



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

February 5, 2014

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk *MG*

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution 14-__ honoring the contributions and service of Bay Area "Rosie the Riveters" with Special Recognition for Phyllis Gould of Fairfax and four other Rosies who served at the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, California during World War II

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached resolution honoring the contributions and service of Bay Area "Rosie the Riveters" with Special Recognition for Phyllis Gould of Fairfax and four other Rosies who served at the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, California during World War II.

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Coler and Vice Mayor Bragman requested that this resolution be added to the agenda.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution

RESOLUTION 14-__

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICE OF BAY AREA "ROSIE THE RIVETERS" WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR PHYLLIS GOULD OF FAIRFAX AND FOUR OTHER ROSIES WHO SERVED AT THE KAISER SHIPYARDS IN RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA DURING WORLD WAR II

WHEREAS, in 1942, during World War II, the United States government launched a campaign to encourage women to enter the workforce to support the war efforts; and

WHEREAS, the government promoted the character "Rosie the Riveter" for its campaign, an image which has become a cultural icon that symbolizes the American women who worked in factories during World War II, many of whom produced munitions and war supplies; and

WHEREAS, these women often took the place of men in the workforce replacing male workers who were in the military; and

WHEREAS, "Rosie the Riveter" inspired a social movement that increased the number of working American women from 12 million to 20 million by 1944, and the image of "Rosie the Riveter" reflected the work of female welders, riveters and other related industrial professions during World War II, and these women proved that they could do a "man's job" and do it well; and

WHEREAS, there are five Rosies deserving special recognition in the Bay Area, including Mrs. Phyllis Gould of Fairfax, her sister Marian Sousa, 87, of El Sobrante, Marian Wynn, 87, of Fairfield, Kay Morrison, 90, of Fairfield and Priscilla Elder, 93 of Pinole; and

WHEREAS, these five women all worked at the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, California, three as welders, one as an electrician and another as a draftsman, and broke gender and union barriers to serve their country and laid the foundation for generations of women in the workforce today; and

WHEREAS, Vice President Joseph Biden has invited these five Rosies to Washington, D.C. for a ceremony honoring them in early April 2014, and the invitation and the recognition is a fitting tribute for their hard work, patriotism and extraordinary service; and

WHEREAS, the five Rosies need financial sponsorship to travel to Washington D. C. to attend the ceremony, and they have set up a fund for donations for their trip at the *Rosie the Riveter Trust*, P.O. Box 71126, Richmond, CA 94807-1126; and those

donating must specify that the funds are for the "5 Rosies Fund" to ensure that the monies are dedicated to their trip to Washington, D.C.,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax hereby declares that Mrs. Phyllis Gould of Fairfax and her Rosie colleagues deserve special commendation for their efforts to support the war efforts and pave the way for future generations of women entering the workforce, and that we acknowledge their extraordinary service and encourage support so that Mrs. Gould and the four other Rosies efforts may travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the Presidential ceremony. These Rosies serve as an inspiration to women and girls today.

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 5th day of February 2014, by the following votes, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

David Weinsoff, Mayor

Attest:

Michele Gardner, Town Clerk