

Dear Members of the Town Council,

It has been brought to our attention the Racial and Social Equity Committee (RASEC) in Washington Grove is now officially closed and is listed under Dormant And/Or Former Committees on the Washington Grove website. The PowerPoint “RASEC recommendation to restore the name of our town hall,” was created by two members of the RASEC Work Group for making the recommendation to the Town Council. We are requesting the removal of this PowerPoint for the following reasons:

1. Most of the information in the PowerPoint concerning renaming McCathran Hall is inaccurate, misleading, insulting and fabricated.
2. This PowerPoint document is the personal opinion of the two authors, which was developed for the RASEC Recommendation Work Group. This presentation was never approved by the entire RASEC nor the Washington Grove Town Council. The RASEC only voted to **consider** renaming of McCathran Hall and asked the Town Council to discuss the matter. The Town Council later voted against that recommendation.
3. This PowerPoint is insulting to the entire McCathran Family and many residents of Washington Grove. Keeping this information on the town website is continuing to cause hateful and hurtful feelings. This is the time the town should be using to heal from these deep wounds.

We did support to passage of Resolution 2023-01. Unfortunately, much of the same information was misused again for the footnotes for Resolution 2023-01. When the mayor was asked why the footnotes were included in the resolution, this being the first time to use such references for a resolution, to our knowledge, we were told it was a “compromise.” Why are we continuing to compromise with lies if the committee is no longer active?

As for the Resolution 2023-01 the supporting documentation needs to be removed. Much of this information is again inaccurate, misleading, insulting and fabricated. In general, the references which deal with evils of racism on a national level may be accurate. We are not disputing the national references. However, the author(s) have referred to local events as racist, based on insinuations, misinterpretations and innuendos from “Grove Gatherings” and “Washington Grove 1873 to 1937.” We are also asking for these local references to be removed.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these matters.

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