

rsink@robinsonbradshaw.com 704.377.8326 : Direct Phone 704.373.3926 : Direct Fax

November 1, 2017

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department 5841 Brookshire Blvd Charlotte, NC 28216 Attention: Jim Garges, Director

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of The Committee to Restore and Preserve Third Ward, Inc., and at the request of its Chair, Virginia Woolard, I am pleased to submit the enclosed application to rename "Third Ward Park" as "James Dennis Rash Third Ward Neighborhood Park."

Attached to the application are the signatures of more than 25 county residents who support the application (including all members of the corporation's board of directors) – thus satisfying a condition of your naming policy for public areas less than 200 acres. For reference, I have also enclosed a tax map/aerial photo of the 0.55 acre park and a reduced-size copy of a recorded map with the park highlighted thereon.

Dennis, who died on July 25, 2017, was a lifetime champion of urban neighborhoods, including Third Ward and Fourth Ward in Charlotte. For that and his other considerable contributions to this city and state, renaming the park in his memory and honor would be entirely deserved.

Surely, Dennis was – in the words of the County's naming policy – a person who "made a significant contribution to the enhancement of the quality of life in the community and is widely recognized and highly regarded for [his] work in the community."

Sincerely,

Enclosures

cc: Virginia S. Woolard

# MECKLENBURG COUNTY FACILITIES NAMING AND RENAMING POLICY APPLICATION

### I. General Policy Statement

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) shall be responsible for approving all names of facilities in Mecklenburg County Government consistent with the Mecklenburg County Facilities Naming Policy.

#### II. Applicant's Information

Name of Individual/Group Making Application: The Committee to Restore and Preserve Third Ward, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation

Address: (Attn: Virginia S. Woolard), 1001 W. First St., Charlotte, NC 28202

Telephone:

Home: 704.333.0287

Business: 704.333.2158

Mobile: 704.534.7761

Fax: 704.333.4934

Email: virginiaswoolard@gmail.com

Site of Naming/Renaming to be Considered: Third Ward Park (Tax Parcel 073-213-30)

### III. Recommendation and Supporting Information

Recommended Name: "James Dennis Rash Third Ward Neighborhood Park"

The recommended name is a reference to (check one of the following):

| a living person                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| X_a deceased person               |  |
| other reference (please explain): |  |

(If none of the above, please skip all remaining questions and provide a one-page rationale to support recommended name)

### IV. Background Check

If the request is to name a facility after a person, living or deceased, please provide the following information about that person. This information will be used only to conduct a background check on the person for whom the naming is being requested and will be held confidential.

| Current Address (if livi | ng): |
|--------------------------|------|
|--------------------------|------|

Date of Birth: December 13, 1939

Social Security Number: To be supplied by separate letter

| Name of civic/community activities, position of leadership and dates of involvement: |
|--|
| North Carolina A&T State University, Board of Trustces (Member)                      |
| North Carolina Board of Transportation (Member)                                      |
| Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Board of Trustees (Member; Chairman)                  |
| Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Main Library Reinvention Committee (Chairman)         |
| First Presbyterian Church (Charlotte), Elder and Deacon                              |
|  |
| Organizations and positions held:  |
| Attorney, Moore & Van Allen  |
| Dean of Students, UNCC   |
| President, NCNB Community Development Corporation (1978-2001) (NCNB CDC)             |
| Executive-in-residence and visiting professor, UNCC (2001-15)                        |
|  |
| Awards and honors:   |
| Morehead Scholar, UNC-CH (1958-62)   |
| Order of the Old Well, UNC-CH  |
|  |
| Order of the Golden Fleece, UNC-CH   |
| Order of the Golden Fleece, UNC-CH Order of the Grail, UNC-CH                        |

In 1978, under the leadership of Hugh McColl and Dennis Rash, NCNB (now Bank of America) formed the first U.S. bank-owned, community development corporation – to promote the revitalization of inner-city residential neighborhoods. Dennis became its first President and served as such for the next 23 years.

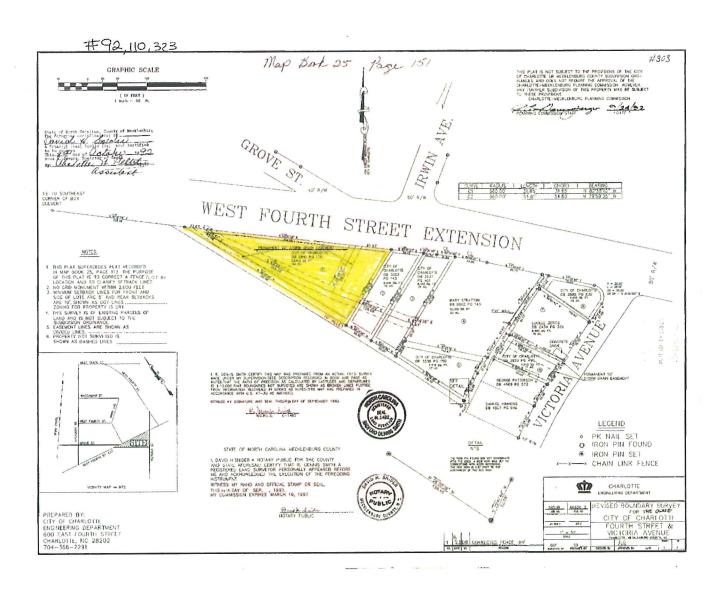
In 1981, NCNB CDC became interested in the renewal of Third Ward, which was then a neighborhood of detached, single-family homes in the shadow of a scrapyard stretching from the railroad tracks to Cedar Street. The City had already acquired and cleared some of the Third Ward land and had initiated efforts to acquire the scrapyard land. Dennis envisioned the development of urban-scale townhouses on some of the City's vacant land, but was eager not to disturb the existing neighborhood or displace its residents. To that end, he created a nonprofit corporation for the neighborhood, The Committee to Restore and Preserve Third Ward, Inc. (with resident Mildred Baxter Davis as its president), which in turn formed a joint venture with NCNB CDC.

As its first project, and as a catalyst for future revitalization efforts, the joint venture built 40 townhouses. The joint venture continued its redevelopment for many years on more than 15 acres in Third Ward. The joint venture distributed a substantial share of its profits to the neighborhood nonprofit, which has continued its restoration and preservation work for more than 35 years.

NCNB CDC, as a representative of the City, completed negotiations for the relocation and environmental cleanup of the scrapyard and the acquisition of the scrapyard land as a neighborhood buffer.

# Polaris 3G Map - Mecklenburg County, North Carolina





## Supporters of the Application to Rename Third Ward Park

By our signatures below, we affirm our support for the application of The Committee to Restore and Preserve Third Ward, Inc. to rename Third Ward Park in memory and honor of James Dennis Rash.

|    | SIGNATURE            | TYPED OR PRINTED NAME         |
|----|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1  | Virginia S. Woolard  | Virginia S. Woolard           |
| 2  | & harlie S. Dannelly | Honorable Charlie S. Dannelly |
| 3  | Reama Sul            | Regina Gill                   |
| 4  | Benerlin Earle       | Honorable Beverly M. Earle    |
| 5  |                      | Chris A. Ogunrinde            |
| 6  | Polat C Sinh         | Robert C. Sink                |
| 7  | 11                   |                               |
| 8  |                      |                               |
| 9  |                      |                               |
| 10 | Linda Flowers        | Linds Plowers                 |
| 11 | Don & Bancom         | DON C. BAUCOM                 |
| 12 | - Michael Hohn       | Michael Helms                 |
| 13 | Berger               | BEVERLY GIOVER LOGAN          |
| 14 | 774%                 | Tyler hager                   |
| 15 | Kelley Colwell       | Kelley J. Colwell             |
| 16 | (10)                 | ,                             |
| 17 | Glaine Powell        | Elaine M. Powell              |
| 18 | /                    |                               |
| 19 |                      |                               |
| 20 |                      |                               |
| 21 |                      | -                             |
| 22 |                      |                               |
| 23 |                      |                               |
| 24 |                      |                               |
| 25 |                      |                               |

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| SIGNATURE            | TYPED OR PRINTED NAME                   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 Jonni Dadeer       | Temmi Badger                            |
| 2 Robert Wilson      | ROBERT Wilde                            |
| 3 Mary E. Heck       | MATY E. HEAVY                           |
| 4 Shristine Wilson   | Christing Wilson                        |
| 5 Janlan             | FON CARNIE                              |
| 6 margaret Crell     | MARGARET CREED                          |
| 7 an Suskey          | ANN HUSKEY                              |
| 8 Many La Mambin     | Mary Lee Mantin                         |
| 9 Darga matelas      | DAVID W. MAChell                        |
| 10 Ann March         | ANN MARSH                               |
| 11 al a. Irum        | Aww A. Incom                            |
| 12 Suson Holland     | Susan Holland                           |
| 13 Layer Notres      | Laura W. Holmes                         |
| 14 Willie Stalmo     | Willie Holmes                           |
| 15 Chamses a Lillman | Thomas A. Tillman                       |
| 16 Roger Serov       | Reger Sarow                             |
| 17 Rolls Flood       | Rolfe Neill                             |
| 18 Resemany C. neill | Rosemary Neill                          |
| 19 Garde Du Bruton   | Garle Dry-Bucton                        |
| 20 Sward Juston      | Eddiard H. Butn'                        |
| 21 Nataleo R. Gorda  | Natalie B. Barden<br>Katharine L. Camie |
| 22 Kathann & Came    | Katharine L Camie                       |
| 23 Mayor a Mala      | Margaret A. Woolar &                    |
| 24 Avoile Auchsteutt | LORRIE Auchstactter                     |
| 25                   |   |

- 10. Linda Flowers
- 11. Don C. Baucom
- 12. Michael Helms
- 13. Beverly Glover Logan
- 14. Tyler Roger
- 15. Kelley J. Colwell
- 17. Elaine M. Powell

- 1. Tommi Badger
- 2. Robert Wilson
- 3. Mary E. Heard
- 4. Christine Wilson
- 5. Ron Carnie
- 6. Margaret Creed
- 7. Ann Huskey
- 8. Mary Lee Mamlin
- 9. David W. Mitchell
- 10. Ann Marsh
- 11. Ann A. Irwin
- 12. Susan Holland
- 13. Laura W. Holmes
- 14. Willie Holmes
- 15. Thomas A. Tillman
- 16. Roger Sarow
- 17. Rolfe Neill
- 18. Rosemary Neill
- 19. Gaile Dry Burton
- 20. Edward H. Burton
- 21. Natalie R. Gordon
- 22. Katherine L. Carnie
- 23. Margaret A. Woolard
- 24. Korrie Auchstaetter

#### Houston, Patsy E.

From:

Houston, Patsy E.

Sent:

Monday, November 27, 2017 10:52 AM

To: Subject: Houston, Patsy E. FW: Background Check

From: Rhode, Tamara

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 10:48 AM

**To:** Houston, Patsy E. <Patsy.Houston@mecklenburgcountync.gov> **Cc:** Vanhoy, Rachel <Rachel.Vanhoy@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Subject: RE: Background Check

I don't show that Mr. Rash has ever been charged with anything in the NC court system. Please let me know if you need anything further. Thanks.

From: Houston, Patsy E.

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 10:04 AM

To: Rhode, Tamara < Tamara.Rhode@mecklenburgcountync.gov >

Subject: RE: Background Check

That would be awesome! His name is James Dennis Rash and his date of birth is 12/13/1939

### Patsy E. Houston

Administrative Support Supervisor
Park and Recreation
980-314-1013
Patsy.Houston@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

From: Rhode, Tamara

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 9:52 AM

To: Vanhoy, Rachel < Rachel. Vanhoy@mecklenburgcountync.gov >; Houston, Patsy E.

<Patsy.Houston@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Subject: RE: Background Check

Good morning,

Rachel is correct, unfortunately, we can't run a name through DCI for the renaming of a building, etc. However, I can run the information through the NC court system if that will help. That will pick up anything in NC, just not Nationally. If this is something you would like me to do, please send me the name and date of birth if you have it and I'll get it done this morning. Thanks.

Tamara Rhode Permits & Registration Services Manager 700 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 120 Charlotte, NC 28202 980-314-5061 (office) 704-432-5246 (fax) Tamara.Rhode@mecklenburgcountync.gov

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