

## **Museum-Historical Subcommittee Meeting**

**7-22-2022**

**Meeting commenced at 1:30 pm.**

### **Introductions**

**Members present: Claudette Jordon, Chair, Tameeka Heyward, Note Taker (on Zoom), Cathy Binder, Phyllis Cook, Cathy Cutright, Lisa Hull**

**Absent: Mike Hubbard, Cristina Turdean**

### **Protocols**

- **Please let the committee chair know if you will not be able to attend a meeting or need a call in or ZOOM link to participate.**
- **Members were asked to share all offers for museum or center tours and the like to insure maximum participation.**

### **History-Historical:**

- **Possibility of engaging with the youth to allow them to help in the process of cataloging and learning how to curate items for the museum's usage. Some of those items are located in a RBAA storage unit in Dahlgren, Claudette's home, the old school board bldg. and all throughout the county.**
- **The Road to School Desegregation video was made with local relevance in mind at the request of the school board in order to be included in the curricula to bring awareness to what Black students and families endured during that era. Itemizing all of the museum's artifacts will be of chief importance for this effort as it is important to navigate what items are important, are usable and what items are artifacts that will need to be authenticated.**
- **Identifying or creating a database that will allow the museum items to be cataloged and accounted for; this includes authentication/**

certifications. Cristina will be an intricate part in the curating of items and also with preservation.

- Claudette has authentic documents [Civil Action # 631 and Civil Action #3579], certificates, a basketball jersey (#42) yearbooks and other items not suitable for a non-climate-controlled storage unit.
- The storage unit has items such as an antiquated PA System, manual typewriters, overhead projectors, desks, chairs, sewing machines etc.
- Items have been located throughout the community that are authentic but not from Ralph Bunche, items such as trophies (if they cannot be located at the old school board building), and other replicated items will be used in the museum as well. This will include statue of “separate but equal.”
- Exhibit panels and oral histories can be used for continued educational expansion and opportunities for real life experiences.
- Cathy B. wants to locate trophies from the old school board building provided they are still available (Dr. Boyd)
- Cathay B. stated we should go back to 1865. She would like to offer a broader concept of what was going on within the USA in order to share the context of what was the original need for the Ralph Bunche High School. Making sure that we highlight Ralph Bunche but all of the other substantial challenges that led up to the Training School opening in 1913.
- We are using this with the interchangeable portion of history from 1913 to 1968. Staying within that time frame is what the Ralph Bunche school was all about but there are other schools that can be included in this venture.
- Encapsulate the history of Ralph Bunche HS, secure pictures of and highlight all of the founders (Claudette’s grandparents) who persevered without regards to personal safety and loss of resources to have their children have the same education that others had.
- The history has to be told objectively and sensitively while thought provoking in addition to bite sized to match attention spans.

## **Theme/Design:**

- Continued conversation on what the ongoing theme will be for the museum, will it only include the time period associated with the Ralph Bunche High School or will other historical facts be shared.
- Lisa Hull and Claudette previously created a google/geographical map of all of the regional African American segregated schools. Some of those were Rosenwald schools. Both of them felt the importance of more work on this. We want to rotate themes in order to make sure that a well-rounded approach to sharing items, and historical facts are highlighted.
- Bringing the museum into a modern presentation we had a conversation about having a Kiosk that is located in a room where people can hear the stories from narrators or those who are able to share their experiences and stories.
- A media table where you can move around to different stations, a green room where it would give the feel of being inside of the actual classroom or in a period of time, reading area, virtual options and opportunities for technological advances in the museum for tourism interest
- Gift Shop with snacks, replicas, books, hats, tee-shirts, The Road to School Desegregation Video that is featured on the RBAA website etc.
- Space limitations will have to be considered when implementing our ideas.

## **Cost:**

- Major segment of the Business Plan Subcommittee  
(CONTINUED CONVERSATION)

## **Outreach:**

- Major segment of the Marketing/Communications Subcommittee  
(CONTINUED CONVERSATION)

**Assignments:**

**Cathy Binder, Cathy Cutright**

**Contact Dr. Boyd - locating RBHS trophies**

**Assess the use of video [The Road to School Desegregation in King George] in curriculum**

**Old School Board bldg. - assess inventory for museum worthy items**

**Phyllis, Claudette**

**Will purge the RBAA storage locker so that items can be assessed/group tour of contents**

**Cristina**

**Spearhead categorizing/cataloging/preservation/authentication of items collected**

**Chris:**

**Copy documents as requested**

**Create ZOOM Links as needed**

**Meeting adjourned 2:30 pm**

**Next Meeting:**

**Aug 24th at 1 pm**

**Citizens Center/ZOOM (upon request)**