



**COUNCILLOR RONALD F. CORMIER
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 12, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

A meeting of the *Councillor Ronald F. Cormier Memorial Committee* was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chamber, City Hall.

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Committee Chairman James M. Walsh called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Also in attendance were Committee members Marcelle S. Cormier, Neil W. Janssens, and Alan L. Agnelli.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETING RECORDINGS

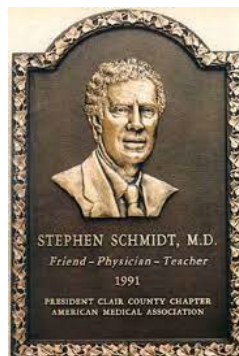
The Chair announced that any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All documents and exhibits used or referenced at the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Chair, as they become part of the Meeting Minutes. No person informed the Chair is the intention to record the meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Janssens and seconded by Mrs. Cormier, it was voted to accept the Minutes of the January 27, 2025 Meeting, as amended.

DISCUSSION

Chairman Walsh restated that the Committee was established by vote of the City Council for the purpose of recommending a fitting memorial to the memory and service of the late Ronald F. Cormier, the longest serving City Councillor in the City's history. He added that its January 27, 2025 meeting, the Committee voted to recommend to the City Council that a Memorial to the late Councillor Ronald Cormier be crafted in a bas-relief style bronze plaque, similar to the following example:



Continuing, Mr. Walsh noted that also at the January meeting, the Committee voted to address the question of recommending Chamber Designation, as well as the text for the plaque, at its February meeting.

Mrs. Cormier remarked that the City Council's Resolution specified that the City Council Chamber be designated in Councillor Cormier's name.



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Mr. Walsh noted that the unresolved question is whether to recommend a memorial to only Councillor Cormier's public service or designating the Chamber in his honor. He suggested that the Committee delay a decision until the next meeting, allowing Councillor Cormier's family additional time to contemplate its views. The Committee agreed.

Mr. Walsh raised the question of appropriate text for a plaque, whether a memorial to Ron Cormier's service, or a plaque designating the Chamber in his name.

Mr. Janssens recommended that the plaque should also list Councillor Cormier's service as past Chairman of the Gardner Redevelopment Authority, as well as his longtime service as the Clerk of the Levi Heywood Memorial Library Board of Trustees.

On a motion by Mr. Janssens and seconded by Mr. Agnelli, it was voted include the aforementioned positions on the plaque.

The Committee reviewed draft text for each memorial choice:

Chamber Designation

Bas-relief

"Dean of the City Council"

In recognition of lifelong selfless service to the City of Gardner and to the entire community, this
Honorable Chamber is dedicated in Memory of

Ronald F. Cormier

Lifelong Educator, Devoted Public Servant, City Councillor for 36 years,
and longest-serving Councillor in the City's first 100 Years

Council President

Councillor at-Large

Ward 3 Councillor

Airport Commissioner

Gardner Elementary School Advisory Board

Gardner Redevelopment Authority Chairman

Levi Heywood Memorial Library Board of Trustees Clerk

Service Recognition

Bas-relief

In Memory of

Ronald F. Cormier

"Dean of the City Council"

Lifelong Educator and Devoted Public Servant

City Councillor for 36 Years

The longest-serving Councillor in the City's first 100 Years

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NEXT MEETING

The Committee will next meet on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chamber.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Cormier and seconded by Mr. Janssens, it was voted to adjourn at 9:13 a.m.