

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

----- X

December 18, 2017
Start: 1:05 p.m.
Recess: 1:09 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Elizabeth S. Crowley
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland
Peter A. Koo
Stephen T. Levin
Andy L. King
Costa G. Constantinides
Laurie A. Cumbo
Helen K. Rosenthal

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

3

CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Great. Good
afternoon, everyone.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
Quiet down. We're starting the meeting.

CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Good afternoon,
everyone, [gavel] and welcome to this convening of
the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries,
International Intergroup Relations. We have an
important oversight hearing on capital construction
at our public libraries, but before we do that,
seeing quorum, we have an important to take on
Resolution No. 792, a resolution establishing January
30th annually as Fred T. Korematsu Day. We held a
hearing on this important issue several weeks ago,
and now we are prepared to vote. So, with Council
Members Cumbo, Rosenthal, Crowley, Koo, and
Constantindides all present, we are ready to call the
roll on Reso 792.

CLERK: Thank you. This is the Committee
on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International
Intergroup Relations. Today is December 18, 2017, a
roll call vote on Resolution No. 792. We begin with
Chair Van Bramer.

CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

4

1

2

CLERK: Council Member Crowley.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye.

4

CLERK: Council Member Koo.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye and I

6

also want to use this opportunity to thank our chair,

7

Jimmy Van Bramer for his dedication and his

8

leadership on this committee. You have been

9

wonderful for our cultural community. Thank you very

10

much.

11

CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Thank you,

12

Peter.

13

CLERK: Council Member Constantindies.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote

15

aye.

16

CLERK: Council Member Cumbo.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I, too, want to

18

celebrate and congratulate Council Member Jimmy Van

19

Bramer who has done a phenomenal job as Chair of

20

Culturals and Libraries, and it's been a pleasure and

21

an honor working with you over these last four years,

22

and I look forward to another great four years coming

23

forward. So, thank you so much, and I proudly vote

24

aye.

25

CLERK: And Council Member Rosenthal.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye and
3 just I would like to align myself with my colleague's
4 comments. Council Member Van Bramer, congratulations
5 and also congratulations to Council Member Dromm, you
6 know, to have a Fred Korematsu Day of civil liberties
7 and the Constitution especially in this day and age.
8 This is exactly the right thing to do. He was a true
9 leader and he's finally getting the honor he
10 deserved. This country is a mess, and so I'm glad
11 we're honoring him in this way. Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON VAN BRAMER: Thank you very
13 much, Council Member Rosenthal. Council Member King,
14 we are voting on Resolution 792 naming January 30th
15 as Fred T. Korematsu Day. Would you like to vote on
16 this resolution?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: And I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Thank you, very much, Council
19 Member King and with that, we will—we'll keep the
20 roll open for ten more minutes seeing as other
21 members may want to come and vote while we have our
22 hearing, which we will now transition to. We have
23 lots of great folks here from the Department of
24 Design and construction, and others, and we are
25 anxious to hear from them on library construction,

1 capital construction. Needless to say, I'm
2 enormously proud that in this committee working with
3 the Administration we have increased capital funding
4 for our public libraries. [background comments] Hold
5 on one second. [pause] So, a technical matter. We
6 technically have to close the hearing on the vote,
7 and then re-open the hearing on library capital
8 construction, which I fear means that other members
9 may not be able to vote on this matter. So, with
10 that, [gave] we are closing the hearing on Resolution
11 792, which passed obviously and we look forward to
12 passing tomorrow at the Stated Meeting, and then we
13 reconvene our second hearing [gavel] in the last 12
14 seconds on Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and
15 International Intergroup Relations. Once again,
16 talking oversight—oversight of library capital
17 construction. As I was saying, we have increased
18 funding. [laughs] Okay, great, great. So, that we
19 may be consistent with NYCTV, we're going to pause
20 and allow for the Graphics Department to get up the
21 right amount of graphics for our new hearing. So,
22 we're going to take a pause until we can actually
23 formally reconvene the second portion of this
24 hearing. [end of audio]
25

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

7

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25

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 January 7, 2018