

R-37-16
Staff Report

This purpose of this legislation is to rename the Section of Holeclaw Street between the intersections of Carver Street and Bunche Street to "Hoppy Adams Way" in honor of the contributions of Mr. Charles W. "Hoppy" Adams, Jr. to the City of Annapolis.

On November 2, 2016, Shawn Wampler, City IT Department, and I, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, attended and made a presentation to the City's Heritage Commission regarding changes to the names of 3 streets in Ward 3. (There are no residences on any of these streets.) The Commission voted unanimously to honor our 3 requests. They also agreed to forward a letter of support and the outcome of their vote to the proper City office. Mr. Ted Mack is the Chair of the HC. This request to re-name these 3 streets is a continuing part of our 100 year celebration of the Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School - 1916-2016.

Also, I would be remiss if I did not recognize Shawn, who has been working diligently on this project for several months.

The new street name for this piece of legislation is:

"Hoppy Adams Way"

Currently, there are 3 sections of Holeclaw Street. The western-most section has residences. The section between Carver Street and Bunche Street does not have any residences. We proposed, and it was passed, that this section be renamed "Hoppy Adams Way".

Charles W. "Hoppy" Adams, Jr. was a distinguished Radio Personality and Executive Vice President with radio station WANN located in Annapolis, MD for over 40 years. More than a Radio Personality, Mr. Adams was an active community and behind-the-scenes Philanthropist. Mr. Adams was hired by Mr. Morris Blum in 1952, which The Baltimore Sun hailed Mr. Blum "as a pioneer in race relations for putting African-American personalities on the air more than five decades ago." Mr. Adams was also very instrumental in attracting nationally and well-known African-American entertainers to Carrs Beach in Annapolis. Mr. Adams was a life-long Parole resident, and attended our Annapolis area schools, including Parole Elementary School, along with his family members. And many of his family members continue to reside in Parole.

Because this request is a continuing part of our 100 year celebration of the Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School - 1916-2016, the President and Immediate Past President of the Greater Parole Community Association, Mr. H. Vincent Price, Jr. and Mr. Lawrence L. Harris, Jr., and I would appreciate it if this matter could be approved in 2016. We would however, anticipate a formal community celebration sometime in the spring 2017.

Prepared by Alderwoman Pindell Charles