

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
ON BEING NAMED A FINALIST FOR THE
NATIONAL MEDAL OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE**

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2021, the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced that the Ferguson Library is one of thirty finalists for the 2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums; the IMLS supports America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development in order to transform the lives of individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, the National Medal for Museum and Library Service is the nation's highest honor and is awarded to museums and libraries that have demonstrated excellence in service to their communities; since 1996, the award has honored 170 institutions that demonstrated extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service; and

WHEREAS, the Ferguson Library has been a mainstay of the Stamford community for since the late 19th Century and has been in the forefront of providing library services to the public: it became a free public library committed to access to all in 1911, now serving nearly a million visitors each year, as well as online visitors; began a bookmobile service in 1940; and became the first public library in Connecticut to provide public internet access in 1995; and

WHEREAS, in announcing the nominations, the Director of Institute of Museum and Library Services noted that the IMLS is "celebrating not only the ongoing excellence of the best of our museums and libraries, but their extraordinary efforts through the pandemic, the recession, the racial justice protests, and national divisions to serve, heal, and bring together our communities"; and

WHEREAS, the National Medal winners will be announced in May, and an open virtual ceremony and celebration will be held this summer.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 30th Board of Representatives that it thanks the Ferguson Library for its continued service to the Stamford Community and congratulates it on being named a finalist for the 2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

*Approved by the 30th Board of Representatives
this 5th day of April, 2021*

Matthew Quinones, President

Susan Nabel, Clerk