


City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

11 NOV 18 AM 11:13

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS SCHAAF AND NADEL

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MORRIE TURNER FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF COMMUNICATING THROUGH HIS DRAWINGS OF "WEE PALS" CHARACTERS

WHEREAS, Morrie Turner who was born and raised in West Oakland, will celebrate his 88th birthday on December 11th; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner's passion for and skills at drawing and storytelling from a very early age, led to his career as a cartoonist. His first comic strip "Dinky Fellas" had all Black characters; but he soon realized that his messages could best be conveyed by children of all races and nationalities, a mix he called "Rainbow Power"; and

WHEREAS, the "Wee Pals Comic Strip" which promoted "Rainbow Power" was syndicated in 1964 and appears in newspapers throughout the country including the Oakland Tribune; and

WHEREAS, Wee Pals characters joined the Oakland Symphony in 1979 when Mr. Turner's drawings were projected above the Orchestra in Sunday afternoon classical concerts for children at the Paramount Theatre; and .

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner has used the Wee Pals characters in many books for children including "Explore Black History", "Make Friends with Music", and videos, "Kids on the Job" and "The Story of Martin Luther King" and has visited many schools and hospitals, using his drawings and caricatures to entertain and spread the message of "Rainbow Power"; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Oakland congratulates and commends Morrie Turner for using his extraordinary artistic skills and interest in social justice to inspire people of all races, and not just children, to work together in harmony to further their dreams.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, SCHAAF, and PRESIDENT REID

NOES -
ABSENT -
ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California