

The following resolution was introduced by Alderman Dan Coleman and duly seconded by Alderman Joal Hall Broun.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Resolution No. 89/2008-09

WHEREAS, Carrboro is a leader among American cities in advancing human rights and human dignity; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro promotes an engaged citizenry that cares for the human rights and dignity of others; and

WHEREAS, the Human Rights Center of Chapel Hill and Carrboro have petitioned the Board of Aldermen to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, promulgated by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948 and signed and agreed to by all countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, having been promulgated in 1948, Carrboro acknowledges that certain principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should be updated as follows:

- a. The preamble, in paragraph two, should make reference to “humankind” rather than “mankind”;
- b. Article 2 should also contain the statuses of ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity or gender expression;
- c. Article 10 should acknowledge the rights of all persons to enter into civil marriage with their partner of choice, regardless of gender;
- d. Article 16(1) should make reference to “people” rather than “men and women.” It should add “ethnicity” to the limitation clause.
- e. Article 16(3) makes reference to “family.” It should be noted that the definition of “family” has evolved greatly since 1948. Historically it was known as “the basic unit in society traditionally consisting of two parents rearing their children,” while today it further includes “any of various social units differing from but regarded as equivalent to the traditional family.”
- f. Article 25(2) should be revised to include “fatherhood” and should delete the reference to “born in or out of wedlock.”
- g. Throughout the document, any reference to “his,” “him” or “himself” should be stated “them” or “themselves” in order to be gender inclusive.

WHEREAS, the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (*with clarification above*) will guide the spirit of the laws, practices, and policies carried out with and on behalf of the residents of Carrboro; and

WHEREAS, the Human Rights Center has asked that the Board to appoint an advisory committee to report to the Board on a semi-annual basis about the condition of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. The Board hereby adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as guiding principles.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote received the following vote and was duly adopted this 21st day of April 2009:

Ayes: Dan Coleman, Lydia Lavelle, John Herrera, Mark Chilton, Joal Hall Broun, Jacquelyn Gist, Randee Haven-O'Donnell

Noes: None

Absent or Excused: None