



City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 6, 1977

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Ralph Norman Helverson will retire as Minister of the First Parish in Cambridge (Unitarian Universalist) on September 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Ralph Norman Helverson has, during a period of eighteen and one-half years, brought vigorous and imaginative leadership to his parish and to the Cambridge community; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Helverson has, during his long ministries at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, continuously rendered especially distinguished service to the university community, to wit:

- for sixteen years as one of the chaplains in the Cornell University United Religious Work;
- for eighteen and one-half years as a member of the United Ministry at Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges;
- as the originator of the First Parish Social Responsibilities Program which began the Cambridge Forum, the most thoughtful weekly analysis of contemporary issues currently available in the Cambridge community;
- as the originator of the First Parish Nameless Coffee House, which has for ten years attracted over 1500 college-age students each week-end to the church for folk music, coffee, and fellowship;
- as the first and current Chairman of the Board of Ministry at Harvard University;
- as a member of the Dudlean Lectureship Committee at Harvard University; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Helverson holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from Anderson College, the Master of Arts degree from Cornell University, the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Garrett Theological Seminary, and the Doctor of Divinity degree, honoris causa, from Meadville Theological School; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Helverson has rendered especial service by communicating his insight and religious experience beyond his parish by:

- conducting a weekly radio program on two Boston stations for thirteen years, entitled "Window on Harvard Square";
- writing two books of meditations: Speak to the Earth and Impassioned Clay; and one book of essays, Living in the Questions;
- leading tour groups throughout the Western and non-Western worlds;
- serving the Unitarian Universalist Association as a member of the board of the Church of the Larger Fellowship; as a member of the Association's Board of Trustees; as a member of its Fellowship Committee; and as Chairman of the Department of Overseas and Interfaith Relations; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Ralph Norman Helverson has served Cambridge as a member of its Civic Unity Committee and its Committee on the Future of Harvard Square; and

WHEREAS: The Reverend Dr. Ralph Norman Helverson has, during his entire ministry, championed human rights from the pulpit, and has served as a member of the American Civil Liberties Union and as a member of the Executive Committee of its Massachusetts Branch; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council takes special note and pride in recognizing Dr. Helverson's many spiritual and civic contributions; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council wishes Dr. and Mrs. Helverson best wishes during their retirement years; good fortune during the first year of that retirement during which Dr. Helverson will serve as interim minister of the San Diego, California Unitarian Universalist Church; and the fervent hope that Dr. Helverson's retirement means only that parish duties will be laid down and that this dynamic and creative ministerial presence will continue to be heard and felt in other pulpits across this land.

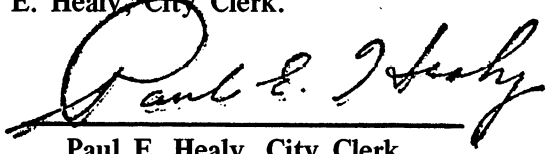
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Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.

Attest: Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy,

ATTEST:


Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order #6 ~~S~~ 352

C. Duehay resolutions on Reverend Dr. Ralph
Norman Helverson.

In City Council,

June 6, 1977

Resolutions approved - 7 members