

A Resolution of Appreciation for Robert and Vicky Dickson in Recognition of their Contribution to Journalism in Carrboro

Whereas, Robert and Vicky Dickson founded the Carrboro Citizen in 2007 in recognition of the fact that, in Robert's words, "Carrboro needs a newspaper", and

Whereas, the Carrboro Citizen achieved a weekly circulation of 7500 copies, and

Whereas, in a time when local news media are hard-pressed to research necessary background and fact-check their articles, the Carrboro Citizen maintained impeccable journalistic standards, and

Whereas, the Carrboro Citizen employed an outstanding staff including local writers, editors, photographers, and graphic artists, and

Whereas, the Carrboro Citizen covered all aspects of town and community life, and

Whereas, this was achieved despite a national decline in newspaper readership each year that the citizen was in business, and

Whereas, the Citizen was launched at a time when many local newspapers were closing down or being bought up by national chains who subsequently decreased local coverage, and

Whereas, national newspaper advertising revenues decreased annually each year the Citizen was in business to the point that 2011 revenues were half those of 2007, and

Whereas, despite these obstacles and the financial challenges faced directly by the Citizen itself, Robert and Vicky Dickson soldiered on in their commitment to bring quality journalism to Carrboro, and

Whereas, as a result of their efforts, the Carrboro Citizen became a much beloved Carrboro institution, each issue eagerly anticipated by thousands, and

Whereas, sadly, the Carrboro Citizen published its final edition on October 4, 2012.

Now, therefore, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen declares its appreciation of Robert and Vicky Dickson for their great contribution to journalism and community life in the Town of Carrboro.