

Douglass High School Commemorative Committee

Location: Frederick Douglass Elementary School Library

MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2022

APPROVED

ATTENDEES:

Committee Members: Charles Avery, Erica Bush, Dwight Brooks, Gladys Burke, Valerie Bush, Tammy Carter, Carlotta Coates, Gertrude Evans, James Roberts, Larry Roeder, Larry Simms, Sylvia Smith, Michelle Thomas

Absent: Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, Mary Randolph

Guests: Alvin Dodson, Janet Wiggins, Helen Avery, Charlotte Coates

LCPS Staff: Lottie Spurlock, Donna Torraca, Sara Howard-O'Brien

Erica Bush and Charles Avery welcomed the Committee and guests to the meeting.

Public Comment:

Charles asked if any guests would like to provide public comment. Seeing none, Charles welcomed Larry Roeder, Larry Simms and Tammy Carter to share their items.

- Larry Roeder discussed the Invitation to Join the Edwin Washington Society (EWS) located in the meeting packet and their efforts to continue the legacy of the Commemorative Committee through the Consortium created. The consortium consists of the Loudoun Douglass Alumni Association, the Loudoun Chapter of the NAACP and the EWS (formerly referred to as Edwin Washington Project or EWP.) EWS was seeking assistance from the Committee and the Alumni for a digital map they are compiling of the bus routes students took prior to integration to any of the schools in Loudoun County. Information needed includes, location of bus routes, length of trip, bus ride stories, names of bus drivers and potentially interviews with them and any other bus transportation the community can offer. There is no fee to join EWS. Their effort is collaboration and collection of memories.
- Larry Simms reviewed the commemorative coin that would be distributed to all those who assisted with the commemorative project including Committee members, guests, researchers, oral history participants and anyone else the Committee would like. One side of the coin would have artwork provided from Gert Evans of the front of Douglass High School along with the dates of 1941-1968 and Leesburg, VA. The other side would have a Ram. Larry stated that there are a lot of people that have put in a lot of time on this project and he felt a small commemorative item could recognize the collective effort. Tammy Carter also provided a similar option to be provided to the same group of individuals but in a pin format rather than a coin. Her design and suggestions were also shared with the Committee

After discussion the Committee elected to consider over the next two weeks and discuss further at the October 11th meeting.

Review of Meeting Minutes:

The Committee will review the August 22nd minutes at the October 11th meeting.

Playground Update:

Sara Howard-O'Brien stated that Loudoun County Parks & Recreation continues work on the playground panels and that they will send the local heroes panel shortly for review and comment.

PROGRESS UPDATE/DHS COMMEMORATIVE ELEMENTS:

Sara Howard-O'Brien reviewed the construction update with the Committee for the exterior components including the west courtyard, front plaza and amphitheater areas. A sample of the engraved pavers was shown with options for a light gray lettering or darker gray.

Tammy Carter made a motion for approval of the darker lettering. Mr. Roberts seconded. The Committee voted 11-0 for the darker lettering option with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, Mary Randolph and Larry Simms absent for the vote.

Sara then reviewed the Signage and Interpretative Graphics package provided by BBB, dated September 26, 2022. Several key votes were taken by the Committee as follows:

Monument Signage Lettering Style: Two options were proposed and Option B was chosen by a vote of 12-0 with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, Mary Randolph and Larry Simms absent for the vote.

Monument Sign – Rams Head Material: Two options were provided. Option A was a dark oxidized cut bronze rams head integrated into precast panel and Option B was cast bronze plaque with recessed dark oxidized rams head. No vote was taken. The Committee had additional questions for the Design Team:

1. Is Option B flush or attached to the wall?
2. Could a border be provided around Option B for it to “pop” more?
3. Provide a copy of each with the selected font shown.
4. How many years are projected before fading is anticipated to occur?
5. Can you make Option B flush?
6. Requested confirmation that this is a double-sided sign with same information on both sides.

1941 Building Lettering: Two options were proposed and Option A was chosen by a vote of 9-4 with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote. The Committee also asked:

1. Could the years be made larger?
2. Is this painted on the building or are they pin letters?

Building Dedication Signage: Two options were provided. Option A was chosen 9-3 with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote and Erica Bush abstaining.

The Committee requested that the layout of the name be changed. Suggestions included:

The Daniel-Hankerson-Knox Building The Daniel, Hankerson, Knox Building **OR** The Daniel-Hankerson-Knox Building

Interior Dedication Signage: Two options were proposed for the font on the interior design. Option A1 was chosen 12-1 with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote. The Committee asked:

1. Where on the interior signage would the names of the groups occupying various rooms in the front be located? (LDAA, EWS, and NAACP)

Two options were proposed for the commemorative narrative panel located inside the room providing information on the individual the room is named after. The options were to have just a narrative or a narrative with a photo of the individual(s). The Committee voted 13-0 for the picture to accompany the narrative with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Time Capsule Plaque: Two options were proposed for the font on the time capsule plaque. The Committee voted 12-1 for Option A with Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Quote Over Door (Interior): Two options were proposed for the font of the quote to appear over the door inside the 1941 portion of the building. The Committee voted 9-3 for Option B with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Gym Wall Quotes: Two options were proposed for the font of the quotes on the wall in the gym (1960). The Committee voted 8-3 for Option B with Erica Bush abstaining and Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Gym Wall Team Photos: Sara Howard-O'Brien shared the layout of the team photos as proposed by the design team. Photos were chosen in size by the quality of the photos due to the large size of the panels in this area. The Committee had no additional comments on these photos.

Gym Floor Graphics – DHS: Two options were proposed for the DHS in the gym floor. The Committee voted 9-2 for DHS to be straight across as shown in Option A with Erica Bush abstaining and Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Gym Wall Logos: Two options were provided for the logos in Location 4 over the gym doors. The committee voted 10-2 for Option B with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

The Committee voted 12-0 to remove the word “The” in front of “Rams” in the logo with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Two font options were proposed for the logos located in Location 3 over the gym doors. The committee voted 12-0 for Option A with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

1941 Building Entrance Info Panel: Two options were proposed to the Committee for “A Story of One-Hundred Pennies”. The Committee voted 10-2 for Option A using the Frederick Douglass image with Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote. There

were also several details regarding commemoration that they would like noted on the panel and asked for that to be revised.

The Committee liked the idea of the key and the George Washington Carver quote and asked for that to be used in a different location on campus and in the brochure to be created with the full story.

West Courtyard Information Panels: Overall the Committee liked the layouts. They did ask that in all instances that high school be spelled out and that HS not be used. Additional information for Moses D. Knox will be researched. Alvin Dodson inquired why there were no photos on either the industrial arts or band panels from the 1950's. LCPS will recheck yearbooks and discuss with the design team.

Tackboard: The Committee liked the layout of the Tackboard. They asked for the Key from Option B on the outdoor panel be placed under the words "Douglass Directory" along with the George Washington Carver Quote "Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom" and the QR code.

Stage, Shop Building: The stage photo and band photo in the shop building were shown and no additional comments were provided.

The photo in the shop building of people working in the shop was reviewed with the two options for how the photo would appear on the wall. The committee voted 9-1 for Option B showing the photo along the entire wall, with Dwight Brooks abstaining and Sylvia Smith, Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

W&OD Trail Sign: Two options were provided to the Committee for review. Tammy Carter made a motion for Option A, landscape, and Valerie Bush seconded. The Committee voted 10-1 for the landscape view of Option A for the sign, with Sylvia Smith, Gladys Burke, Glory Howard, Joyce Jackson, and Mary Randolph absent for the vote.

Tammy Carter asked what type of sign was being purchased. Donna Torraca stated it was a style similar to the pedestal the Committee reviewed and voted for at a previous meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mural Subcommittee: LCPS shared that because of only a few submissions for the mural the Subcommittee requested that the Call For Artist be sent back out. It was felt that because of the first Call being during the summer and due just before Labor Day it did not allow adequate time for artists to provide a submission. The new Call is provided in the packet and the deadline for submission is October 17th. The Subcommittee will review submissions prior to the October 25th Committee meeting.

Sculpture Question: LCPS received an email from artist Jeff Hall asking what age the children in the sculpture should be. The Committee requested that they be close in age or the same age and between 14 and 16.

Larry Roeder and Tammy Carter stated they would like to design a brochure to accompany the sculpture and more information will be provided at the October 11th meeting.

Thomas Balch Library Display Subcommittee: Gert Evans, Larry Roeder, Jim Roberts, Dwight Brooks and Larry Simms

Gert Evans stated that she has copies of several items and will continue to work with the Subcommittee to design the layout in the cabinets.

Reconciliation Subcommittee:

The Committee had their first meeting on August 24th. The facilitator was out of town for the month of September and the next meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday in October. Shalom Black will work to see if that can be moved to the 2nd Wednesday. The timeline presented is to have recommendations to provide to the Board of Supervisors in six months.

Oral History Subcommittee: Larry Simms

Larry stated that Sheila Coates will be providing oral history to the team on September 27th.

Closing: Charles and Erica thanked everyone for their time and reminded them that the next meeting is Tuesday, October 11, 2022. A reminder on time capsule submissions will be emailed to those still needing to submit.

ITEMS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE:

Monument Sign Lettering Style:

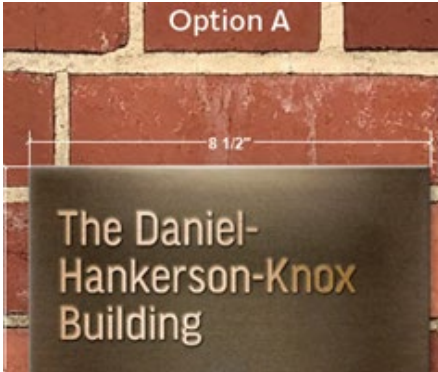
OPTION B



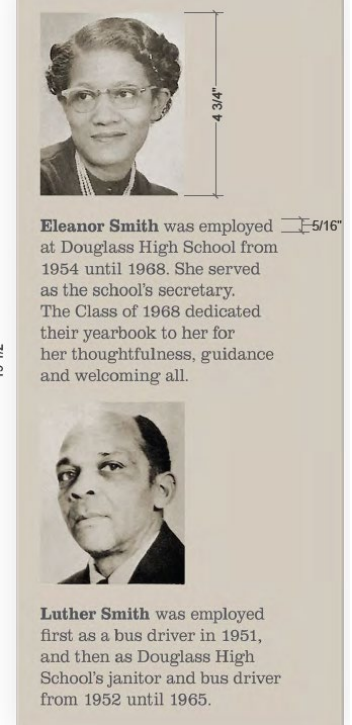
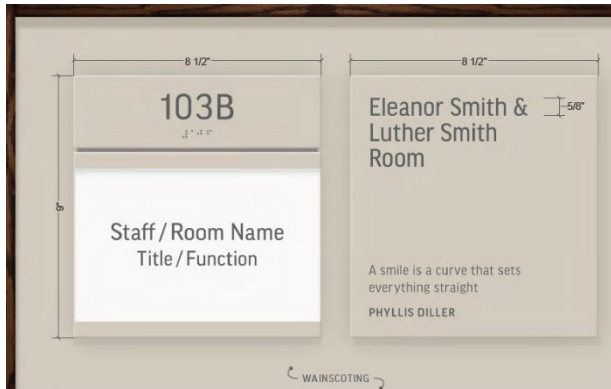
1941 Building Lettering



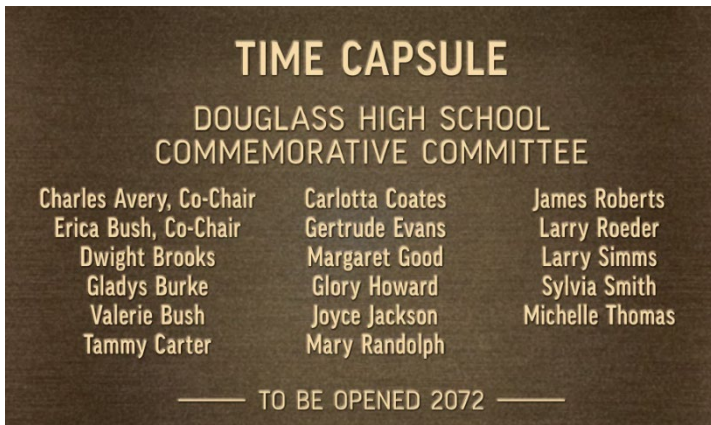
Building Dedication Signage:



Interior Dedication Signage:



Time Capsule Font:

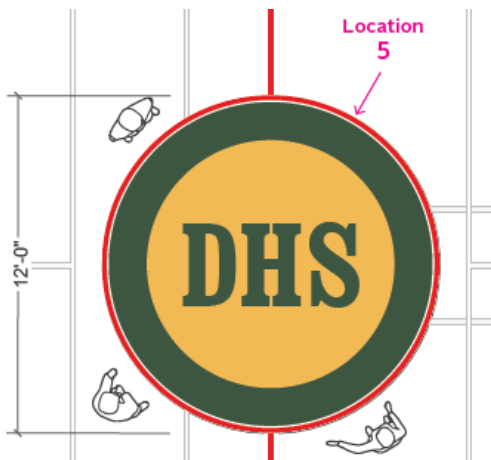


Quote Over Door (Interior)

A smile or a tear has no nationality; joy and sorrow speak alike to all nations, and they above all the confusion of tongues, proclaim the brotherhood of man.

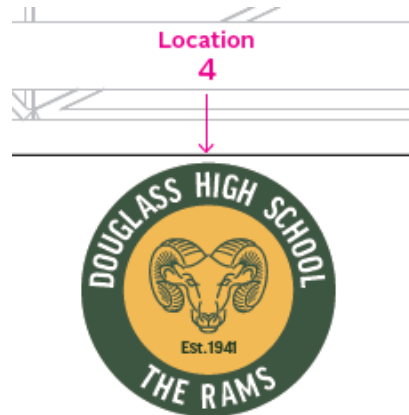
FREDERICK DOUGLASS

DHS in Gym Floor:



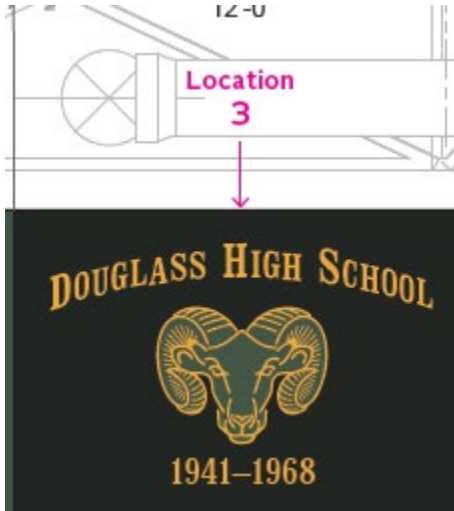
Logo in Location 4

Above Gym Doors: REMOVE "The"



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Meeting Minutes
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Logo in Location 3 Above Gym Door



Tackboard Directory Addition:



Shop Building Photo – Option B



W&OD Trail Sign – Option A

