

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Patrick J. Gannon, Ph.D. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Friends of Sands Point Preserve at its Gold Gala on May 4, 2013

WHEREAS, Individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession or in service to their community merit the highest commendation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing tradition, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Patrick J. Gannon, Ph.D. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Friends of Sands Point Preserve at its Gold Gala, to be held at the Hempstead House on May 4, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patrick J. Gannon, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Science Education at the Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine with a background in Anthropology and Neurobiology, came to the United States from Yorkshire, England in 1979 to pursue his interests in Anthropology and Neurobiology research; he earned a doctoral degree in Physical Anthropology while running a clinical research laboratory at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, In his 29 years at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Dr. Gannon taught numerous medical school courses and mentored several generations of doctoral students, residents, and fellows in the Otolaryngology Department in research methods; this professional fulfillment was punctuated by the publication of a ground breaking study in the international journal SCIENCE, reporting "language" areas in chimpanzee brains; a seminal finding which supported the work of his lifetime hero, primatologist Jane Goodall; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall told him "thank you for your contribution to a better understanding of the evolutionary relationship with our closest relatives, chimpanzee beings"; the evolutionary controversy it stirred even made it into Jay Leno's monologue on the Tonight Show; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gannon broke other ground with NASA funded K-12 science education and public outreach based on Biomedical Research and the work of NASA scientists; and

WHEREAS, Having lived in Manhattan for many years, Dr. Gannon's move to City Island made it possible to keep honeybees, which he says keep him calm and add richness to his family and community; personal fulfillment was inherent to his 20-year partnership with an educator-scientist and three children, living in a Bohemian sailing hamlet, and fostering his passion for "bee-whispering"; and

WHEREAS, His hobby of bee-whispering was inspired by the Fenland Farmers of Cambridgeshire in what he refers to as a previous lifetime, when he worked for the Agricultural Research Council at Cambridge University; and

WHEREAS, Now, as a Chair and Professor of the Department of Science Education at the Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, Dr. Patrick J. Gannon mentors future clinicians-scientists to cultivate honeybees, conduct research on the benefits of honey for treating pollen allergies, and to appreciate their role in supporting the ecosystem in Hofstra's arboretum campus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gannon has supported new beekeepers and helped them to establish colonies at the Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, the Ruth Howell Family Garden at the New York Botanical Garden, at private estates in the Bronx, Long Island and at Sands Point; and

WHEREAS, Patrick J. Gannon's goal is to help others find the same passion he has for beekeeping, to promote environmental conservation and research at Sands Point Preserve, the New York City Botanical Garden and many other places where there is a role for public education and research; another of his goals at Sands Point Preserve is to re-establish

ish the Boy Scouts Performance Patch for Beekeeping in collaboration with a group of Sands Point Eagle Scouts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Patrick J. Gannon, Ph.D. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Friends of Sands Point Preserve at its Gold Gala, to be held at the Hempstead House on May 4, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Patrick J. Gannon, Ph.D.