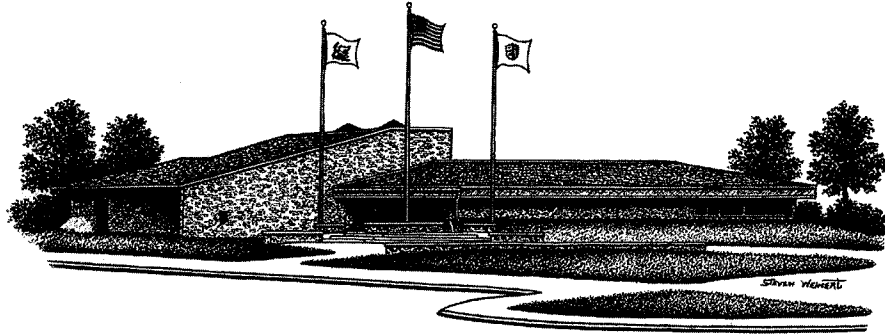


# Tinley Park



## Resolution 2011-R-070

A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES INCLUDE THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND AS A NATION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

**Whereas**, the Village of Tinley Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois has a long and warm relationship with the Republic of Poland; and

**WHEREAS**, the over 58,000 residents of Tinley Park enjoy a sizeable percentage of Polish American citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village enjoys a partnership relationship with the Polish City of Nova Scasz, Poland and a number of our citizens have visited that historic Polish city; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Polish immigrants arrived in America by 1608 in the Virginia Colony; and

**WHEREAS**, from the early colonial days, Polish Americans have been among the leading contributors of this country and to its economic progress; and

**WHEREAS**, General Kazimierz Pulaski proved to be one of our finest American Generals during the Revolutionary War and died at the early age of 31 in defense of our Republic, and is recognized as the Father of the American Cavalry; and

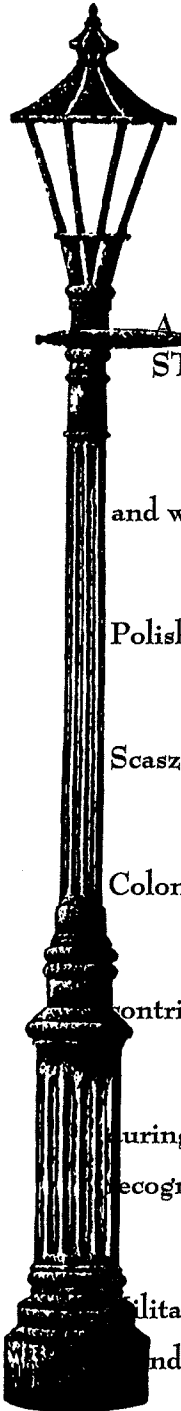
**WHEREAS**, at the same time, General Tadeusz Kosciuszko founded the American Military Engineer Corps and the United States Military Academy at West Point, and was a close friend and confidant to President Thomas Jefferson; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, Polish Americans from all walks of life have contributed to the success of this great Republic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Polish people rose in an historic manner to fight the common Nazi enemy in World War II, and Polish casualties fighting side by side with the United States were equaled by few other combatant nations; and

**WHEREAS**, when Poland became independent of the communist yolk, the Village of Tinley Park and its citizens immediately assisted the new Republic in getting its proper place within the family of nations and its membership in NATO; and

**WHEREAS**, today, there are over 10 million Polish Americans throughout our Nation of which over 950,000 live in Illinois, and those large numbers support active travel and trade between the United State and the Republic of Poland; and




**WHEREAS**, Poland has proved to be an important ally in the war on terrorism, and in many other critical ways show themselves to be close friends of the United States in Europe and in the world.

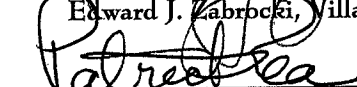
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Tinley Park, Illinois, Cook and Will Counties, on behalf of over 58,000 citizens, herein represented, that:


- ① The citizens of the Republic of Poland should be made eligible for the United States Visa Waiver Program, allowing their citizens both privately and commercially to travel to our Nation in the same manner that all of our other traditionally European allies are so privileged;
- ② The Village of Tinley Park will contact the United States Congressional Delegation urging such action; and
- ③ The Village of Tinley Park will petition the President of the United States to expedite this request.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the Polish Ambassador of the United States, the Polish Consul General in Chicago, the Polish American Congress, and other individual or organizations as deemed appropriate.

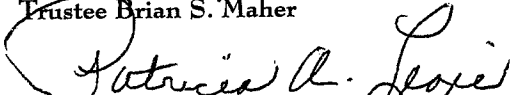
ADOPTED THIS 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011.


  
Edward J. Zabrocki, Village President

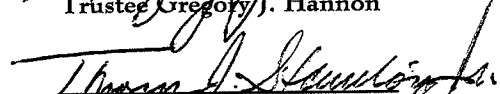
  
Patrick E. Rea, Village Clerk

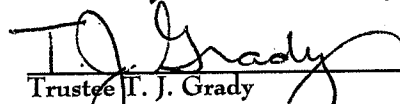
  
Trustee David G. Seaman

  
Trustee Brian S. Maher

  
Trustee Patricia A. Leoni

  
Trustee Gregory J. Hannon

  
Trustee Thomas J. Staunton, Jr.

  
Trustee I. J. Grady