

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 120314)

RESOLUTION

Declaring the historic *Gazela Primeiro* as the official Tall Ship of the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* as it is known today was built in Setubal, Portugal in 1901; and

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* is the oldest wooden, square-rigged tall ship still actively sailing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* is docked at Penn's Landing as a tourist attraction; and

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* was built to carry fishermen to the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, where every spring she would leave Lisbon, laden with as many as 35 dories stacked on deck like drinking cups, a crew of 40 men, and in her hold would be 90 tons of salt, which would be used to preserve the cod fish that were caught; and

WHEREAS, Upon the retirement of *Gazela Primeiro* in 1969, the ship was purchased by philanthropist William Wikoff Smith for the purpose of displaying it at what is today the Independence Seaport Museum; and

WHEREAS, On May 24, 1971, with a crew of Americans (including one former *Gazela* engineer), the ship left for its new home in Philadelphia, tracing Columbus' route via the Canary Islands and San Juan, Puerto Rico and on Thursday, July 8th, made her first entrance into Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Since 1976, *Gazela Primeiro* flying the flag of the City of Philadelphia has sailed to events along the eastern seaboard of the United States including New York, Boston and Baltimore as the unofficial Tall Ship and Goodwill Ambassador of the City and Port of Philadelphia; and

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 120314 continued

WHEREAS, Ownership of *Gazela Primeiro* passed from the Independence Seaport Museum to the City of Philadelphia in 1982, and then in 1988, to the non-profit Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild; and

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* is today maintained and sailed by the volunteer members of the guild, from all walks of life and ages 17 to 70's, whose stories have been recently published in the book *The Heart of a Ship*; and

WHEREAS, *Gazela Primeiro* serves as a source of pride to the Portuguese American community in Philadelphia and a link between Portugal and the City of Philadelphia; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Declares the *Gazela Primeiro* as the official Tall Ship of the City of Philadelphia.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild, further evidencing the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 120314 continued

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 120314 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the nineteenth of April, 2012.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Oh

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Oh, Goode, Greenlee, Johnson, Jones, Kenney, Squilla, O'Neill, Green, Quiñones Sánchez and Henon