

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.:

Resolution honoring **Leonard P. O'Neill** on his retirement)
from UniteHERE Local 483 after 40 years of dedicated service.....)

WHEREAS Leonard O'Neill grew up in Connecticut and was exposed early to the value of unions through his father, a butcher, who was a union member, honored picket lines and who talked about how hard it would be if it weren't for the unions; and

WHEREAS Leonard O'Neill came to Monterey in 1977 and immediately visited Local 483 to look for work opportunities, worked for about six months on the Monterey Wharf, then was approached by Bob Gamberg, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Local, who offered Leonard a job working for the Union; and

WHEREAS Leonard O'Neill worked as an organizer for Local 483 from 1977 until 1982 when fate offered a new challenge: the monumental task of handling contract negotiations for thirty-two hotels and restaurants as the lead negotiator; and

WHEREAS in 1982, **Leonard O'Neill** organized a seventeen-day strike at The Lodge at Pebble Beach and other major hotels, fighting for three items: paid sick leave, paid holidays, and meals for all the workers - successfully winning two paid sick days, two paid holidays, and sandwiches for the workers in the back of the house - the foundation upon which all later negotiations would be based; and

WHEREAS in the fall of 1982, **Leonard O'Neill** was officially elected as Secretary-Treasurer of Local 483, a role in which he served until 2013, when he stepped down, continuing to work for the Local as Senior Organizer/Representative, and taking on a larger role with UNITE HERE! International Union; and

WHEREAS under **Leonard O'Neill's** leadership, Local 483 organized workers at Asilomar Conference Grounds, Sodexo at CSU Monterey Bay, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium, among others; and

WHEREAS the Local has signed landmark five- and six-year contracts with most of its Union employers, thus securing its members an unprecedented stability in their work life. Local 483 members now receive, on average, five paid sick leave days, eight paid holidays, paid meals, and free health insurance for full-time workers; and

WHEREAS Leonard O'Neill established Local 483 as a tough, fair and reasonable negotiator, and

WHEREAS Leonard O'Neill established many important relationships in the Monterey Peninsula community, relationships that sustain and empower the Local to achieve positive change in the workplace including positive working relationships with Senator Bill Monning, Assembly Member Mark Stone, Congressman Jimmy Panetta, Supervisor Jane Parker, Mayor Ralph Rubio,

Mayor Bruce Delgado, Councilmember Alan Haffa, former Supervisor Dave Potter, and former Congressman Sam Farr; and

WHEREAS the Local has partnered with many community organizations including Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Center for Change, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and the Monterey Peace and Justice Center, and participated in marches for justice on Martin Luther King Day and Monterey LGBT Pride, among others; and

WHEREAS Leonard O’Neill served the International Union as a Vice President At-Large where his work as one of their chief negotiators included negotiating national contracts across California and the U.S. in Oakland, Los Angeles, San Diego, Sacramento, Colorado, and Hawaii; and

WHEREAS Leonard O’Neill sits on the Board of Directors of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans and he remains a Trustee of both the Monterey Culinary Pension Fund and the UniteHERE Health Fund;

WHEREAS, Leonard P. O’Neill has achieved great professional success with the support of his wife Melanie and three children Erin, Conor, and Kate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all citizens thereof, hereby acknowledges **Leonard P. O’Neill** for all of his contributions to the County of Monterey and its residents, and extends its best wishes for a healthy, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this _____ day of _____, 2017 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book _____, for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy