

City Clerk File No. Ord. 19-113

Agenda No. 3.14 1st Reading

Agenda No. 4.12 2nd Reading & Final Passage



ORDINANCE OF JERSEY CITY, N.J.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE
offered and moved adoption of the following ordinance:

CITY ORDINANCE 19-113

TITLE:

AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE MAIN LIBRARY OF THE JERSEY CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF MONTGOMERY STREET & JERSEY AVENUE THE "PRISCILLA GARDNER MAIN LIBRARY"

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY DOES ORDAIN:

WHEREAS, Priscilla W. Gardner is the current Director of the Jersey City Free Public Library System; and

WHEREAS, Director Gardner is the eldest of three children and grew up Johnsonville South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, after graduating high school in 1969, she moved to Jersey City and took a job as Junior Library Assistant at the Claremont Branch of the City's Public Library system located on Ocean and Claremont Avenues; and

WHEREAS, while still working in the Library, she enrolled in Jersey City State College (now New Jersey City University) and received a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 1978 before enrolling in the Rutgers University School of Library & Information Studies where she earned her Master's Degree in Library Science in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Director Gardner transferred to the Miller Branch of the City's Public Library system located on Bergen Avenue where she spent the next thirty years of her career, rising from Junior to Senior Library Assistant then to Junior and finally Senior Librarian before being appointed Principal Librarian/Branch Head of the Miller Branch in 1987; and

WHEREAS, while serving at the Miller Branch, Director Gardner created the Library System's first Computer Learning Resource Center in 1994, thus bringing the Library System into the Digital Age; and

WHEREAS, Director Gardner was promoted to Supervising Librarian/Acting Chief of Technology in 1997, Assistant Library Director in 1999 and Head of Library Operations in 2001 before being named the first African-American Library Director in March 2002; the position she has held ever since; and

WHEREAS, to raise awareness for the Library's Card Drive, Director Gardner instituted the "Look Who is Holding a Jersey City Free Public Library Card" advertising campaign which included former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama as well as local officials including former Mayors Glenn Cunningham and Jeremiah Healy, State Senator Sandra Cunningham, current Mayor Steven Fulop and the Mayor of Newark, Ras Baraka; and

WHEREAS, not long after being appointed Director, Priscilla W. Gardner spearheaded the creation of the City's first new library in 42 years, the Glenn D. Cunningham Branch located at 275 Martin Luther King Drive; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2004, Director Gardner created "Dial-A-Story" a feature that allows children to listen to call into the Library to hear bedtime stories with seven choices via voice mail in both English and Spanish; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in January 2004, the Library has had thousands of calls every year exposing the youngest of the City's citizens to the joys of books; and

WHEREAS, the same year, 2004, Director Gardner established the non-profit Jersey City Library Foundation charged with raising funds for the Library system's Capital Improvement Campaign which included the purchase of a custom built ADA-compliant Bookmobile, and the installation of security cameras for the Main Library and all 9 branches; and

WHEREAS, Director Gardner oversaw the \$4.8 million renovation of the Library's Greenville Branch, now known as Earl Morgan Branch, which includes the new Barack Obama Auditorium, a board room, and meeting space for community groups; and

WHEREAS, the Branch's renovation was recognized by the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy which awarded the Library an Excellence in Preservation Award for the careful restoration of the building's historic features; and

WHEREAS, thanks in large measure to the efforts of the Foundation, the Library System is completing the multi-million dollar renovation of the Main Library Building located at Montgomery Street and Jersey Avenue and renovation work will soon begin at other branches; and

WHEREAS, the renovation of the Main Library Building is the capstone of Director Gardner's half-century of service to the Jersey City Free Public Library System and to the people of Jersey City; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3-38.1 of the Municipal Code sets forth the standards and requirements for the naming of public property and states that a person may be so honored for having demonstrated "an extraordinary and consistent commitment and dedication to Jersey City"; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal council finds that Library Director Gardner has indeed demonstrated an extraordinary and consistent commitment and dedication to Jersey City throughout her half-century of service in the Jersey City Free Public Library System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City that:

The Main Library of the Jersey City Free Public Library system located at the Northeast corner of Montgomery Street and Jersey Avenue be named the "Priscilla Gardner Main Library".

- A. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.
- B. This Ordinance shall be part of the Jersey City Code as though codified and fully set forth therein. The City shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Jersey City Code.
- C. This Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after enactment.
- D. The City Clerk and the Corporation Counsel be and hereby are authorized and directed to change any chapter numbers, article numbers and section numbers in the event the codification of this Ordinance reveals that there is conflict between those numbers and the existing code.

NOTE: All material is new.

JJH/mma 08/20/19

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM

APPROVED: _____

Corporation Counsel

APPROVED: _____

Business Administrator

Certification Required ☐
Not Required ☐

Ordinance of the City of Jersey City, N.J.



ORDINANCE NO. Ord. 19-113
TITLE: 3.14 AUG 14 2019 4.12

SEP 11 2019

An ordinance naming the main library of the Jersey City Free Public Library System located at the northeast corner of Montgomery Street & Jersey Avenue the "Priscilla . Gardner Main Library."

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON INTRODUCTION											
AUG 14 2019 8-0											
COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.
RIDLEY	✓			YUN	✓			RIVERA	✓		
PRINZ-AREY	✓			SOLOMON	✓			WATTERMANN	✓		
BOGGIANO	ABSENT			ROBINSON	✓			LAVARRO, PRES.	✓		

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING											
SEP 11 2019 8-0											
Councilperson <u>RIVERA</u> moved, seconded by Councilperson <u>WATTERMANN</u> to close P.H.											
COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.
RIDLEY	✓			YUN	ABSENT			RIVERA	✓		
PRINZ-AREY	✓			SOLOMON	✓			WATTERMANN	✓		
BOGGIANO	✓			ROBINSON	✓			LAVARRO, PRES.	✓		

✓ Indicates Vote

N.V.--Not Voting (Abstain)

SPEAKERS:

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON AMENDMENTS, IF ANY											
Councilperson <u> </u> moved to amend* Ordinance, seconded by Councilperson <u> </u> & adopted											
COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.
RIDLEY				YUN				RIVERA			
PRINZ-AREY				SOLOMON				WATTERMANN			
BOGGIANO				ROBINSON				LAVARRO, PRES.			

RECORD OF FINAL COUNCIL VOTE											
SEP 11 2019 8-0											
COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.	COUNCILPERSON	AYE	NAY	N.V.
RIDLEY	✓			YUN	ABSENT			RIVERA	✓		
PRINZ-AREY	✓			SOLOMON	✓			WATTERMANN	✓		
BOGGIANO	✓			ROBINSON	✓			LAVARRO, PRES.	✓		

✓ Indicates Vote

N.V.--Not Voting (Abstain)

Adopted on first reading of the Council of Jersey City, N.J. on AUG 14 2019
Adopted on second and final reading after hearing on SEP 11 2019

This is to certify that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the Municipal Council at its meeting on SEP 11 2019

Robert Byrne
Robert Byrne, City Clerk

*Amendment(s):

APPROVED:

Rolando R. Lavarro, Jr.
Rolando R. Lavarro, Jr., Council President

Date SEP 11 2019

APPROVED:

Steven M. Fulop
Steven M. Fulop, Mayor

Date SEP 16 2019

Date to Mayor SEP 12 2019