



A Tribute Resolution of Heartfelt Appreciation Honoring Valerie J. Bower

Whereas Valerie Bower has become the family advocate within her extended family, sharing her inherited Swangren and Selig legacies with family, friends, and the public at every opportunity;

Whereas Valerie Bower embraced the vision of the Eastland Disaster Historical Society (EDHS) at a very early stage in its organizational history;

Whereas Valerie Bower recognized the value provided to the public by EDHS, and through the years has made honest and helpful suggestions for improvements;

Whereas Valerie Bower has shown her support of EDHS and its mission by attending several Eastland Disaster programs (at public libraries and other venues) and events (for example, volunteered to help bottle “The 844” commemorative beer, attended the 88 Brand Partners recognition program);

Whereas Valerie Bower, through her willingness to participate and provide support, has helped EDHS become an important and relevant not-for-profit whose reach impacts people across the country and in Europe;

Whereas Valerie Bower volunteered her time and talents to help EDHS craft its long-term plan in 2017;

Whereas Valerie Bower was instrumental in helping EDHS evaluate and consider options for EDHS to be succeeded by three iconic Chicago institutions, including the Newberry Library;

Whereas Valerie Bower was a featured speaker at the ceremony commemorating the 104th anniversary of the Eastland Disaster at the Old Lighthouse Museum in Michigan City, Indiana on July 27, 2019;

Whereas Valerie Bower was interviewed for and appeared in the 2019 documentary, “Eastland: Chicago’s Deadliest Day”; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Eastland Disaster Historical Society, on behalf of its members and Board, commits to:

1. creating a collection of artifacts to permanently bear the name *Valerie J. Bower / EDHS Collection* at the Newberry Library, an iconic institution in Chicago; and
2. documenting Valerie J. Bower’s personal contributions to EDHS on a webpage to be permanently tied to the “About Us” section of the EDHS website.

So moved and seconded on October 28, 2019 by the EDHS Board of Trustees.

Susan Decker
Co-Founder

Barbara Decker Wachholz
Co-Founder

Ted Wachholz
Executive Director

1998-2019 OUR TWENTY-FIRST YEAR!

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