

Resolution of Recognition & Appreciation Dave Dennis

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo Parish Commission to give appropriate acknowledgment and recognition to individuals that have rendered invaluable service to the citizens of Caddo Parish and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Dave Dennis has made an indelible contribution to improving the lives of generations of people through his vital roll in the Civil Rights movement, his work in Education and his many professional and civic accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dennis drew upon his experiences growing up in rural Omega, La. and urban Shreveport, La. to motivate his professional development which would continue to Dillard University, and later the University of Michigan Law School, and these experiences also helped to prepare him to be a powerful leader as his Civic involvement developed while he was a student at Dillard; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dennis is often noted in history for his roll in the Civil Rights movement alongside peers like Bob Moses and Medgar Evers where he was an original Freedom Rider, a Director of Mississippi's Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), a field secretary for the Southern Education Defense Fund for Racial Equality, a Co-Director at the Council of Federated Organizations and famously organized, along with Moses, the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964, and played a significant roll in dozens of boycotts, sit-ins, demonstrations and other initiatives advocating for Civil Justice; and

WHEREAS, Dennis continued his passion for learning by attending Michigan Law School and returning to Louisiana to establish a law practice in Lafayette, La where he would practice until a celebration of their contributions to the Civil Rights movement brought he and Bob Moses back together and ignited a passion to promote equality through education. Through the Algebra Project, his time as CEO of Positive Innovations, Inc. and finally as founder and Director of the Southern Initiative Algebra Project Dennis has advocated for, developed and implemented increased access to education that has improved results for students in over 20 school districts across 7 states; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish continues to struggle with the social injustices of the past, but takes great pride those who took those injustices and developed an ability to help better the lives of generations of people who can cast votes and compute information that previous generations did not think possible; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal session convened this 17th day of June, 2021, that it does hereby convey its deepest and most sincere recognition and appreciation to Dave Dennis.

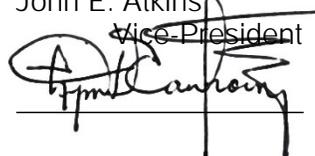
ATTEST:



Lyndon B. Johnson
President



John E. Atkins
Vice-President



Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk

Lynn Cawthorne
District 6