

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND

INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS,
LIBRARIES AND INTERNATIONAL
INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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June 20, 2024
Start: 11:38 a.m.
Recess: 11:43 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Carlina Rivera, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David M. Carr
Shahana Hanif
Kamillah Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Farrah N. Louis
Chi A. Ossé
Sandra Ung
Nantasha M. Williams

1 COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Check one, two, check
3 one, two. This is a pre-recorded sound test for the
4 Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and
5 International Intergroup Relations. Today's date is
6 June 20, 2024. It's being recorded by Michael
7 Leonardo in the Council Committee Room.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
9 welcome to today's New York City Council hearing for
10 the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and
11 International Intergroup Relations.

12 At this time, please silence all cell
13 phones and electronic devices to minimize disruptions
14 throughout the hearing.

15 Thank you for your cooperation.

16 Chair, we're ready to begin.

17 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Good morning.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
19 morning.

20 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I am Council Member
21 Carlina Rivera, Chair of the Committee on Cultural
22 Affairs, Libraries, and International Intergroup
23 Relations.

24 Today, the Committee will both hear and
25 vote on Resolution No. 447, sponsored by the Speaker,

Council Member Adrienne Adams, Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers, and Council Member Nantasha Williams. This resolution would designate the first Sunday in June annually as Flake Legacy Day in the City of New York to recognize the spiritual, educational, civic, and economic contributions of the Reverend Doctors Floyd and Elaine Flake in service to the Greater Allen AME Cathedral of New York and to their community in Queens.

Now, I would like to ask Council Member Williams to provide remarks on her resolution.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, Colleagues, and thank you, Chair.

Today, we gather to consider Resolution 447, a proposal to designate a day in honor of two remarkable individuals, Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake and Reverend Margaret Elaine McCollins-Flake. This day to be known as Flake Legacy Day seeks to recognize the profound contributions of these two leaders, not only to our community in Jamaica, Queens, but also to the broader landscape of urban development, education, and social services. Reverend Dr. Floyd Flake's legacy is one of visionary leadership and unwavering commitment. As the Senior

Pastor of Greater Allen AME Cathedral of New York, he has shepherded a congregation of over 23,000 members. Under his stewardship, the church has flourished into one of the nation's most productive religious and urban development institutions with an annual budget exceeding 34 million dollars. The church and its subsidiary corporations have spearheaded expansive commercial and residential developments, founded a 600-student private school, and initiated various commercial and social service enterprises. These achievements have positioned the Greater Allen AME Cathedral as one of the largest private sector employees in the borough of Queens. Reverend Margaret Elaine McCollins-Flake, fondly known as Reverend Elaine, has been a steadfast partner in this journey. Together they have nurtured not only their congregation, but also a family, being parents to four adult children, grandparents to one granddaughter. Reverend Elaine's contributions extend beyond her role as co-pastor. She has been a cornerstone in Christian education and the development of critical community resources.

As we consider Resolution 447, let us reflect on the transformative power of their work.

1 Flake Legacy Day would not only honor the Flakes, but
2 also serves as a reminder of the enduring impact that
3 visionary leadership and compassionate service can
4 have on a community. I urge you all to support this
5 resolution and join me in honoring Reverend Dr. Floyd
6 H. Flake and Reverend Margaret Elaine McCollins-Flake
7 with the establishment of Flake Legacy Day. Thank
8 you.
9

10 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you, Council
11 Member.

12 I would also like to thank my Staff as
13 well as the Committee Staff and everyone who worked
14 on preparing for this hearing, including Christina
15 Yellamaty, the Committee's Counsel; Regina Paul, the
16 Committee's Policy Analyst, who also drafted the
17 resolution; and Sandra Gray, the Committee's
18 Financial Analyst.

19 I'm going to see if there is any public
20 testimony on the Flake Legacy Day resolution.

21 Seeing none, I think we are now ready for
22 the vote, Billy.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
24 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk,
25 Roll call vote Committee on Cultural Affairs,

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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Libraries and International Intergroup Relations,
Resolution 447. Chair Rivera.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you. Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you, Council Member Hanks. Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hudson.

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ossé.

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you. Ung.

COUNCIL MEMBER Ung: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Carr.

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
vote of nine in the affirmative, zero in the

negative, and no abstentions, the Resolution has been adopted by the Committee and, Madam Chair, that is a full Committee.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you so much, and thank you to all my Colleagues. With that, we adjourn. Thank you very much.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date July 16, 2024