

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Resolution No. R2014-0302

Sponsored by: **Councilmembers  
Brady, Conwell, Gallagher,  
Germana, Greenspan, Hairston,  
Jones, Miller, Schron and Simon**

**A Resolution** dedicating the Cuyahoga County Council chambers in honor of Council President C. Ellen Connally.

WHEREAS, Council President C. Ellen Connally is a proud graduate of Bowling Green State University where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in social studies. Connally went on to earn a Juris Doctor and a Master's degree from Cleveland State University and has completed all coursework towards a Ph.D. degree at the University of Akron; and,

WHEREAS, C. Ellen Connally has led a distinguished career in public service. In 1980, Connally was elected to the Cleveland Municipal Court, becoming the first female African American judge elected in Ohio to not be first appointed. She earned re-election in 1985, 1991 and 1997. In 2004, Connally retired from the Cleveland Municipal Court to run for the office of Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court. In 2009, she was appointed as the Special Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland; and,

WHEREAS, C. Ellen Connally was elected to the inaugural Cuyahoga County Council in 2010 and was twice chosen by her colleagues to serve as Council President from 2011-2014. Connally represents the ninth district of Cuyahoga County, which includes the cities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Highland Hills, North Randall, Orange, Pepper Pike, Shaker Heights, Warrensville Heights, Woodmere, and parts of Cleveland's first and fourth wards; and,

WHEREAS, as Council President, C. Ellen Connally set a precedent of bipartisanship by utilizing the strengths of individual councilmembers to achieve shared goals. Connally has worked with her fellow councilmembers to enact policies promoting openness, transparency, and integrity to restore the public's confidence in county government; and,

WHEREAS, Council President C. Ellen Connally has been a proponent of a strong and effective County Council that has strived to provide diligent oversight of county operations and to champion policies and initiatives improving the lives of County residents; and,

WHEREAS, Council President C. Ellen Connally has been a zealous advocate for the preservation of Cuyahoga County's history for the benefit of future generations. Connally introduced legislation to establish the Cuyahoga County Monument Commission to preserve both new and existing monuments erected on county

property. Connally further sponsored legislation establishing the Cuyahoga County Archives Advisory Commission to identify and preserve Cuyahoga County's historical records and to raise awareness of the significance and value of such records; and,

WHEREAS, C. Ellen Connally, in her capacity as Council President, has faithfully served on various county boards and commissions including the Cuyahoga County Audit Committee, the Cuyahoga County Records Commission, the Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice Services Governing Board, and the Cuyahoga County Debarment Review Board; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to her responsibilities as Council President, C. Ellen Connally has served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Breast Cancer Fund of Ohio, as Vice President of the Board of Community Action Against Addiction, and has served on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Historical Society, the Board of Directors of the Cleveland State University Foundation, and the Executive Committee of the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable; and,

WHEREAS, throughout her prestigious career in public service, C. Ellen Connally has served with dignity, excellence, and passion, distinguishing herself as one who is truly dedicated to serving the citizens of our community. Her life is an inspiration to all who willingly and selflessly devote their time and energies to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Cuyahoga County and, to all who remain committed to the growth and prosperity of Cuyahoga County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:**

**SECTION 1.** The Council hereby dedicates the Cuyahoga County Council chambers in honor of Council President C. Ellen Connally. The Council chambers shall hereafter be known as the "C. Ellen Connally Council Chambers." The Council expresses its sincere gratitude for the service and contributions Connally has made to Council and to the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

**SECTION 2.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Mr. Brady, seconded by Ms. Conwell, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:     Hairston, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana, Gallagher, Conwell  
          and Jones

Nays: None

Recusals: Connally

  
County Council President

12-9-14  
Date

  
County Executive

12/12/14  
Date

  
Clerk of Council

12/9/2014  
Date

In accordance with Rule 6B of the Rules of Council, legislation was added to the agenda by parliamentary motion: December 9, 2014

Journal CC016  
December 9, 2014