

ORDINANCE 2023- 4

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE DIVINE NINE PARK BENCH DONATION PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO

WHEREAS Willingboro Township wishes to foster a greater partnership with the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ which through its service, supports many activities and programs in the Willingboro Community; and,

WHEREAS the Township Council desires to establish an area in Millcreek Park to honor the “Divine Nine” who have worked hard and well to improve the quality of life in the Willingboro community as volunteers always there and willing to do whatever can be done to make Willingboro a better place.; and,

WHEREAS the “Divine Nine” are nine Greek lettered organizations that began forming on college campuses across the United States to provide a sense of community and unique opportunities for students and is comprised of the following:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

WHEREAS members of these sororities and fraternities were and are continually involved in several social justice movements such as the Women’s Suffrage, Civil Rights Movement, and Black Lives Matter. These organizations have made significant strides to help unite Black communities across the United States and continue to collectively organize to serve various social causes for these reasons, the Willingboro Township Council feels it appropriate to honor them for the services they provide to this community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of Willingboro Township in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey that an appropriate plot of land be designated in Millcreek Park to honor the “Divine Nine” and the Divine Nine honorary Bench Donation Program is hereby established as follows:

Participating Organizations:

Each of the nine Greek letter organizations named above having a membership in the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ will have the opportunity to place one amenity to the park through a new bench in the organization’s name.

Bench Requirements:

Each Bench shall be 6 feet long and made from 100% recycled plastic, durable, maintenance-free, and Eco-friendly. Each bench shall be permanently mounted on a concrete foundation.

Each bench will have the name of the organization engraved on a 2.5” x 10” bronze plaque. An additional plaque bearing the organization’s colors and Greek letters may be installed flush in a concrete pad in front of the bench. The plaque must have concealed installation pins on the back and have the dimensions of 9” in height x 15” in length x ½” in depth.

Installation and Maintenance:

All foundations, benches, and plaques will be ordered, paid for, and installed by the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ. The design of the benches and wording of the plaques must be approved by the Township Council before purchase and installation. The Willingboro Township Manager and the Department of Public Works will meet with the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ to select a mutually suitable installation location.

Willingboro Township has the sole responsibility for the care and maintenance of the bench once installed however, Willingboro Township will not be responsible for vandalism to any bench, or plaque. Each organization will be required to make repairs to its bench or plaque due to vandalism as needed. Willingboro Township will only replace the bench or plaque if we are at fault or if the bench needs to be relocated due to park improvements.

Participation:

Members of the “Divine Nine” should contact the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ for pricing information and to make arrangements for payment. Willingboro Township will coordinate with the National Pan-Hellenic Council Inc. of Burlington County, NJ for participation and installation of the benches.

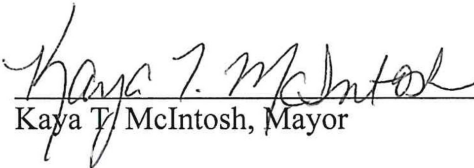
This Ordinance shall take effect after the publication of the final adoption in the time and manner provided by law.

FIRST READING- February 21, 2023


Councilmember	Motion	2 nd	Yea	Nay	Recuse	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Anderson	X		X				
Councilwoman Perrone			X				
Councilwoman Worthy		X	X				
Deputy Mayor Whitfield							X
Mayor McIntosh			X				

FINAL READING-March 21, 2023

Councilmember	Motion	2 nd	Yea	Nay	Recuse	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Anderson		X	X				
Councilwoman Perrone			X				
Councilwoman Worthy	X		X				
Deputy Mayor Whitfield			X				
Mayor McIntosh			X				


 Kaya T. McIntosh, Mayor

Attest:


 Brenda Bligen, Acting Township Clerk