

RESOLUTION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING

BILL SOMERVILLE

Upon the Occasion of his Retirement from Philanthropic Ventures Foundation

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** celebrated his retirement as founder and first president of Philanthropic Ventures Foundation on December 31st, 2023; and

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** spent sixty years in nonprofit and philanthropic work, transforming students, communities, and organizations for the betterment of all; and

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** founded Philanthropic Ventures Foundation in 1991 with seven generous donors and a small staff, with a vision of innovative grantmaking and maximizing the impact of the philanthropic dollar through a “venture” mindset, growing the Foundation to over \$20 million in annual grant making; and

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** is responsible for many life-changing, innovative programs such as placing graduating Stanford students for one year at a foundation through a fellowship program, which grew into the Tom Ford Fellowship Program at the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford University and introduced 60 young people into the world of philanthropy, and the Parent Involvement Worker Program that places recent ESL graduates as bilingual classroom workers in East Palo Alto; and

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** continued to innovate the field of philanthropy, authoring Grassroots Philanthropy: Field Notes of a Maverick Grantmaker, consulting with over 400 community and family foundations, teaching philanthropy at Stanford University, giving a TED Talk at Brigham Young University, and mentoring many philanthropic and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, **BILL SOMERVILLE** has left a lasting legacy in San Mateo County and philanthropy nationally, elevating the spirit of radical collaboration, innovation, and commitment to investment in communities and people in greatest need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County hereby congratulates **BILL SOMERVILLE** upon the occasion of his retirement from Philanthropic Ventures Foundation and extends its best wishes for the future!

Dated: December 31, 2023

Warren Slocum, President

Dave Pine

Noelia Corzo

Ray Mueller

David J. Canepa

Attest: Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors