



City of Cambridge

82.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: The Deacons Union honored **Deacon Winstin Swinton** of Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church with a recognition luncheon on Saturday, March 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS: Deacon Swinton has distinguished himself by providing faithful and loyal service to his church and the Cambridge community for 21 years; and

WHEREAS: The Deacon and his wife of nearly 30 years, Eugenia, have retired and are planning to move out of state to North Carolina on May 5, 1997; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record urging all Cantabrigians to be cognizant of and participate in "making a little noise" in bidding **Deacon Winstin Swinton** and his wife **Eugenia Swinton** farewell as one of Cambridge's favorite couples; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to **Deacon Winstin Swinton** and **Eugenia Swinton** on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council April 28, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

***Deacons Union and Ladies Auxiliary
of Greater Boston and Vicinity***

P.O. Box 296
Mattapan, MA 02126

March 21, 1997

Hon. Kenneth Reeves
Councilor
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

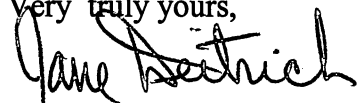
Dear Councilor Reeves:

Last Saturday, March 15, 1997, the Deacons Union honored Deacon Winstin Swinton with a recognition luncheon. Deacon Swinton has distinguished himself by providing faithful and loyal service to his church and the Cambridge community for 21 years. The Deacon and his wife, Eugenia have retired and are planning to move out of state on May 5, 1997. At the luncheon which was held at Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. McLendon expressed his dismay and disbelief that the Swintons were actually leaving. Rev. McLendon characterized the deacon as his "right-hand" and spoke of how effective this man's work has been because he is able to humble himself to serve the pastor and church. Deacon Swinton has thus far lived a quiet life. However, the Deacons Union would like to ask you in helping us "make a little noise" as we bid farewell.

We would be ever so delighted and appreciative if you would sponsor a resolution or other appropriate citation from the City of Cambridge as recognition of Winston Swinton's service to the community. We could not approach you prior to the luncheon since you were out of town. But, the citation can be read on a Sunday morning prior to the Swintons' departure.

Mrs. Zelma Evelyn has graciously agreed to help with this process should you be able to approve this request. If you need further information, please contact me at 617.724.2732 (days) or 617.389.4125 (evenings).

Very truly yours,



Jane L. Deitrich
(Deaconess Union Baptist Church)
Vice-President, Ladies Auxiliary

Enclosures

CC: Rev. Howard McLendon
Stephen Bispham, President

Deacon Winstin C. Swinton

"My Son, if thou wilt receive my Words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; yea if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding. If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasure; then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God."

Deacon Winstin C. Swinton and his wife, Eugenia are moving to South Carolina. They have not found a new home down there yet and do not sound very definite on what they want. They said, "oh, we'll find something when we get there." Neither do they seem worried that the sale of their current home is not finalized. Many people would be frantic now, trying to get everything all in place. The Swintons are quietly moving along - not concerned. Perhaps because they have discovered after thirty-seven years together that the Lord provides and the Lord is faithful. Perhaps, they possess a *blessed assurance*; perhaps, Deacon Swinton keeps his favorite scripture up front in his mind, "Let not your heart be troubled" (John 14:1.)

Deacon and Mrs. Swinton are from Florence, South Carolina and from the Mt. Carmon Baptist Church which Deacon Swinton joined at an early age. He sang in the Junior Choir and was baptized at 14 or 15. He moved to Boston in December, 1959 and lived there for two years. In 1966 he moved across the water when he purchases his home on Alberta Street in Cambridge. Trained as a welder and mechanical engineer, Winstin worked at Novel Ironworks in Malden for 21 years followed by five years at another company.

Swinton found his way to Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, joining in June 1971. He grew as a Christian and in April, 1972 Rev. Louis Sibley and the Church ordained him deacon. He continued to grow and develop during these years, so that by 1976 the Church turned the Deacon Board chairmanship over to him. He has held that position for 21 years. When asked, what are some of your memorable moments at MABC? Deacon Swinton answered, "the highlight of my time at the Church has been working with Rev. Howard A. McLendon. He is a good man. I also enjoyed working with Rev. Jessie Wood."

The Deacon also said he has had mentors along the way. November 19, 1979, he joined the Deacon Union when Leon Wilson (Twelfth B. C.) was president, Clinton Sutton, vice president and Sisters Kelley and Valines, president and vice of the Ladies Auxiliary. He assisted Deacon Fernando Keyes and later went on to hold the position as Financial Secretary himself. He fondly recalls working with fellow deacons, in particular, Harold Williams (Union), Philip Thompson (Metropolitan) and John McCall (Concord.)

Today we celebrate, acknowledge and honor this servant of God and man. It is a sweet day - and, not a very sad one. Although our friend and co-worker in Christ is heading south, he is still following God. He *lives* his other favorite scripture, Psalm 23. The Lord is his shepherd. He and his wife plan to return to Mt. Carmon, where about 49% of the 700 members are his family.

Today we thank Deacon Swinton for sharing his life with us. We appreciate his humility and faithfulness. We will miss him but look forward to his return trips to Massachusetts. We say Godspeed.

Deacons Union and Ladies Auxiliary of Greater Boston and Vicinity
March 15, 1997

***Deacons Union and Ladies Auxiliary
of Greater Boston and Vicinity***

**P.O. Box 296
Mattapan, MA 02126**

March 21, 1997

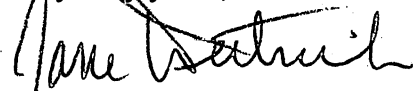
Ms. Zelma Evelyn
Walden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Mrs. Evelyn:

Here is the information re: Deacon Winston Swinton of Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church. As we discussed, the Deacons Union would like to ask Councilor Reeves for an acknowledgment from the city of Cambridge. We thank you in advance for your help with this matter. Please send the citation to Rev. Howard A. McLendon, Pastor, Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, 146 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Please call me at 617.724.2732 (work) or 617.389.4125 (Home) if I may answer any questions or help in anyway.

Very truly yours,



Jane Deitrich (Deaconess, Union Baptist Church)
Vice-President
Ladies Auxiliary

JLD

Enclosure

CC: Rev. Howard McLendon
Deacon Stephen Bispham, President

Reverend

82.

Row Voyage. / Deacon
Winston Swinton and Eugenia
Swinton as they move to
North Carolina. The Swintons^R
are a nearly ³⁰~~40~~ year
Cambridge
"couple".

(*) This order needs to be expanded
from the accompanying materials
and a bound copy should be sent
to Rev. Howard Mc Glendon. w/ copy of
ltw to Rev. ~~to~~ + Order to Jane Dietrich



City of Cambridge

82.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES

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Born, Davis, Duchay, Galluccio, Sullivan

Consent Order #82

Toomey + Triantafyllou

Councillor Reeves re: Bid farewell
to Deacon Winstin Swinton and his
wife Eugenia Swinton, one of Cambridge's
favorite couples, as they relocate
to North Carolina. p-635

In City Council April 28, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED