

RESOLUTION 2005 -155

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HONORING MAVYNEE BETSCH, BETTER KNOWN AS THE
"BEACH LADY".

WHEREAS, Nassau County was truly enriched by the
"Beach Lady", and all that she represented; and

WHEREAS, her razor-sharp intelligence and her passion
and love for American Beach changed thoughts and opinions
regarding this valuable asset; and

WHEREAS, she truly gave 100% of herself to her
community and her causes and earned the respect of those on
both sides of issues; and

WHEREAS, the twinkle in her eye and her delightful wit
disarmed her critics and made her even more special; and

WHEREAS, few people have the passion, compassion, and
true love for their community and fellow man that the Beach
Lady had; and

WHEREAS, she was the American Beach champion and truly
changed American Beach and saved it for generations to
come; and

WHEREAS, because her Nana is forever preserved and
will serve as a symbol of her majesty and love, and also as
a symbol of and for American Beach.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 17th day of October, 2005, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, as follows:

1. The Board of County Commissioners, on behalf of all its citizens, honors and commends Mavynee Betsch for making us all better citizens and for bringing us together to understand and appreciate that American Beach is more than a map location, it is a symbol and milestone in African-American history that shall and must be preserved.

2. The Board of County Commissioners wants everyone to know who the Beach Lady was:

a. She was a descendent of Anna and Zephaniah Kingsley, a graduate of Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and a professional opera singer.

b. She educated all of us as to her great-grandfather's dream and purpose for this magical place known as American Beach and led us by example and determination to save American Beach.

c. She was an environmental champion who encouraged all of us to appreciate and understand how vital it is to preserve our environmental assets no matter where they are located.

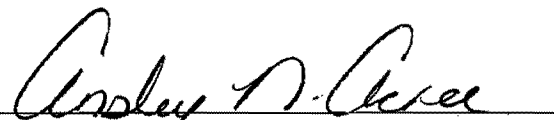
d. She enriched all of our lives with her wit, music, and stories and, in general, by being Mavynee - a

truly great lady that we all loved and can say weren't we lucky to have been in her presence.

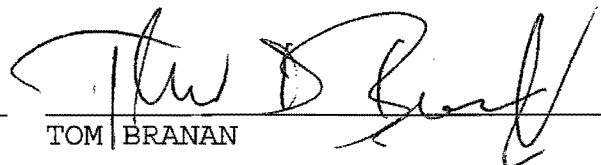
3. The Board of County Commissioners reminds all of us here today that, if you were not fortunate enough to meet and share time with Mavynee while she was with us, do not despair, because when you come to American Beach and you see butterflies in flight or feel the breeze in your face or walk this historic area you will feel her presence; or if you step close to Nana and quietly listen - you will hear her voice.

4. Again, the Board of County Commissioners says "Thank You" to our dear friend - not farewell - because her spirit will abound forever in this "her sacred place", and Nana will be free forever to remind all of us of her majesty.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA


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ATTEST:

John A. Crawford
JOHN A. CRAWFORD
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney

Michael S. Mullin
MICHAEL S. MULLIN

z/amyers/res/mavynee-betsch