

Louisville Metro Government
Offices of Facilities & Fleet Management
APPLICATION -NAMING RIGHTS

Louisville Metro Government Offices of Facility and Fleet Management oversees Louisville Metro Government Properties; All naming rights must be approved by the Offices of Facility and Fleet Management Director or his/her Designee and Metro Council prior to re-naming Louisville Metro Government owned Facilities.

Your Name KAREN LITTLE

Address 3044 BARDSTOWN Rd # 204

Email Address AlleyCatsAdvocates.org

Telephone _____

Cell Number (502) 634-8777

Date of Request October 21, 2019

Property Requested Bldg B - LMAS Complex

Name Requested See Attached

The name on the building is to be:

Karen and Hoyt Little Community Cat Complex

Donor stipulated/required her gift come with the building being named after Hoyt and myself.

Purpose of Request-May Be Attached In lieu of Completing Below

SEE ATTACHED

Bio – KAREN LITTLE/HOYT LITTLE

Karen and Hoyt came to Louisville in the late 1980s from Charlottesville, Virginia where she had been on the faculty at the University of Virginia as a music librarian and Hoyt had been a branch manager at a Charlottesville financial institution. The move to Kentucky was prompted by their desire to live closer to their roots in the Midwest. Karen took a position on the library faculty at the University of Louisville working as a music librarian. With master's degrees in Library Science and Music History from Indiana University, the position and location were appealing. Hoyt was able to secure a position locally as a Vice President at Bank of Louisville, having received his MBA from James Madison University while in Virginia.

Having purchased a home in Old Louisville, Karen was able to walk to and from home to UofL and, fortuitously, routinely found cats on those daily walks. As Karen kept finding cats on her way to and from their home in Old Louisville to the campus, they soon ran their personal cat numbers up to five and began looking for homes for the other cats she continued to find. Eventually, they ran out of friends and relatives to adopt the stray cats she found. Never ones to shy away from a problem, she and Hoyt began to study other options for stray cats by traveling the country attending animal welfare meetings. Learning from others, they decided on Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) – the process of trapping, spaying or neutering and returning a cat to its outside home - as a way to tackle Louisville's stray cat problem. Together, they founded Alley Cat Advocates in 1999.

Although a small non-profit, their drive to create a strong, sustainable organization with measureable results led Hoyt to drop out of the workforce in 2000 to focus all his efforts on the organization. He returned to work in 2006, electing to work third shift at UPS, a decision that allowed him to continue to devote great amounts of time and effort into the success of the group. He was the more visible presence in the group's early years.

Karen, meanwhile, earned tenure and the rank of Full Professor at UofL while gaining experience in strategic planning, budgeting, management, and other skills necessary to run a growing grassroots non-profit organization as she managed the staff of six full-time employees in UofL's music library. She continued to attend animal welfare conferences throughout this time, making sure Alley Cat Advocates was able to apply best practices to the work they were doing.

After successfully securing a \$75,000 PetSmart Charities grant in 2010, they were able to demonstrate the success of targeting or focusing their TNR efforts in neighborhoods of high demand. Due to this successful approach, Karen was able to work directly with Metro Animal Services staff to develop a significant ordinance change in 2012. The change that unanimously passed by Metro Council allowed for the implementation of an extremely successful Return to Field program at Louisville Metro Animal Services. By returning cats to their homes after spaying or neutering and vaccinating them, the city was able to move the Live Release Rate for cats to over 95% in 2017 through today. As resources shifted from housing, caring for, and euthanizing cats to the challenging dog population, a similar live release rate for dogs resulted.

Alley Cat Advocates, under Karen and Hoyt's leadership, has altered just shy of 50,000 community cats and has worked to transform the culture of care provided community cats in the region. The group now holds the citywide contract for TNR and all related community cat issues – one of few such private/public partnerships in the county. Now, Karen speaks at the same animal welfare conferences she and Hoyt attended before the group's founding, sharing information on TNR best practices and how others, too, can change stray cats' lives, and their communities, for the better. And Hoyt, still working part-time at UPS, now on a daytime shift, continues to support the work of the organization in less visible but no less critical ways.

APPROVAL

FACILITIES DIRECTOR

Cathy M. Duncan

DATE:

December 4, 2019

METRO COUNCIL APPROVAL

DATE:
