



THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY

Resolution honoring Dick Lighty

upon his retirement from the Garden Conservancy Board of Directors

WHEREAS, Frank Cabot in search of outstanding horticultural expertise and leadership to join him in realizing his vision of garden preservation asked Richard W. Lighty, Ph.D., to join his Advisory Committee in 1989, and, in 1990, to become a founding member of the new organization's board of directors;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty served in many capacities on the board, first as chair of the Garden Oversight committee, then as chair of the Projects Committee in the early 1990s and continuing to be an active and vital member of that committee through the end of 2013;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty further served on the Leadership Committee of "The Campaign to Save America's Exceptional Gardens," which in 2010 successfully surpassed its goal of establishing a \$15 million endowment fund;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty established the Longwood Graduate Program in Public Horticulture, training a generation of extraordinary leaders in public horticulture, some of whom have gone on to make significant contributions to the Garden Conservancy;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty brought the lessons of his experience as founding director of Mt. Cuba Center, transforming a private estate into a dynamic public resource, to bear on the Garden Conservancy's own efforts to save and share gardens with the public;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty dispensed horticultural and environmental wisdom on numerous Society of Fellows tours across the country and, in 2007, served on the planning committee for the Fellows tour of Delaware and provided participants a regional context with a talk on the region's landscape stewards – one of several memorable talks by him at Garden Conservancy events;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty never hesitated to add creativity, insight, botanical erudition, and a welcome touch of wit to every occasion, even in emails under the sly handle of the botanical name of the dandelion genus, *Taraxicum* – at earthlink.net, naturally;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty and his wife, Sally, both generously shared their experience in gardening in both Pennsylvania and the Adirondacks;

WHEREAS, Dick Lighty has received practically every prestigious horticultural award and honor and will be further honored at the Garden Conservancy's 25th Anniversary Celebration in December;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Garden Conservancy that it is a great pleasure to recognize the significant contributions Dick Lighty has made to the Garden Conservancy and to convey our best wishes for continued success, happiness, and good health;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be included in the minutes of the Board and that a copy be sent to Dick Lighty to share with his family and friends.

March 27, 2014