



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0046, Version: 0

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The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

Introductory*

City of Baltimore Council Bill

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning

City Property - Renaming Harlem Denison Park to be the William Donald Schaefer Park

For the purpose of changing the name of Harlem Denison Park, located at 3421 Harlem Avenue, to William Donald Schaefer Park.

By authority of

Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement
Section 20-2
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

Recitals

For many years, Harlem Denison Park was an eyesore to the nearby residents of the Edgewood Community. With litter scattered throughout the park's open areas, with cracked sidewalks, and with unsafe, rusted fences, the park provided negligible worth to the community. This year the blight was removed through the help of the Parks and People foundation, which invested \$65,000 to improve the area and to add new features. In the process of revitalizing the area, the community's input was consulted in partnership with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks.

Now the park has green grass, trees, boulders, and a plaza for community gatherings, and it has improved the image of the community as a whole. The Edgewood Community believes that Harlem Denison Park should be renamed to reflect the park's revitalization. The park is presently named for the intersection of 2 streets adjacent to its boundaries, and the name does not reflect the character of the community.

One notable resident and Baltimore icon lived in the community. That person was William Donald Schaefer, former mayor and 58th Governor of Maryland. He grew up at 620 Edgewood Street and lived there with his mother during most of his time as mayor, where he was a good neighbor to others in the community. The revitalization of the park is something of which he would have been pleased. The Edgewood Community believes that the park should be renamed to honor him and his legacy.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That the name of Harlem Denison Park, located at 3421 Harlem Avenue (Block 2484, Lot 081), is changed to William Donald Schaefer Park.

Section 2. And be it further ordained, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.