

RESOLUTION NUMBER 135

Johnnie E. Owens

WHEREAS, Johnnie E. Owens started working closely in the community around 1998, being ever so faithful at that time, to attend community meetings, to keep interested neighborhood residents informed; and

WHEREAS, she then took an active role in the year 2000 with Neighbors In Action. The group dealt with community concerns and green space issues. It was associated at that time, with the first solar house in the community called the Seeds of Change Community Center at 3238 N. 20th Street, where the meetings were held, with those residents in attendance from Monroe and N. Market Street, up to North 20th Street; and

WHEREAS, with the establishment of the Hebert Street Community Garden in 2000, by the Michael and Sandra Moser family, who lived on Hebert Street, Johnnie became the leader of this garden around 2002, when the family moved. She has since helped to develop it into the award winning garden that it is today. She became a board member in 2003, as she worked down through the years with the beautification efforts of the Green Space Committee; and

WHEREAS, as a Old North St. Louis history book started being written by the History Committee in 2002, the Hebert Garden was continually being designed, as she participated on this committee. Since the beginning of time, gardens have always been a part of foundations and history. So it is with the Hebert Garden that she has touched, as it represents a New Beginning, that others might now enjoy the beauty, and in the months and years ahead; and

WHEREAS, her thoughts for the betterment of the whole area of Old North St. Louis is to be commended; and

WHEREAS, her daily "constitutional" walks around the neighborhood have provided guidance to the area like an officer on the beat, taking the littlest details and biggest problems in her stride. Her many years of care and concern for people and places around her mean that Johnnie's block is the nicest place to live, a place which reflects her own sense of what is right with the world; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie, it seems, rarely thinks about herself, she is always doing something for everyone else, and the neighborhood. She is always working for the betterment of Hebert Street.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the many contributions of Johnnie E. Owens to the St. Louis community and 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 2nd day of July, 2010 by:

Honorable April Ford-Griffin, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Adopted this the 2nd day of July, 2010 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen