

2013-J5567

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Ron Schweiger upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 39th Community Leadership Award by the Flatbush Development Corporation

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Ron Schweiger has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Ron Schweiger upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 39th Community Leadership Award by the Flatbush Development Corporation which was celebrated at its 39th Annual Awards Benefit on Thursday, May 8, 2014, at Gargiulo's Restaurant in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Flatbush Development Corporation's mission is to enhance the quality of life for all segments of the Flatbush community; it identifies and responds to neighborhood needs and concerns, proactively creating programs and campaigns that work towards a healthy, safe and vibrant community; its economic development, housing, youth, and immigration programs serve the exceptionally diverse needs of its community; and

WHEREAS, A retired school teacher, Ron Schweiger taught science at PS 219 in East Flatbush for 31 years; after retiring from the Board of Education in 2001, he taught at the Yeshivah of Flatbush for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, Ron Schweiger has been the Official Historian for Brooklyn since being appointed by Borough President Marty Markowitz in 2002,

where he continues to hold this appointed position; and

WHEREAS, Ron Schweiger possesses a vast collection of more than 3,000 images of old Brooklyn scenes and more than 30 years' experience in making presentations about aspects of Brooklyn history; as a president of the Society of Old Brooklynites, he also conducts walking tours and delivers lectures on Brooklyn history; and

WHEREAS, For 18 years, Ron Schweiger and his wife lived in Flatbush until they eventually resided in a neighborhood outside of Flatbush; however, the couple never lost their love of the area and have always kept their connection to Flatbush through friends, Temple Beth Emeth, and by participating in community work with the Flatbush Development Corporation, and other community groups; and

WHEREAS, A man of outstanding dedication and hard work on behalf of Flatbush, Ron Schweiger's main focus in the neighborhood is to get the remaining six communities landmarked, and to continue to show off this beautiful community with turn of the century architecture through lectures and walking tours; and

WHEREAS, His favorite things about the neighborhood continue to be the history behind the development of the neighborhoods, the original buyers, and the continued involvement of the community members in making Flatbush a better place to live, year after year; and

WHEREAS, Since the late 1970s, Ron Schweiger has volunteered with the Flatbush Development Corporation; in the early years, he provided the history for the tour guides for the annual Flatbush Victorian House Tour, and assisted with the Flatbush Frolic; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Ron Schweiger assisted Fiske Terrace and Midwood Park in attaining landmark status by loaning them original 1905 blue-

prints and turn of the century postcards of the neighborhood, which included the original 1905 deeds from the Fiske family; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Ron Schweiger assisted in getting the Avenue H station landmarked after the MTA announced they were going to tear it

down, and was able to give the landmarks commission original 1905 blue-prints and 1906 photos of the station when it was a real estate office for Fiske Terrace homes; and

WHEREAS, Ron Schweiger has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Ron Schweiger has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Phyllis, and their two children, Lee and Eric, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Ron Schweiger has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Ron Schweiger upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 39th Community Leadership Award by the Flatbush Development Corporation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ron Schweiger.