

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 17-104 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING ARK OF THE CITY, INC.

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The Elliot Enterprise Group, Inc. was founded in 2007 by Sherria and Terry Elliot Sr. They purchased their Multi-Level Commercial/Transient Rental Property on NW 15th Ave. in the City of Miami. It is now known as Elliot Towers 1 and 2. After renovating and improving the property, their mission was to help improve the entire community and bring back the love and community bonding that's needed for children. And to provide a strong family and philanthropic legacy. In doing so, it would provide the youth in the community the opportunity to thrive and flourish amid some difficult circumstances.

After settling in and bonding with the community, the Elliots established Ark of the City, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit that caters annually to the inner-city youths ages birth to 15 years. Under this organization, "Christmas on 15th" was established in 2007. The vision for "Christmas on 15th" is to give back to underprivileged inner-city kids who would otherwise not have an opportunity to enjoy a joyful Christmas.

This endeavor has turned in to not only providing thousands of toys for kids, but over the last 10 years has grown in to providing toys as well as entertainment, karate mentoring, and feeding thousands of families in the community. Initial funding started with the use of their personal funds and the assistance of a select few families and friends. Because of their strenuous dedication and passion, they now have the support of Community Leaders and City Officials.

Every year Ark of the City puts on the "Christmas on 15th" event to encourage community bonding and growth, while providing kids with toys, food, entertainment, and a parade through the city all FREE for the Christmas holiday. Through this event, Ark of the City hopes to restore the core purpose of Christmas and bring awareness to under privileged children and their families, despite social and economic challenges that plague this community. Over 8,000 children during the last 10 years have been serviced because of this event.

This item does not appear in the regularly published agenda. The opportunity to recognize this organization arose after the initial deadline for agenda item submission. In light of the annual event taking place in the months, the organization not being available in the forthcoming months to be recognized, there is good cause to vary from the published agenda to recognize this organization and the phenomenal work they do for our children and the community.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 17-104 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ark of the City, Inc.

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-104
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING ARK OF THE CITY, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Elliot Enterprise Group, Inc. was founded in 2007 by Sherria and Terry Elliot Sr. They purchased their Multi-Level Commercial/Transient Rental Property on NW 15TH Ave. in the City of Miami. It is now known as Elliot Towers 1 and 2. After renovating and improving the property, their mission was to help improve the entire community and bring back the love and community bonding that's needed for children. And to provide a strong family and philanthropic legacy. In doing so, it would provide the youth in the community the opportunity to thrive and flourish amid some difficult circumstances; and

WHEREAS, after settling in and bonding with the community, the Elliots established Ark of the City, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit that caters annually to the inner-city youths ages birth to 15 years. Under this organization, "Christmas on 15th" was established in 2007. The vision for "Christmas on 15th" is to give back to underprivileged inner-city kids who would otherwise not have an opportunity to enjoy a joyful Christmas; and

WHEREAS, this endeavor has turned in to not only providing thousands of toys for kids, but over the last 10 years has grown in to providing toys as well as entertainment, karate mentoring, and feeding thousands of families in the community. Initial funding started with the use of their personal funds and the assistance of a select few families and friends. Because of their strenuous dedication and passion, they now have the support of Community Leaders and City Officials; and

WHEREAS, every year Ark of the City puts on the "Christmas on 15th" event to encourage community bonding and growth, while providing kids with toys, food, entertainment, and a parade through the city all FREE for the Christmas holiday. Through this event, Ark of the City hopes to restore the core purpose of Christmas and bring awareness to under privileged children and their families, despite social and economic challenges that plague this community. Over 8,000 children during the last 10 years have been serviced because of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 17-104 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Ark of the City, Inc.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this eleventh day of October, A.D. 2017

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary