

FW: Comments on the Proposed RASEAC Resolution

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Sent from Outlook

From: Donald Henninger <phanphil@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2023 12:21 PM
To: washgrove@comcast.net
Subject: Comments on the Proposed RASEAC Resolution

Dear Mayor Compton and Town Council Members

The following are my comments on the RASEAC Committee's proposed resolution "Acknowledging Washington Grove's Racially Exclusionary Past." While I don't believe that we, either individually or collectively (as "The Town"), have the agency or perspective to "apologize" on behalf of others, it is appropriate for the Town to acknowledge its past racial issues with "regret" and commit to a more enlightened future.

The exhaustive "Whereas" list contains many references which were not specific to The Grove, while the many Grove-specific entries cite events and practices from previous centuries which have long since been repudiated. I think the essence and intent of the "Whereas" list could be addressed in a concise paragraph or two which objectively and more generally describes the Grove's past racial history within the context of the times in which it occurred.

If the "Whereas" portion is reduced as suggested, the "Now Therefore, Be It Resolved" discussion could be replaced by what is now proposed as the comprehensive "Proposed Statement for the Town Web Page" which is a good summation of the entire effort.

Thanks to the RASEAC for addressing this important issue, and for all your service to the town.

Donald Henninger
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