

2017 RES-425

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF KEN HAYNES TO DANE COUNTY

WHEREAS Lang Kenneth Haynes, known as “Ken”, public servant, community leader, farmer, artist, and poet, passed away on January 19, 2018; and

WHEREAS, was born in Harlem and, as an excellent high school basketball player in New York City, Ken drew the assignment of guarding Lew Alcindor, later Kareem Abdul Jabaar, the finest basketball player of his age, which produced some of Ken's funniest stories; and

WHEREAS Ken served the community as a member of the Madison Police Department prior to serving as the Dane County Minority Affairs Coordinator for 11 years, from 1992 until 2003, followed by another three years as an Executive Assistant to Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk where he led efforts which improved the delivery of paramedic services in the County and increased the availability of federal Community Development Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS Ken touched many with his poetry, his column - called “Simple Things” – written for the Capital City Hues newspaper, and his work with Call for Peace, an international drum and dance company; and

WHEREAS Ken had an online blog called “Harlem to Holsteins”, on which he stated that “Harlem conjures certain images and so do Holsteins. It is my belief that "reality" consists of a little of each and it is up to us to decide what that balance should look and feel like;” and

WHEREAS Ken was a gentle, creative person with a passion for social justice who was known and respected throughout the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes Ken Haynes for his many years of service to Dane County government and his invaluable contributions to the community as a whole.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Ken Haynes as a token of the esteem with which he is held by the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the residents of Dane County.