
Questions Concerning Confederate Statue Petition

2 messages

Patrick Clemons <patrick@thesylvaheald.com>
To: "ronmau@jacksonnc.org" <ronmau@jacksonnc.org>

Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 10:53 AM

Mr. Mau,

I hope you're doing well as it has been a long time since we've seen each other at College Republicans meetings. Anyways, I am reaching out to you today as a writer for The Sylva Herald in regard to a petition to remove the confederate statue in front of Jackson County Library. If you could answer the following questions for me, I would greatly appreciate it!

1. What is your overall reaction to the petition? <https://www.change.org/p/jackson-county-commissioners-remove-confederate-statue-in-front-of-jackson-county-library?fbclid=IwAR1CVr6xlwohbgA4dVtL3uFZY3paDRRwKos-u8gUNeo7GEnj2pylyNH0Ro>
2. Do you support it being destroyed or simply moved to another location?
3. Have you thought about a plan to resolve this issue?

Ron Mau - Commissioner <ronmau@jacksonnc.org>
To: Patrick Clemons <patrick@thesylvaheald.com>

Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 1:39 PM

Patrick,

Here is my response.

I have been made aware of both a petition to remove the statue and to keep the statue. These petitions provide a peaceful way for citizens to come together and present a common view on a given issue en masse.

In this case there are passionate views on each side of the conversation. I have heard from people who wish to take the statue down. I have heard from people who wish to keep the statue as is with no changes. I have heard from people who wish to add additional historical information to that area to tell the entire story. Some of these options would require funding.

Government often moves slowly and when a final decision is made the last question is: "How will that be paid for?" We are in the budget planning process and I plan on requesting an initial allocation of \$50,000 to begin the process of considering potential solutions in a safe and rational manner and having funds available for implementation of a solution.

Ron Mau

[Quoted text hidden]