

Testimonial Resolution

Rose Roots

"Serving AFSCME Members For Over 50 Years"

Former President of Michigan American Federal County & Municipal Employees Local #1642 & Former President of Retirees Sub-Chapter #98 For 17 Years

The Honorable Coleman A. Young II, Detroit City Councilman At- Large #1 Recognizes the 50 Year Advocacy and Accomplishments of President Rose Roots

WHEREAS Rose Roots was born in the City of Detroit and attended Detroit Public Schools. She earned her high school diploma from Northwestern in 1955. After doing so, she decided to join the workforce. She worked at Hudson's and Kern's Department stores, Michigan Bell Telephone Company, and the IRS. She later went to on earn a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from Wayne State University in Detroit. She began her career with the City of Detroit in 1967. She held a multitude of various roles including Community Aide, Counselor Aide, and Job Development Specialist; and

WHEREAS Rose Roots joined the Michigan AFSCME Union and immediately became very active. She began as member of Local 1642. She transitioned to line union steward and served on the Executive Board. The President of AFSCME Union, President Nimrod Carney, mentored and prepared her for role as Vice President. After President Carney's retirement, she quickly stepped in to feel his shoes as President of Local 1642; and

WHEREAS Rose Roots was robustly active in the community. She worked diligently for more than 5 years advocating for her neighborhood as President of the Asbury Park Block Club. Her hard work and dedication to the City of Detroit, her union, and her neighborhood earned her the Spirit of Detroit Award in 1983; and

WHEREAS Rose Roots retired from the City of Detroit in 1996 and continued to be active in the AFSCME Union. She became President of the Retiree's Union Sub Chapter 98 until resigning in 2022 after a heralding 17 years of service. She assisted in navigating members through Detroit's bankruptcy by speaking on behalf of the retirees that were impacted by the pension fund at the Town Hall Meeting regarding the issue in 2013; and

WHEREAS Rose Roots has one son, Blair Arlington, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She is on the Executive Board of the City of Detroit's Retiree Union as well as a member of the NAACP, the Coalition of Black Trade Unions, the Democratic Party, AFSCME's Political Action PEOPLE Committee, and Unity Baptist Church; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED The Honorable Coleman A. Young II, Council Member At-Large #1 along with Honorable Detroit City Council Members celebrate the brilliance and leadership of Rose Roots. WE thank you for your dedication, advocacy, and vision. Your steadfast devotion and ambition are immeasurable. Your unwavering dedication to the people of the City of Detroit is invaluable. WE honor and celebrate your excellence. Thank YOU for your service to The People of Detroit.

Mary Sheffield
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Joe Tate
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Scott Brown
COUNCIL MEMBER

Coleman A. Young II
COUNCIL MEMBER

Katisha Johnson
COUNCIL MEMBER

Mary Waters
COUNCIL MEMBER

Gabriela Santiago-Romero
COUNCIL MEMBER

Angela Whitfield Calloway
COUNCIL MEMBER

Antwan Jones
COUNCIL MEMBER

Saturday, October 14, 2023 - 12:00pm

Presented at the Michigan AFSCME Retirees Chapter 255 Annual Convention Luncheon
35603 Plymouth Road ~ Livonia, MI