

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 140321)

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity on the occasion of its 110th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, The Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity was founded in Philadelphia in May, 1904; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Pi Phi, a Fraternity of college graduates, was born at the dawn of the twentieth century because intellectual and social interaction for men of color in their professional endeavors was closed or limited by virtue of race; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henry McKee Minton, a pharmacist and later a physician recognized and foresaw that there was a need for African American men of distinction to interact with one another, learn from each other's experiences and thereby better serve their individual communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Minton was a pharmacist at Philadelphia's first black hospital, Douglas Hospital and later after receiving his medical degree was a co-founder of Mercy Hospital the second black hospital in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, These institutions were beacons of hope that attracted black professionals to Philadelphia for generations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Minton convened the first Boulé meeting of Sigma Pi Phi together with Algernon B. Jackson (1878-1942), Chief Surgeon at Mercy Hospital; Eugene T. Hinson (1873-1960), a graduate of the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania who joined the staff of Douglas Hospital; Richard J. Warrick (1880-1957), a dentist and also a founder of Mercy Hospital; Eugene C. Howard (1846-1912), the first Negro to graduate from Harvard Medical School who practiced medicine in Philadelphia and Robert J. Abele (1875-1929), a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College who was a founder of Mercy Hospital - all men that lived in a segregated world who provided dedicated healthcare to the African American Community in Philadelphia; and

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WHEREAS, Sigma Pi Phi has been a source of strength, intellectual activism and social commitment for Philadelphians of distinction in a variety of professions including by way of example, Raymond Pace Alexander, city councilman, judge and civic leader; Floyd W. Alston, educator, civic leader and banker; Robert W. Bogle, newspaper publisher; Charles R. Bridges, physician; Maurice C. Clifford, physician and healthcare administrator; Edward S. Cooper, physician; Richard G. Gilmore, business leader and city finance director; W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Mayor; A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., judge, educator and scholar; Walter T. Lomax, physician, healthcare provider and business leader; Robert L. Poindexter, educator; Theodore O. Spaulding, appellate court judge; John F. Speller, physician; Frederick D. Stubbs, physician; John P. Turner physician; and James S. White, Managing Director and Officer, United States Military; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Pi Phi is now a Fraternity located in over 100 cities and towns across America and has been a “home away from home” for such men as Martin L. King, Jr., minister and philosopher; W.E.B. DuBois, scholar; Benjamin E. Mays, educator; Ron Brown, statesmen; and Andrew Young, activist for peace; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Pi Phi has created a Foundation that among other things provides significant scholarships to African American youth throughout the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Congratulates the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity on its 110th Anniversary.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Alpha Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the tenth day of April, 2014.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Goode

Sponsored by: Councilmember Goode