

RESOLUTION 2024-05

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEDICATION OF THE FLAGPOLE AT ALINE WOLFE ADULT RECREATION CENTER AS THE “JOSEPH M. BLAND, SR. FLAGPOLE”

WHEREAS, Joseph M. Bland, Sr. was born in Madison, NC and grew up with a heart for service; and,

WHEREAS, following graduation, Joe enlisted in the US Navy where he served on an Anti-Submarine Patrol Squadron flying on P2-Vs. One of the many notable accomplishments of Joe's squadron was flying surveillance out of Puerto Rico during the Cuban Crisis; and

WHEREAS, following his military service, Joe attended college at University of North Carolina-Gastonia graduating with an Applied Science degree in Electronic Engineering and

WHEREAS, Joe relocated to Atlanta when he accepted an offer to work for IBM where he enjoyed a 30-year career before retiring in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Joe and his family moved to Smyrna in 1967 where he began many years of service to the community including serving as president of the Smyrna Jaycees, joining the Smyrna Athletic Association, and serving as the Worshipful Master at the Oakdale Masonic Lodge, and

WHEREAS, Joe was appointed Lieutenant Colonel, Aide De Camp, Governor's Staff by Governor Joe Frank Harris in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Joe was a member of the American Legion Post 160, the Smyrna Veterans Association, the Scottish Rite and Shrine, and he joined the Jonquil City Kiwanis Club in 2000 where he served as president for two years and was presented the George Hixon Fellowship award in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Joe received the Mr. Smyrna award from the Georgia House of Representatives and the Smyrna-Oakdale Moose Lodge in 2002, Board member of the year from Blind and Low Vision of North Georgia in 2007, and in 2010, he received the Community Leader of the Year award from the Senior Citizen Council of Cobb County; and

WHEREAS, Joe's longest service was as the Mayor's appointee to the Smyrna Housing Authority. He was appointed in 2000, and in 2003 he was elected to serve as Chairman, a position he held until 2021; and

WHEREAS, Joseph M. Bland, Sr. passed away on July 12, 2022 at the age of 82.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Smyrna, Georgia, in honor of Joseph M. Bland, Sr's contributions to the City, hereby dedicates the Flagpole at the Aline Wolfe Adult Recreation Center as "Joseph M. Bland, Sr. Flagpole"

SO RESOLVED in open session lawfully assembled, this the 25th day of March 2024.

Derek Norton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heather Peacon-Corn, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Scott Cochran, City Attorney

CITY SEAL

