Dane County

Resolution

2014 RES-191

RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HELPED THE FIRST SAME SEX COUPLES IN WISCONSIN WED

WHEREAS the constitutional ban on same sex marriage was challenged in federal court by the ACLU of Wisconsin, and Judge Barbara Crabb, on June 6, 2014, made history by overturning this discriminatory ban in the Wisconsin State Constitution, allowing a window of time for same sex couples to get married in Dane County and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS the Dane County Clerk asked for help from City and County staff and other volunteers in handling the expected deluge of marriage license requests; and

WHEREAS Judges Ellen Berz and Rhonda Lanford as well as Attorney Tamara Packard requested assistance from veteran officiants to help couples who wished to get married right away; John Smallwood from Fair Wisconsin helped coordinate couples who had their marriage license find their officiant and helped ensure couples had the legal documents necessary; and Melanie Conklin and Casey Becker from the County Executive's office helped communicate to the public and to same sex couples what they needed in order to get married; and

WHEREAS during the evening of June 6th and Saturday June 7th volunteers and staff helped process and marry over 130 couples, including the first same sex couple to be married in Wisconsin history.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes and thanks the dozens of volunteers who briefly but memorably made Madison the "City of Love"; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to the volunteers and staff who assisted in making history.

Sharon Corrigan

Dane County Board Chair

Signed and sealed before me this

26th day of June, 2014

Scott McDonell
Dane County Clerk