

New York State Senate Honors the Life of Freeport Civic Leader Ken Bagatelle

CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO JR. January 22, 2010

The New York State Senate recently paid tribute to Ken Bagatelle, a longtime Freeport resident who passed away this past November 1st. New York State Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. (R-Merrick) sponsored the legislative resolution memorializing Mr. Bagatelle's life and many years of community service.

Ken Bagatelle devoted many years of his life towards serving the Freeport community. He was the longtime President of the Northwest Civic Association, serving as a community watchdog for local residents. Mr. Bagatelle helped raise funds for student scholarships and was a youth coach for baseball and softball. He was also a former member of the Village Zoning Board who never missed a meeting during his 11 year tenure.

In addition, Ken Bagatelle tirelessly advocated on behalf of individuals with disabilities. He pushed for renovations of village facilities, curbs, and parking spaces to make them more handicapped accessible. With passage of the legislative resolution, Ken Bagatelle will forever be memorialized in the history books as part of the New York State Senate's official record.

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<u>Text of the Resolution</u> Senate Resolution No. 3449

BY: Senator FUSCHILLO

MOURNING the death of Kenneth Bagatelle, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle of Freeport, New York, died on Sunday, November 1, 2009, at the age of 67; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle was a Freeport civic leader and local government watchdog who championed children and the disabled; an accountant by trade, he made it his business to question leaders on the nuts and bolts of governance, from sidewalk curbs to hidden budget deficits; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle was born on May 17, 1942; he attended Freeport schools and graduated from Hofstra University in 1964 and served as president of the school's George M. Estabrook Alumni Association; an accountant for Hempstead Town for about 30 years, he retired 10 years ago; and

WHEREAS, For years, Kenneth Bagatelle coached youth baseball and softball, helped raise scholarship money for Freeport students and offered financial advice to the school board; he was president of the Northwest Civic Association for many years, moderating political debates and booking such guests as District Attorney Kathleen Rice; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle served on the village zoning board of appeals from 1985 to 1996 and did not miss a single meeting; to improve accessibility for the disabled, Kenneth Bagatelle, who had arthritis and diabetes, pushed for the remodeling of village facilities, the renovation of curbs and more designated parking spaces; his contributions to Freeport will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Bagatelle is survived by his sister, Janice Waxman, and by his nieces and nephews; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Kenneth Bagatelle, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Kenneth Bagatelle.