

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board Meeting

September 17, 2015

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF LOUIS STOKES

- WHEREAS, At their regular Board meeting on January 19, 1995, the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library approved a resolution to name the new East Wing of the Main Library after the Honorable Louis Stokes upon its completion; and
- WHEREAS, At that meeting, then Board President Frances Hunter spoke about her hope that the Library would be the place where young people could learn about Congressman Stokes and his contributions to his country; and
- WHEREAS, Trustee Venerine Branham stated that it was with “great admiration and pride, and her privilege to be a part of this resolution,” as she had known Louis Stokes since she was six years old and watched him from his teen years using the Library on a regular basis; and
- WHEREAS, Trustee Linnie Powell said it was one of the most important actions taken by the Board and that the “children of Cleveland needed someone the likes of Louis Stokes to look up to”; and
- WHEREAS, In the twenty years since the passage of that resolution, millions of people have passed through the doors of the Louis Stokes Wing and have been given access to a vast range of information and resources for learning; and
- WHEREAS, In this iconic building, the Library strives to provide an environment that limits no one and includes everyone, honoring the man whose name is carved in stone above the entrance; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library expresses its gratitude at the memory of this remarkable man, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Louis Stokes, as an expression of sympathy from this Board.