

Resolve 5-08/09

Passage: 12/1/08 8-0 (Leeman absent)

JILL C. DUSON (MAYOR)
KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)
DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)
DANIEL S. SKOLNIK (3)
CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)

CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

JOHN R. COYNE (5)
JOHN M. ANTON (A/L)
DORY RICHARDS WAXMAN (A/L)
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (A/L)

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Portland value the diversity of the city's community and remain committed to building a municipality based upon the core values of dignity, justice and equality; and

WHEREAS, these same values are imbedded in the Declaration of Independence and amendments that are part of the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, these values know no boundaries and they serve as a compass to guide our City, , daily on a path away from discrimination, racism, poverty and injustice; and

WHEREAS, they steer us towards justice, equality, freedom and respect for all people that live, work, visit or call Portland home; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of these goals, in 1992 the City enacted the first law in the state of Maine prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, in further pursuit of those goals on November 4, 2008, 28,317 Portland voters, which was 76.8% of those casting ballots, cast their vote for Barack Obama, an African-American, as the next President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, for many years the people of the City of Portland have come together in these and other ways to speak out and act against discrimination, racism and hate; and

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Portland are committed to confronting violence, bigotry and hatred with the same determination needed to attack the sources from which they spring;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council speaks with one voice in support of non-discrimination and equality and against acts of discrimination, racism, and hate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council celebrates the achievements of all Americans that have sought to bring dignity and equality to all people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or religion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council celebrates the diversity of its community as it “makes of a rich tapestry, for which all the threads are equal in value no matter what their color”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be certified by the City Clerk and mailed to each member of Maine’s state and federal delegation, and to the Governor.