

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, APPROVING IN CONCEPT THE CREATION AND INSTALLATION OF A MEMORIAL MARKER TO HONOR THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES AT BAYVIEW PARK; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO IDENTIFY FUNDING SOURCES AND TO WORK WITH SUPPORTERS TO ESTABLISH A SUITABLE MEMORIAL; SUPPORTING THE USE OF CITY FUNDS FOR THE COST OF INSTALLING THE MEMORIAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, in 1942 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued a Presidential directive giving African-American men an opportunity to be recruited into the Marine Corps;

WHEREAS, between 1942 and 1949, approximately twenty thousand African American Marines received basic training at a segregated training facility known as Montford Point, at Camp LeJeune; and

WHEREAS, a number of brave men from the island of Key West served during World War II as Montford Point Marines, including: Nathan "Joker" Tynes, James Hall, Charles "Bookie" Allen, Sr., Charles Manuel, Shedrack "Candyman" Hannibal, Jr., William "Boss" Johnson, Sr., Clarence "Fly" Alce, Sr., George Carey, Vernol H.

Carey, Timothy Eugene Johnson, Nathaniel Wellington Mickens and Robert B. Sawyer; and

WHEREAS, on June 27th, 2012, approximately 368 living Montford Point Marines were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal at the White House, by the Atlanta Branch Montford Point Marine Association; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds it respectful and important to construct a permanent memorial to honor the efforts the Montford Point Marines, who protected and served the United States, including their island home of Key West, with honor; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that providing financial support for a Montford Marines Monument Project would enhance and improve public property, and preserve history and demonstrate respect for those who defend our nation, thereby benefiting visitors and residents of the City of Key West;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Key West City Commission approves in concept the creation and installation of a monument to honor the Montford Point Marines at Bayview Park, in a style and size comparable to other monuments within the Key West War Memorial area.

Section 2: The City Manager is directed to identify funding sources, and determine a suitable location for the monument, to ensure timely completion of this project.

Section 3: That the City Commission supports in concept the use of City funding to construct, install and maintain the monument.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held
this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the
Commission on _____ day of _____, 2016.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2016.

Mayor Craig Cates	_____
Commissioner Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Richard Payne	_____
Commissioner Margaret Romero	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK