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SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING VALERIE A. COOPER ON RECEIVING A GREENWICH YWCA WOMEN WHO INSPIRE AWARD

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2019, Valerie A. Cooper, will receive a Women Who Inspire Award from the Greenwich YWCA, which celebrates "outstanding women who have excelled in philanthropic, professional and volunteer pursuits and have enriched the lives of others in the community;" and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper is receiving this award in recognition of the wide range of her professional and volunteer activities; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper holds an MBA from Columbia University Business School; a Fine Arts Appraisal Studies Certificate from New York University; an Executive Entrepreneur Certificate from the Tuck School of Business-Dartmouth College; and a BS from Morgan State University; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper is the founder of Picture That Art Consultants, a Stamford-based art consulting firm that provides an extensive range of fine art services to enhance the aesthetic quality of environments in public and residential spaces and specifically promotes art by women and minority artists; an accredited member of the Appraisers Association of America with a specialty in African American Fine Art.; an adjunct professor at Norwalk Community College, and a former VP of Technology at Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her professional activities, Valerie A. Cooper serves on the City's Arts and Culture Commission, is a Board member of Inspirica; and is a member of Fairfield County's Community Foundation, serving on the Community Impact Committee; the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, serving as Chair of the Arts Facet Stamford/Norwalk; and The Links, Inc., serving on the Eastern Area Arts Committee; and has served on the boards of the Norwalk Community College Foundation, the Cultural Art Alliance of Fairfield County; the Stamford Old Town Hall Museum; SCORE; CTE, Inc.; and A Better Chance of Darien, CT; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper initiated an annual Student Cultural Arts and Literary program celebrating Black History Month for the Stamford Public Schools, as well as regional public and private schools, community centers and religious institutions fifteen years ago, which now includes a citywide art exhibition is sponsored by UConn-Stamford and housed on the university's campus and guided tours to New York City museums; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 30th Board of Representatives that it congratulates Valerie A. Cooper on being awarded the Woman Who Inspire Award by the Greenwich YWCA and thanks her for numerous contributions to the Stamford Community.

Submitted by the 30th Board of Representatives Approved this 6th day of November, 2019

Matthew Quinones, President 30th Board of Representatives

Susan Nabel, Clerk 30th Board of Representatives