



Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

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Date: March 24, 2025
To: Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board members
From: Tina Chimuzu, Planner Fellow, Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB)
CC: Erik Cedarleaf Dahl, Executive Secretary, CAAPB
Peter Musty, Principal Planner & Zoning Administrator, CAAPB
RE: **AGENDA ITEM #9 – Nellie Stone Johnson Informational Plaque**

Background.

Nellie Stone Johnson was a civil rights leader and advocate who became the first Black person elected official in Minneapolis after winning a seat on the Library Board in 1945. She was also the first woman vice president of the Minnesota Culinary Council and the first woman vice president of Local 665 Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, in addition to helping form the Democratic Farm Labor party.

In November 2022, the Nellie Stone Johnson statue was unveiled in the North Hallway of the Capitol in her honor, also representing the first statue of a woman or a person of color inside the Capitol. Following its installation, the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) with input from CAAPB staff and Advisors, has been working together with the committee that advocated for the statue to come up with language and design for a plaque that will be placed alongside the monument.

This project is now in its final stages and attached is an informational memo from the Minnesota Historical Society providing an update on the plaque.

Attachments:

1. **Attachment A: MNHS Nellie Stone Johnson Information Memo**