CELEBRATION MEETING
Chambers of the City Council
Municipal Building
Thursday, September 20, 2018
7:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Morad, Councillors Abreu, Carney, Coelho, Giesta, Gomes, Lima, Lopes, Markey and Rebeiro.

LATE: No One

ABSENT: Councillor Dunn

Council President Linda M. Morad called the meeting to order and presided.

Councillor Markey led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

COMMUNICATION, Councillor Dunn, to Members of the City Council, informing that he will be absent for the City Council Celebration Meeting on Thursday, September 20, 2018, due to a work conflict.

(Received and Placed on File. #1602)

COMMUNICATION, Council President Morad, to City/Clerk of the City Council Dennis W. Farias, calling a SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL for THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SECOND FLOOR OF CITY HALL, for the celebration and awarding of official City Council Citations and Resolutions.

(Received and Placed on File. #1603)

CITATION, Councillor Rebeiro, honoring MARTHA JEAN BOUCHARD, in recognition of her committed service to the City of New Bedford through her volunteerism and being a role model to the area as a Foster Grandparent

(Adopted. #1604)


(Tabled. #1605)

CITATION, Councillor Giesta, honoring SEALAB, in recognition of their celebration of their 50 years of providing the children of the Greater New Bedford Area with an education in Marine Science. (Adopted to be presented at a later date.)

(Adopted, to be presented at a later date. #1606)

CITATION, Councillor Giesta, honoring NEW BEDFORD BAY SOX, in recognition of their participation in the Community Sweep of Acushnet Avenue on Thursday, June 28, 2018.

(Tabled. #1607)

CITATION, Councillor Giesta, honoring UMASS Dartmouth Dining Services, in recognition of their generosity in providing lunches to all the volunteers after the Community Sweep of Acushnet Avenue on Thursday, June 28, 2018.

(Tabled. #1608)

CITATION, Councillor Giesta, honoring MS. CORINN WILLIAMS, Executive Director, Community Economic Development Center, in recognition of her commitment and dedication to her City in organizing the Community Sweep of Acushnet Avenue on Thursday, June 28, 2018.

(Tabled. #1609)
CITATION, Councillor Giesta, honoring MR. KENNETH RAPOZA, Small Business Tech Assistance Specialist, Community Economic Development Center, in recognition of his commitment and dedication to his City in organizing the Community Sweep of Acushnet Avenue on Thursday, June 28, 2018.

TABLED. (#1610)

CITATIONS, Councillors Gomes and Carney, honoring DR. DESIREE WINTERHALTER and the WINTERHALTER FAMILY, in recognition of their generosity and dedication in providing the children of New Bedford with “Charlie’s Nature Play” at Buttonwood Park Zoo, named in honor of Charles Winterhalter.

Adopted. (#1611)

The following Resolution was presented by Councillor Lima.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
IN CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

RESOLUTION HONORING DAVID GONSALVES PETTY OFFICER FIRST CLASS (RET.) UNITED STATES NAVY FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, David Gonsalves was born and raised in New Bedford, is the son of Joseph Gonsalves, a United States Army Veteran, and Wilhelmina (Mina) Senna Gonsalves, is married to his lovely wife Quennie, the loving father of Keira, David Jr. and Yzabella and is brother to Joey, an Air Force Veteran, Kim, an Army Veteran, Larry, Marine Corps Veteran, John, Coast Guard Veteran, Danny and Laura; and

WHEREAS, David Gonsalves enlisted in the United States Navy in 1981 and after some years of service, became the first Cape Verdean American to serve as Crew Chief for the venerable United States Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron; and

WHEREAS, During his years of active duty service, David Gonsalves served his country overseas in Australia, Lebanon, Puerto Rico, Brazil, St. Thomas, St. Croix, Jamaica, Cuba, England, Spain, France, Egypt, Africa and Israel; and

WHEREAS, With great distinction, David Gonsalves served at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach with Carrier Wing VF-11 aboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67), served with VF-43, served at NAS Jacksonville with HS-11 aboard the USS America (CV-66) and aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71), served with Naval Air Maintenance Training Group Detachment - Helicopter Instructor, served with Auxiliary Security Force Base Police, served at NAS Cecil Field Jacksonville with VFA-86, served at NAS Pensacola and at NAF El Centro with Navy Flight Demonstration Team Blue Angels, and served aboard USS Enterprise (CVN-65) with VFA-87; and

WHEREAS, In August 2001, after a 20-year Navy career, Petty Officer First Class David Gonsalves (AM1) retired from active duty service; and

WHEREAS, After completing active duty service, David Gonsalves served for 10 years in the Navy Fleet Reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby sincerely thanks and honors AM1 DAVID GONSALVES (RET.), FOR HIS SACRIFICE AND COMMITMENT TO OUR NATION, commends him for his exemplary career in the United States Navy, and thanks him for his professionalism, dedication and passion in his role as a Crew Chief in the Blue Angels; and further, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Bedford City Council extends our warm and sincere wishes to DAVID GONSALVES, for a continued long, happy and healthy retirement

Adopted. (#1612)

The following Resolution was presented by Councillors Lima, Gomes and Council President Morad.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
IN CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

RESOLUTION HONORING BRUCE MORELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE ACTING IN COMMUNITY ENDEAVORS (PACE) ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM PACE

WHEREAS, Bruce Morell was born and raised in western Massachusetts where he completed his high school studies prior to attending Bridgewater State College and, for a time in the early 1980’s, served as a coach for the New Bedford High School Swim Team and married his lovely wife, Suzanne; and together they are the proud parents of Ryan and Nicole, and loving grandparents to Maddox; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Morell worked for PACE’s predecessor organization, ONBOARD, until the inception of People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE) in 1982, at which time Bruce Morell was called upon to become Director of the newly christened agency’s Head Start Program, and after four years, was appointed Executive Director in 1986; and
WHEREAS, In the 1980s, Bruce Morell hit the ground running as Executive Director of PACE by
accomplishing many great things, such as breaking ground for the Touraine Hotel restoration project, conducting
the first local forum on AIDS, opening the Hispanic multi-service center, sponsoring the Hispanic Heritage Festival,
begging a housing rehabilitation project at 436 Purchase Street, creating the Public Access TV show aptly entitled,
"PACE Monthly", moving the Head Start program from Fort Rodman to the former Green School on Madison Street,
and receiving one of only ten national HUD “Urban Excellence Awards”; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Morell continued his vast efforts into the 1990s by organizing the South First Street
Neighborhood Association through the ‘ROC’ (Reclaim Our Community) program, establishing the PACE Food Bank,
partnering in the Neediest Family Fund, pioneering local ‘Working Capital’ micro-lending opportunities and winning a
YouthBuild Grant, helping PACE to become an AmeriCorps site; and

WHEREAS, In the 2000s, Bruce Morell partnered with Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical
High School to create a dental sealant clinic for all 2nd grade students in New Bedford, continued to rehabilitate housing
for sale to first-time, low-income homebuyers, expanded the Head Start program by opening a second location on Smith
Street, led PACE to become the lead agency for the New Bedford AIDS Consortium, made PACE a host site for both the
Clemente Course in the Humanities and a volunteer tax preparation effort and also led a city-wide ballot initiative to
fluoridate the City’s water supply; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Bruce Morell, PACE has participated in many special projects within the
community and, as more and more unique opportunities have come to light over the years, the organization has
continued to provide its core services to thousands of area households, constructing a duplex for first-time homebuyers
at 101-103 Tallman Street and a single family home on Jireh Street; PACE has deservedly received many honors,
including a ‘Drum Major’ award at the 2016, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Breakfast from the NAACP, and Mr.
Morell himself being the recipient of the Sister Rose Award during the Community Development Block Grant Week for
his work on the New Bedford Homeless Service Providers Network; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Morell, a kind man who is dedicated to serving people in need, has built a team of
committed professionals at PACE, to whom he leaves a legacy of charity and his unquestionable love of humankind, and
through his leadership and training, are ready to continue the good work that he has begun during his tenure at PACE;
and

WHEREAS, On August 17, 2018, after thirty-six years of a distinguished career at PACE, it is with great
sadness, but also the utmost respect, that his loving family, colleagues and fellow PACE employees will offer Executive
Director Bruce Morell their heartfelt wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby sincerely thanks and
honors BRUCE MORELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE ACTING IN COMMUNITY ENDEAVORS
(PACE), ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM PACE, commends him for his exemplary career as
the leader of PACE, and thanks him for his commitment, dedication and passion in his role as Executive Director of
PACE; and further, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Bedford City Council extends our warm and sincere best wishes
to BRUCE MORELL, for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Adopted, to be presented at a later date.  

The following resolution was presented by Councillor Gomes

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
IN CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

RESOLUTION HONORING SARA ELIZABETH ACHORN MISS NEW BEDFORD 2018

WHEREAS, The Miss New Bedford Pageant is the official preliminary to the Miss America Pageant, which is
the largest single source of scholarships for young women in the world; and

WHEREAS, Since 1954, when the New Bedford Jaycees began sponsoring the Miss New Bedford Pageant, the
young women who compete for the crown of Miss New Bedford have always been intelligent, articulate, talented,
hardworking and wonderful ambassadors of young women, who are motivated to succeed by choosing platforms that
make a great contribution to our local community and promote public service; and

WHEREAS, For over sixty years, The Miss New Bedford Pageant has advanced the continued education of
pageant contestans though the generous granting of scholarship awards and has provided an arena for young women
from the Greater New Bedford area the opportunity to advocate for causes that are of importance to them; and

WHEREAS, Sara Achorn, the daughter of Carl and Jennifer Achorn of Rochester, Massachusetts is the 65th
young woman to hold the title of Miss New Bedford; and

WHEREAS, As a result of her being selected as Miss New Bedford 2018, Sara Achorn was the recipient of a
$6,500.00 dollar scholarship, which she utilized to help pay her tuition at Bridgewater State University where she is
currently enrolled as Sophomore majoring in Special Education and Music; and

WHEREAS, Sara Achorn has an amazing voice that was breathtaking during the talent competition of the Miss
New Bedford Pageant and was also recognized when she represented the City of New Bedford at the Miss
Massachusetts State Pageant where she received the Most Talented Non-Finalist Award;

WHEREAS, At the Miss Massachusetts State Pageant, Sara Achorn, also was presented with The Miracle
Maker Award for her fundraising efforts on behalf of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals where she raised close to
$4000.00; and

#1613
WHEREAS, Sara Achorn has been an active and vibrant part of our City since the beginning her reign as Miss New Bedford 2018, making over ninety community appearances this past year while balancing a busy school schedule and volunteering her time for such organizations as New Bedford Public Schools, City of New Bedford, WFHN, the YWCA and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater New Bedford; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby honors SARA ELIZABETH ACHORN, for her year of service as MISS NEW BEDFORD 2018, thanks her for representing our City so well, congratulates her on her many accomplishments during her year-long reign and wishes her much luck and success in the future.

Adopted, to be presented at a later date. (#1614)

CITATION, Councillor Gomes, honoring DEBRA TRAHAN, in recognition of the 25 years of Dedication, Commitment and Service to the City of New Bedford. (TABLED – JULY 18, 2018.)

TABLED.

Removed from the Table and Adopted. (#1233)

On a motion, the Council then adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

ATTEST:

DENNIS W. FARIAS, CITY CLERK/CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL