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"Juneteenth is a day of reflection, a day of renewal, a pride-filled day. It is a moment in time taken to appreciate the African American experience. It is inclusive of all races, ethnicities and nationalities as nothing is more comforting than the hand of a friend."- <u>www.Juneteenth.com</u>

City of Madison Park Commission,

This quote is representative of the essence of the Madison's Juneteenth Day Celebration. It embodies the goal that was established twenty-four celebrations ago. "To empowered the Madison African American community to become a more productive part of the total Madison community". Over the years, we believe that the Juneteenth Day Celebration has been the catalyst for showcasing and promoting the rich heritage of the African American experience locally.

June 19, 2015, will mark the 150 Anniversary of Juneteenth Day Celebration in American History. The Implementation Committee has begun the planning for 2015 Juneteenth Day Celebration and the Executive Committee requests your approval to use Olin Turville Park as the location for the Anniversary Celebration on June 20, 2015.

Juneteenth is the one event that is totally dedicated to the African American experience here in Madison and across the nation. We are aware of the challenges that impact African Americans living in Madison and Dane County but adversity is not a new to African American community. For it was in the midst of slavery that our American experience was formed; while plowing fields and picking cotton "soul music", was birth as an outward expression of hope in the midst of despair. It is the freedom from what physically binds us that is celebrated every Juneteenth Day. In 1865, it was slavery and today it is racial disparity.

It our hope the 150 Anniversary events will bring national attention to the Celebration. We believe Olin Turville Park will support the Kujichagulia MCSD's planned programming, given that it is natural amphitheatre as well as larger and more accessible venue than Penn Park.

On behalf of Kujichagulia- Madison Center for Determination and the Juneteenth Implementation Committee, thank you in advance for your support.

Harambee (Let's pull together),

Annie Weatherby-Flowers Kujichagulia MCSD

Enclosures