



Text File

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Bill No: 2015-1846, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, On July 22, 1915, 12 Christian women met at the home of Mrs. Winona Idell (Abraham) Lincoln, and organized a club whose purpose was to help the Women's Auxiliary of the Union Baptist Association now known as the AUBA or Allegheny Union Baptist Association), providing food and other household necessities for the Aged Ministers' and Layman's Home. The organization was chartered and incorporated in 1936 as a nonprofit. The group was called the Harriet Tubman Club in honor of the young slave who was a conductor on the Underground Railroad ; and,

WHEREAS, Later in 1915, The Harriet Tubman Club instituted a class at Peabody High School to study Negro history under the leadership of Mrs. Margaret Yeats. The class was called the Frederick Douglass Literary Club; and,

WHEREAS, In 1928, Mrs. Lincoln wanted to get some exposure for the club by using the radio as a means to publicize it. This was the first time an all-Negro program was on air in Allegheny County. By 1930, four radio stations set aside 15-minutes of airtime to present the program. KDKA blessed them with a 30-minute broadcast and this provided a platform for many noted musicians and other artists to perform publicly. The radio publicity increased the membership to the point where chapters had to be created; and,

WHEREAS, It was in 1934 that the then Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Louise Holmes, suggested a name change from club to guild due to the expanded capacity. By 1942, The Harriet Tubman Guild had 350 members and a motto was created: "Deeds, Not Words. Showing Our Love Through services"; and,

WHEREAS, Today, The Guild's primary focus is on providing housing for the elderly and education for youth. On July 17, 2015 The Harriet Tubman Guild will celebrate 100 years of service to the City of Pittsburgh and the Tri-State area and they will be showcasing The Harriet Tubman Terrace. This is the first senior citizen section 8 apartment building in the City of Pittsburgh; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend the Harriet Tubman Guild for a century of supporting opportunities for advancement and uplifting throughout the City of Pittsburgh; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Friday, July 17, 2015, to be "**Harriet Tubman Guild Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh.