

To the Mayor and Town Council: Regarding McCathran Hall

Dear Mayor Compton and Town Council:

Examining the history of names given to our public buildings is important, though often divisive and painful for residents. As a family, we do not see a need for renaming McCathran Hall. The name honors not only Roy McCathran, the first mayor, for his many accomplishments, but also descendants and family members who continue to devote tremendous energy to the town and whose personal, professional, and civic dedication to inclusiveness is well known.

As a mixed-race family, we have experienced this inclusiveness since we moved to Washington Grove in 1991. As part of efforts toward acknowledgment and reconciliation, we would like to see a statement posted in McCathran Hall acknowledging the exclusionary covenants of the past and any other official discriminatory policies.

Sincerely yours,

Joel P. Shapiro

Ann A. Philips

Kenneth J. Shapiro