



PROCLAMATION

Supporting the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and Welcoming the Golden Rule Peace Boat To Beaufort, North Carolina

WHEREAS, the United Nations (“U.N.”) passed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (“TPNW”) on July 7, 2017, which prohibits any nuclear weapon activities, including development, testing, production, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, use and any threat to use; and

WHEREAS, the treaty entered into force on January 22, 2021, currently with 92 signatories and 68 states parties, and is now part of international law, and

WHEREAS, in February 1958 four Quaker activists sailed the Golden Rule, a boat built to engage in environmental direct action, from California towards the Marshall Islands in an attempt to stop nuclear bomb tests there; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the Golden Rule crew in 1958 and subsequent protests helped convince President Kennedy to sign the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963; and

WHEREAS, the boat’s restoration from 2010 to 2015 was supported by Quakers, Veterans For Peace, and hundreds of donors and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Rule is now ‘Sailing for a Nuclear-Free World and a Peaceful, Sustainable Future’ and the Golden Rule Project is the embodiment of the mission of Veterans for Peace to “end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons;” and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Maritime Museum and the Friends of the Museum have graciously welcomed the visit of the Golden Rule,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Office of the Mayor of Beaufort, North Carolina urges the United States government to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament a centerpiece of the United States’ national security policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the Mayor of Beaufort, North Carolina supports the Veterans For Peace Golden Rule Project and encourages residents to welcome the Golden Rule peace vessel and her crew to Beaufort; and her mission to “end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons.”

Duly adopted this 8th day of March 2023.

Sharon Harker, Mayor