

**FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2009**

Agenda

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Presentations:

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| 1. | 2009 Exemplary Former City Employee – Michael A. Pursell | 1 |
| 2. | 2009 Honored Founder – Ted E. Drum | 1 |
| 3. | 2009 Distinguished Citizen of the Year – Frederic E. Stresau | 1 |
| 4. | 2009 Citizen of the Year – Essie Reed | 2 |

Present: Mayor Seiler
Vice Mayor Roberts, Commissioners Rodstrom, DuBose and Rogers

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager - George Gretsas
City Auditor - John Herbst
City Attorney - Harry A. Stewart
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph
Sergeant At Arms – None

Mayor Seiler said this is an opportunity to thank and recognize everyone who have helped make this city great. He gave a history of the citizen recognition program and recognized members of the Citizens Recognition Committee.

2009 Exemplary Former City Employee – Michael A. Purcell

Mayor Seiler outlined the history of this category and criteria used in selecting an individual who warrants the award.

On behalf of the Commission, Vice Mayor Roberts recognized Michael A Purcell as the 2009 Exemplary Former City Employee. He read the associated resolution outlining Mr. Purcell's background and accomplishments and contributions to the City.

Mr. Purcell thanked the Commission for the honor.

2009 Honored Founder – Ted E. Drum

Mayor Seiler outlined the history of this category and criteria used in selecting an individual who warrants the award.

On behalf of the Commission, Commissioner Rodstrom recognized Ted E. Drum as the 2009 Honored Founder. She read the associated resolution outlining Mr. Drum's background and accomplishments and contributions to the City.

Mr. Drum noted previous honorees. He shared experiences of growing up in Fort Lauderdale. He mentioned how Fort Lauderdale really took off after the premier of "Where The Boys Are" that will soon be fifty years ago. He went on to elaborate upon doing business in Fort Lauderdale throughout the years and his involvement on city boards and redevelopment of the city. He recognized his family and thanked Doug Eagon for nominating him for this award. He thanked the Commission for the honor.

2009 Distinguished Citizen Award – Fred E. Stresau

Mayor Seiler outlined the history of this category and the criteria used in selecting an individual who warrants the award.

On behalf of the Commission, Commissioner Rogers recognized Fred E. Stresau as the 2009 Distinguished Citizen. He noted that Mr. Stresau is his neighbor and considered

the mayor of 7th Street and 11th Avenue. He read the associated resolution outlining Mr. Stresau's background and accomplishments and contributions to the City.

Mr. Stresau shared his philosophy on volunteerism and serving the community. He elaborated upon his growing up in Fort Lauderdale, and recalled a population of some 17,000. He went on to share Fort Lauderdale historical information documented in a book written by his grandfather. He went on to talk about his service on city boards. In particular, he mentioned that Phil Cheaney, whose father was also a Distinguished Citizen honoree, gave him advice before he began service on his first city board, to always be consistent from one case to the next and always question yourself whether you are voting for what is best for the citizens of Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Stresau recognized individuals in the audience who have served on city boards, which represent one year short of 250 years of public service and those that serve today. He thanked Assistant City Attorney Bob Dunckel and Planning and Zoning Director Greg Brewton for their assistance throughout the years. He recognized his family. He thanked the Commission, the Committee, the citizens and Petula Burks of the Public Information Office for making all of the arrangements.

2009 Citizen of the Year – Essie Reed “Big Momma”

Mayor Seiler outlined the history of this category and the criteria used in selecting an individual who warrants the award.

On behalf of the Commission, Commissioner DuBose recognized Essie Reed “Big Momma” as the 2009 Citizen of the Year. He read the associated resolution outlining Ms. Reed's background and accomplishments and contributions to the City, and the plaque's inscription.

Ms. Reed was pleased to see that Commissioner DuBose was elected to serve in Fort Lauderdale. She also recognized her family. She discussed her service to children and recognized various individuals in the audience. She thanked the Commission and asked everyone for more help to help families. She said that this award belongs to many people who have helped with her work.

Mayor Seiler thanked everyone for attending and noted how the honorees will be recognized in various places in city hall. He recognized previous honorees and other officials in the audience.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m. to view the Distinguished Citizen Plaque unveiling in the plaza.