

**BOROUGH OF PROSPECT PARK
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 1819

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CHARTER FOR
COMPASSION; DECLARING PROSPECT PARK,
PENNSYLVANIA A PARTICIPANT IN A TEN-
YEAR CAMPAIGN FOR COMPASSIONATE
BOROUGH; ESTABLISHING MAY AS
"COMPASSIONATE ACTION MONTH"; AND,
DECLARING PROSPECT PARK, PENNSYLVANIA
"A COMPASSIONATE BOROUGH"**

WHEREAS, Prospect Park Borough Mayor Jeff Harris has made compassion one of the three foundational pillars of his administration; and,

WHEREAS, a growing network of individuals and groups organized around compassion are empowering our community to meet growing needs; and,

WHEREAS, Prospect Park Borough contains a diverse spectrum of religious, political, and ethnic groups embodying the best American values; and,

WHEREAS, we acknowledge our role and responsibility to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our Borough and through educational efforts and deliberate actions; and,

WHEREAS, there are still many instances where individuals and groups fail to live compassionately and thus we acknowledge we must recommit to, and broaden, this effort in all places of the community;

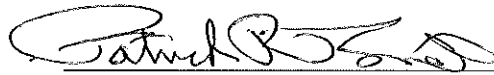
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Prospect Park as follows:

1. That the Borough of Prospect Park Council and the Mayor of Prospect Park affirm the Charter for Compassion (attached hereto) and extend the charter to include our Earth and all of its inhabitants, including animals;
2. That Prospect Park declares a Ten Year Compassionate Town Campaign and hereby expresses its desire to be a lead town in this effort;

3. That the month of May is designated Compassionate Action Month in Prospect Park;
4. That Prospect Park welcomes guests from all around the world to learn about the commitment to compassionate action that exists here;
5. That all citizens of Prospect Park are encouraged to affirm the Charter for Compassion and to strive to live and act more compassionately; and,
6. That this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

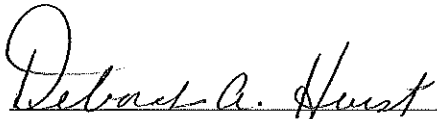
ADOPTED by the Borough of Prospect Park on this the 14th day of May, 2013.

BY:



Patrick O'Connell
Borough Council President

ATTEST:



Deborah A. Hurst
Borough Secretary

APPROVED:



Jeff Harris
Mayor

CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

THE PRINCIPLE OF COMPASSION lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there, and to honor the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

IT IS ALSO NECESSARY in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathetically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others – even our enemies – is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have failed to live compassionately and that some have even increased the sum of human misery in the name of religion.

WE THEREFORE CALL UPON MEN AND WOMEN ~ to restore compassion to the center of morality and religion ~ to return to the ancient principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate ~ to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions, religions and cultures ~ to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity ~ to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings – even those regarded as enemies.

WE URGENTLY NEED to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principles determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down political, dogmatic, ideological and religious boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.