

Resolution Number 67

PrideFest 2015

WHEREAS, Pride St. Louis is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization “dedicated to increasing the awareness of the general public to the presence of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) individuals in the community in an effort to eliminate prejudice and achieve harmony”; and

WHEREAS, Pride St. Louis and PrideFest, under the leadership of Board President Matt Harper, serves to unify the community in a spirit of diversity and tolerance; the celebration attracts in excess of 100,000 attendees from across the St. Louis region and the entire country; this year’s PrideFest, themed “Color Our World” will be hosted in Downtown St. Louis on June 27-28, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Pride St. Louis has, for over thirty years, organized highly successful Pride celebrations for the St. Louis community, including this weekend’s festival and parade. The celebration is held at the end of June each year to commemorate the beginning of the modern LGBT rights movement that followed the Stonewall Riots in 1969; and

WHEREAS, each year the Lisa Wagaman Lifetime Community Service Award is presented to an individual who has spent much of their life to further the Pride movement and LGBT causes, this year’s award was given to Grand Marshal, James Raney; and

WHEREAS, for 18 years James lead the creation, production, and support of all LGBT production activities at Anheuser-Busch and many would argue that his influence on the commercial culture advanced the rights movement by leaps and bounds; in 1999 James Ramey created the campaign “Be yourself, make it a Bud Light” depicting two men holding hands---this became AB’s single largest consumer response in history; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of LGBT programs, including Pride St. Louis, were blessed with his focus and support, which was monumental to the national LGBT movement that we are experiencing today; James’ slogan, (now AB’s slogan), “Making friends is our business” has truly been his!

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and applaud Pride St. Louis for their dedication to the advancement of the LGBT community in the City of St. Louis. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 26th day of June, 2015 by:

Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen

Honorable Dionne Flowers, Alderwoman 2nd Ward

Honorable Tammika Hubbard, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward

Honorable John J. Coatar, Alderman 7th Ward

Honorable Stephen J. Conway, Alderman 8th Ward

Honorable Kenneth A. Ortmann, Alderman 9th Ward

Honorable Joseph Vollmer, Alderman 10th Ward

Honorable Thomas Villa, Alderman 11th Ward

Honorable Larry Arnowitz, Alderman 12th Ward

Honorable Beth Murphy, Alderwoman 13th Ward

Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward

Honorable Megan E. Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward

Honorable Donna Baringer, Alderwoman 16th Ward

Honorable Joseph Roddy, Alderman 17th Ward

Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward

Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Honorable Cara Spencer, Alderwoman 20th Ward

Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward

Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman 23rd Ward

Honorable Frank Williamson, Alderman 26th Ward

Honorable Chris Carter, Alderman 27th Ward

Honorable Lyda Krewson, Alderwoman 28th Ward

Adopted this the 26th day of June, 2015 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen