

2013-J5568

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Olgierd Bilanow upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Neighborhood Service 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, Olgierd Bilanow 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 Olgierd Bilanow upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Neighborhood Service 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, Born in Poland, Olgierd Bilanow moved to the United States when he was 3 years old, and went to school in Manhattan; after attending high school, he was part of the inaugural class of AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps; and

WHEREAS, For over two years, Olgierd Bilanow worked on community projects throughout the city, however was mostly assigned in the Bronx;

one of the projects he worked on was creating a garden next to a local public school; after finishing his tenure with AmeriCorps, he was hired by that school to build up their technology department; and

WHEREAS, Olgierd Bilanow received scholarship funds from AmeriCorps, which allowed him to attend Hunter College; and

WHEREAS, As he continued to work at the Department of Education, Olgierd Bilanow moved up from the school level to a District Office, and when Districts were eliminated, he transferred to the central Information Technology office for the Department of Education where he has remained since; and

WHEREAS, Four years ago, Olgierd Bilanow moved his family to Beverley Square West, having previously lived in Prospect Heights; he was attracted to Beverley Square West due to the history, architecture, the open space and trees, being midway between the beach and the city, and a wish to be his own landlord; and

WHEREAS, Last year, Olgierd Bilanow revived the long dormant Marlborough Road Block Party with the help of the Beverley Square West Association; he is being honored by the Association for this and other efforts to support the neighborhood, and engage new families to join the Association; and

WHEREAS, Olgierd Bilanow 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, Olgierd Bilanow has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Bryna, and their two sons, Felix and Leo, 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 Olgierd Bilanow has displayed

throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Olgierd Bilanow upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Neighborhood Service Award by the Flatbush Development Corporation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Olgierd Bilanow.