerversky, one year with CLP; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend The Homewood Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh for its service to the community; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, April 9, 2013, to be "*The Homewood Brushton Carnegie Library Day*" in the City of Pittsburgh.