

Backstrom, Parker

From: Backstrom, Parker
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 9:43 AM
To: saveoursonsus@yahoo.com
Subject: FW: [External] RE: Confederate Statue and Statues of Domestic Terrorism Cause Duress Among Black Professional
Attachments: Parker Backstrom Letter final.pdf

Good morning, Dr. Muktarian.

Please recognize that I am an administrative assistant in the Office of Archives and History. Therefore, contemplation of the issues at hand fall very far outside my areas of responsibility and authority. Moving forward I would appreciate being excluded as the "addressee" for communications such as these as it seriously misrepresents my involvement in this matter.

However, I will forwarding this email to Dr. Darin Waters, Deputy Secretary for Archives and History. He will take this matter under consideration.

Kind regards,
Parker Backstrom

From: Saving our Sons <saveoursonsus@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 8:39 PM
To: statesuperintendent@dpi.nc.gov; Backstrom, Parker <parker.backstrom@dncl.nc.gov>; corey.brach@raleighnc.gov; janet.cromwell@raleighnc.gov; Dawn Blagrove <dblagrove@justicepolicycenter.org>; Delon Fletcher <delon@justdelon.com>; tara.waters@wake.gov; shinica.thomas@wake.gov; david.ellis@wake.gov; wng@wcpss.net; cgordon2@wcpss.net; ccaulfied@wcpss.net; trice@wcpss.net; ledmonds2@wcpss.net; shershey@wcpss.net; jheagarty@wcpss.net; lmahaffey@wcpss.net; tjswanson@wcpss.net; don.mial@wake.gov; cheryl.stallings@wake.gov; safiyah.jackson@wake.gov; Hourigan, Laura <laura.hourigan@raleighnc.gov>; Internal Affairs <internal.affairs@raleighnc.gov>; rpruette@wcpss.net; Deidre McCullers <deidre27613@aol.com>; jonathan.melton@raleighnc.gov
Cc: CityCouncilMembers <citycouncilmembers@raleighnc.gov>; janet.cromwell@raleighnc.gov; willie.rowe@wake.gov; david.ellis@wake.gov; Adams-David Marchell <marchell.adams-david@raleighnc.gov>; Adams-David Marchell <marchell.david@raleighnc.gov>; corey.branch@raleighnc.gov; jonathan.melton@raleighnc.gov; stormie.forte@raleighnc.gov; lucyllynnluck@gmail.com; michelle.mallete@raleighnc.gov; william_breedlove@pender.k12.nc.us; Cole, Dale <dcole@bcswan.net>; Collins, Barry D <barry.collins@onslow.k12.nc.us>; Creech, Frank <frankcreech@greene.k12.nc.us>; FOUST, CHARLES <CHARLES.FOUST@NHCS.NET>; Johnson, Jeremy B <jeremyjohnson@pamlicoschools.org>; wendy.miller@cravenk12.org; aobasohan@duplinschools.net; Paylor, Richard <richard.paylor@carteretk12.org>; Marquis, Bryce <bryce.marquis@jonesnc.net>; marcwhichard@wcpss.org; Williams, Michael B <bwilliams@lenoir.k12.nc.us>; Hamlett, Nyah <nyahhamlett@chccs.k12.nc.us>; Jackson, Anthony <ajackson@chatham.k12.nc.us>; catty_moore@dpsnc.net; andrewbryan@ecps.us; Schuhler, Rhonda <rhondaschuhler@fcschools.net>; Winborne, Stan <winbornes@gcs.k12.nc.us>; Fleming, Aaron L <afleming@harnett.k12.nc.us>; ericbracy@johnston.k12.nc.us; Dossenbach, Chris <cdossenbach@lee.k12.nc.us>; Ellis, Steve <sjellis@nrms.k12.nc.us>; danielle.jones@orange.k12.nc.us; petersonr@person.k12.nc.us; Bennett, Cindy <cbennett@vcs.k12.nc.us>; Taylor, Robert <rptaylor@wcpss.net>; ksutton@warrenk12nc.org; Mills, Lane <lane.mills@wilsonschoolsnc.net>; Atkinson, Jason <jbatkinson@bladen.k12.nc.us>; wjohnson@clinton.k12.nc.us; Meadows, Deanne <deannemeadows@columbus.k12.nc.us>; Connelly, Marvin <marvinconnelly@ccs.k12.nc.us>;

kspells@hcs.k12.nc.us; Ellis, Dale <dale.ellis@montgomery.k12.nc.us>; tlocklair@ncmcs.org;
JoeFerrell@richmond.k12.nc.us; freddie.williamson@robeson.k12.nc.us; King, Jamie <jamieking@sampson.k12.nc.us>;
adell.baldwin@scsnc.org; Williams, Jonathan <jwilliams@whiteville.k12.nc.us>; Boyce, Rico L
<rico.boyce@raleighnc.gov>; vickie.adamson@raleighnc.gov

Subject: [External] RE: Confederate Statue and Statues of Domestic Terrorism Cause Duress Among Black Professional

You don't often get email from saveoursonsus@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Good Evening Mr. Backstrom,

I hope all is well. Per our conversation, I have attached a letter regarding our request for the removal of Statues that symbolize terrorism, rape, human trafficking and oppression. While these statues don't move, the mindset of such hate remain in the hearts of men who control, maintain and hold the lives of mankind in their hand. It is the story of a people who have travel

<https://wpde.com/news/local/north-carolina-judge-challenging-outcome-of-race-wore-confederate-uniform-in-college-photo-03-31-2025>

Our request is to meet with Board Members of the NC Historic Commission to provide the nature of Duress, Cognitive Dissonance and Indoctrination inflicted upon Black Bodies.

Please do not forget to click on the mini-series of Ms. Callie from the Carolina's at the end of the letter.

May we know the difference between indoctrination and education. Resilience and Absorption.

Thank you,





www.SaveOurSonsUS.com

919.349.7622

SaveOurSonsUS@yahoo.com

PO Box 26952 Raleigh, NC 27611

April 2, 2025

Parker Backstrom
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Images that cause Duress

Dear Mr. Backstrom,

It was a pleasure not only meeting you last year at the NC Historic Commission building, but coincidentally at our filming of, "Ms. Callie's Call Out to the Daughters of the Confederate." If you would recall, our conversation was centered upon our request to remove harmful images such as Confederate statues from public places, as well as Sir Walter Raleigh's statue, who predates confederates almost 250 years. He is responsible for introducing tobacco to England, igniting a need for free labor, and fueling the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The death of George Floyd demanded the removal of confederate statues, but without Sir Walter Raleigh, confederates would cease to exist.

Today, Raleigh's 11 ft statute is positioned at the entrance of Raleigh Convention Center, where 21 Wake County High School Graduations are hosted yearly. Each ceremony is officiated by Wake County School's top Black Administrators: Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor, Chief of Staff Dr. Clinton L. Robinson, Jr., and Mr. Ben Chavis who has recently changed positions. While Wake County administrators and its board members may enter the facility from different entrances, the statue is still encountered by staff, family members, and students of Wake County during the graduation event.

To celebrate such figures publicly violates Title VI, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

"Simple justice requires that public funds, to which all taxpayers of all races [colors, and national origins] contribute, not be spent in any fashion which encourages, entrenches, subsidizes or results in racial [color or national origin] discrimination."

-President John F. Kennedy, 1963

WE ARE AGENTS OF CHANGE

Wake County Public Schools Bullying Policy

Wake County Public Schools Bullying Policy states: Bullying fosters a climate of fear and disrespect that can seriously impair the physical and psychological health of its victims and create conditions that negatively affect learning, thereby undermining the ability of students to achieve their full potential.

Such statues are a reminder of state sponsored human trafficking, rape, murder, flogging, lynching, denial of education, independence, freedom, and both physical and mental abuses. This is a form of harassment and constant taunting to those who have been denied repair and equal protection under the law, who are now subject to domestic terrorism and indoctrination. The public presence of Raleigh not only threatens a civilized society, but violates Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, while subjecting its educators as well as its pupils to indoctrination, cognitive dissonance, and duress. Pirates should not be praised.

WWII, Hitler and Memorabilia

Germany forbids the erecting of any statue of Hitler or those of the Third Reich. To place Hitler at the entrance of a graduation ceremony whereby Jewish students are expected to attend would be considered inhumane. In fact, the state of North Carolina passed the "Gizella Abramson Holocaust Education Act" § 115C81.57 consistent with the Never Again Education Act of 2020 to educate students, not glorify Crimes Against Humanity.

Blacks Are Under Duress

Please note, the following African Americans, though elected, hired or appointed to seats of prominence, have not publicly correlated the acts of violence committed historically by America's founding Domestic Terrorists such as Sir Walter Raleigh to African Americans' current state economically, socially, or politically:

Dr. Robert Taylor:	Superintendent of Wake County Public Schools
Dr. Cliff Robinson:	Chief of Staff
Dr. Ben Chavis:	Forer Assistant Superintendent of Equity Affairs
Rico Boyce:	Chief of Police for Raleigh Police Department
Corey Branch:	District C Representative where statues are displayed
David Ellis:	Wake County Manager
Marchelle Adams:	City of Raleigh Manager
Willie Rowe:	Wake County Sheriff Department
Sheila Donaldson:	Wake County Foster Care Division

In an effort to assist in your quest to determine who owns Sir Walter Raleigh's statue, I have included those of City of Raleigh, as well as Wake County Manager, David Ellis. I also request documentation of the percentage of taxes withheld for the upkeep, maintenance, and property tax for Sir Walter Raleigh and its county tax.

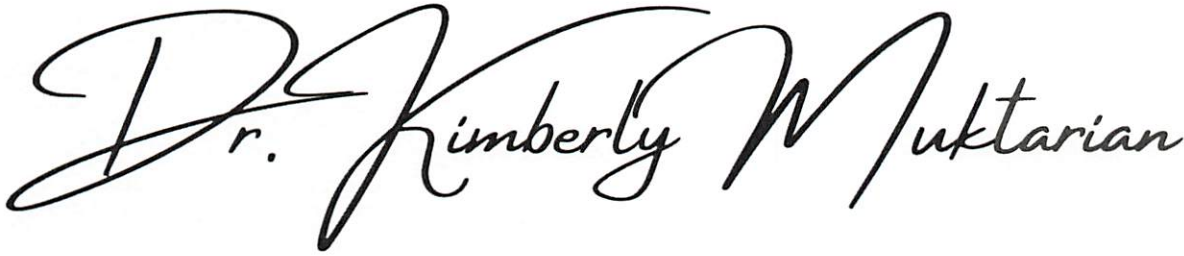
WE ARE AGENTS OF CHANGE

I also request the email addresses of those who currently serve on the NC Historic Commission. Please see the link below on the Pirates of the Carolinas with Ms. Callie:

[Pirates of the Carolinas](https://youtu.be/8HbYFQSVmPg)

[<https://youtu.be/8HbYFQSVmPg>]

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Kimberly Muktarian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "Dr." written in a smaller, more formal script than the rest of the name.

Dr. Kimberly Muktarian



June 17, 2025

Via E-mail

Dr. Kimberly Muktarian
Save Our Sons
PO Box 26952
Raleigh, NC 27611
saveoursons@yahoo.com

Dear Dr. Muktarian:

I write in response to your letter dated April 2, 2025, addressed to Parker Backstrom. I understand that your agency seeks the removal of the Sir Walter Raleigh statue from the Raleigh Convention Center on numerous grounds, including that its presence violates Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Wake County Public Schools Bullying Policy, the Gizella Abramson Holocaust Education Act, and the Never Again Education Act of 2020.

Without expressing any comment or opinion on the merits of any of these arguments, I can assure you that the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources takes your concerns very seriously.

We are continuing to diligently research and investigate which entity is responsible for determining where to place the Sir Walter Raleigh statue. Pursuant to a September 1988 memorandum of agreement between the City of Raleigh and the State of North Carolina, the State placed the statue on "long-term loan" to the City of Raleigh. That same agreement provides that the statue may only be moved upon mutual consent of the parties. For your convenience, I am enclosing a copy of this agreement hereto.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Karen Blum directly if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica V. Sutton".

Jessica V. Sutton
General Counsel

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Darin Waters, Deputy Secretary, Office of Archives & History
Karen Blum, Deputy General Counsel
Parker Backstrom
Jessica Perkins

September 6, 1988

AGREEMENT

Sir Walter Raleigh Statue
State of North Carolina - City of Raleigh

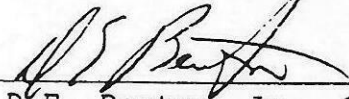
At the September 6, 1988 meeting, the Raleigh City Council approved a proposal from the North Carolina Historical Commission to relocate the statue of Sir Walter Raleigh to the 100 block of the Fayetteville Street Mall. The action taken would locate the statue in the existing sculpture site approximately mid-block, as shown on the attached map. The statue would remain permanently on this site subject to the terms of this agreement. As part of this agreement:

The City of Raleigh agrees to maintain the site immediately surrounding the statue and base as part of the ongoing mall maintenance program. Should this site be disturbed at some future date due to construction needs the City of Raleigh agrees to arrange for reconstruction of this site or reconstruction of a new site to the north, on the 100 block of the Fayetteville Street Mall.

The State of North Carolina agrees to place the statue on long term loan to the City of Raleigh for its relocation to the 100 block of the Fayetteville Street Mall. The State will be responsible for initial handling and costs incurred in moving the statue, preparing fixtures and affixing the statue, with construction to be approved by the City of Raleigh administration. Any cleaning, restoring, repairs and maintenance of the statue must be arranged or approved by the State, and may be undertaken only with approval and supervision of the State Division of Archives and History.

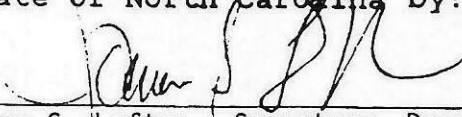
With mutual consent of the parties the statue may be moved to a location other than the 100 block of the Fayetteville Street Mall.

Agreed to and accepted this 29 day of September, 1988 for the City of Raleigh by:



D.E. Benton, Jr., City Manager

Agreed to and accepted this 31 day of August, 1988 for the State of North Carolina by:



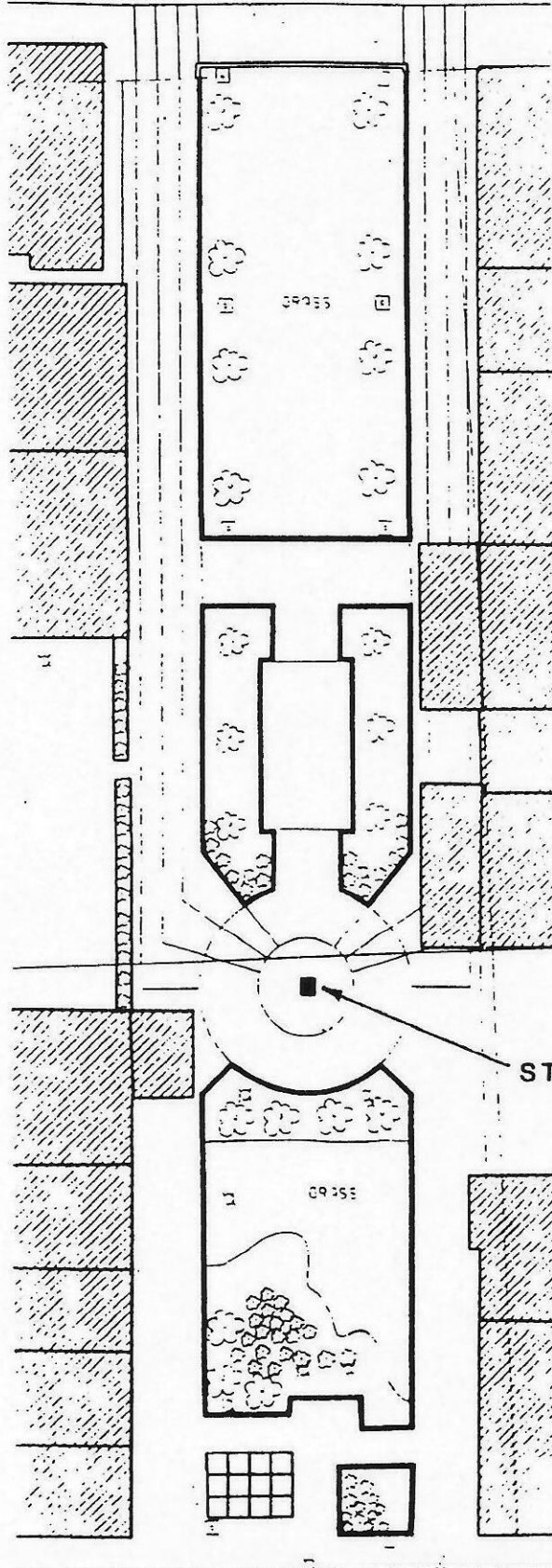
James S. Lofton - Secretary, Department of Administration

In consideration of the signing of this agreement, the parties hereto for themselves, their agents, officials, employees and servants agree not to discriminate in any manner on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or sexual orientation with reference to the subject matter of this contract, no matter how remote. The parties further agree in all respects to conform with the provisions and intent of City of Raleigh Ordinance 1969-889, as amended.

CAPITAL SQUARE

MORGAN

100 BLOCK FAYETTEVILLE STREET MALL



From: Kimberly Muktarian <sosconsultinginc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Backstrom, Parker <parker.backstrom@dncr.nc.gov>; Waters, Darin <darin.waters@dncr.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] Re: Your query about the Sir Walter Raleigh Statue

You don't often get email from sosconsultinginc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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September 10, 2025

Parker Backstrom

NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dr. Darin Waters

Deputy Secretary for Archives & History at the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
Secretary for the North Carolina Historical Commission
(NCHC) 109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Request for the removal of Sir Walter Raleigh's statue to be relocated to a museum versus in front of the Raleigh Convention Center, located at: 500 South Salisbury Street

Dear Mr. Backstrom and Dr. Waters of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and the NC Historical Commission.

First let me say that as a Historian to address anything using the words "History" or "Historical" means that the matter was a thing of the past. It saddens me that much of today's injustices reflect the position, playbook and outcomes of those who brought 12 million Africans on ships for greed and profit. Therefore, my concern for Sir Walter Raleigh's statue is one of legacy, expansion and the continued request that Black Backs are taxed to uphold Gentrification, alienation, lynchings and wealth theft at the expense of Black Lives.

My letter I write is for the generations who endured the Transatlantic Slave Trade as a result of Sir Walter Raleigh's introduction of Tobacco to the Queen of England. [sir walter raleigh and transatlantic slave trade - Google Search](#)

I also write for the enslaved labor who paved the very street Sir Walter Raleigh stands upon today, yet his descendants are not welcome to enjoy the luxury and leisure of downtown's "Sip and Stroll" district nor the wealth theft made off the backs of their ancestors that built downtown Raleigh. Please see the link [Raleigh slave story, family found by city historian at museum | Raleigh News & Observer](#). Please note, the neighborhood in which Sir Walter Raleigh stands is located in Fourth Ward, a former Black Neighborhood stolen by gentrification. [Raleigh destroyed Black neighborhood with 70s urban renewal | Raleigh News & Observer](#) (Fourth Ward). Not to mention the wealth generated from Rum and the trade of Black Bodies to till sugar where the average lifespan for Blacks were seven years. This was the spark for many gents to host entertainment we see today in every major city's downtown. [sugar plantation seven year life span - Google Search](#). Unfortunately, these downtown accommodations come with a higher tax base of those who have not been deprived of adequate pay and often receive protections unlike those outside the privileged perimeter.

Historical Context

In fact, on Rock Quarry Road, the state's Quarry created to build the Capitol Building and other locations is home to thousands of Blacks whose descendants were never paid for compensation. On Rock Quarry Road, is home to the highest murders by White Police Officers under RPD due to the fact we do not have the tax base to offer certain protections. Again, Black Communities are treated as former Natives who were seen as a problem and removed for development and or expansion, yet our taxes and labor is tied to this twisted and distorted vision of progression.

Today, the Raleigh Convention Center will expand under the City of Raleigh at the Expense of TaxPayers of all Races. Unfortunately, Black Bodies and their incomes will be taxed again to not only uphold its expansion but will pay for a statue who has cost one race of people millions in mental health, medical health, public safety, wealth theft, family separations, mass incarcerations, lynchings, gentrification, alientation, indoctrination and murder. [Expansion | Raleigh Convention Center](#)

Our taxes should be removed and so should the Statue of Sir Walter Raleigh
Each year, Wake County Public High Schools will host at least twenty-one Graduations at Raleigh Convention Center as parents, students, teachers, administrators, and elected officials will encounter Sir Walter Raleigh's statue before attending a commencement that will launch our children into adulthood whereby they will be responsible for not only their life but also the lives of others as they pursue various careers. Unfortunately, top educators such as Wake County Superintendent of Schools along with Black board members, Black City officials, its County Manager and County Commission, as well as top City Managers and Assistant City Managers who are for solidifying the contract are forced to include the very statue responsible for their ancestor's arrival in chains.

The NC Department of Public Safety removed the names of five individuals from its Prison Institutions due to its ties to slavery, yet no one has felt the need to remove the actual statues responsible.

Please do not pass this legacy to the next generation.

We request this matter to be placed on the agenda of the NC Historical Commission for September 25th. We respectfully ask that his statue is placed in a museum where those can choose to honor or dishonor him privately.

Our very own Board of Educator for Wake County District 4 acknowledges Post Traumatic Slave Disorder is not what Blacks have but Acute Trauma Disorder which means our conditions are consistent and every present. Let us provide Dignity in Education (D.I.E.) So we do not continue to (DIE).

Thank you,
Dr. Kimberly Muktarian
984.242.8867

On Fri, Jul 11, 2025 at 3:52 PM Blum, Karen <karen.blum@dn-cr.nc.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone. Please pardon any typos.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Backstrom, Parker" <parker.backstrom@dn-cr.nc.gov>

Date: July 2, 2025 at 14:43:03 EDT

To: Saving our Sons <saveoursonsus@yahoo.com>

Cc: "Waters, Darin" <darin.waters@dn-cr.nc.gov>, "Backstrom, Parker" <parker.backstrom@dn-cr.nc.gov>

Subject: Your query about the Sir Walter Raleigh Statue

Dear Dr. Muktarian,

I hope you're having a pleasant early summer.

I'm writing to you at the request of Dr. Darin Waters, the Deputy Secretary for Archives & History at the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), and the Secretary for the North Carolina Historical Commission (NCHC).

Following up on the email you received from Jessica Sutton, the General Counsel for the DNCR, on June 17, it appears likely that the statue of Sir Walter Raleigh, currently residing in front of the Raleigh Convention Center at 500 S. Salisbury Street, is owned by the State of

North Carolina and is on loan to the City of Raleigh. As such, decisions on its movement, relocation, removal, and upkeep would likely fall under the auspices of the NCHC.

Like any constituent, you may request that an action involving the Sir Walter Raleigh statue be added to the agenda of an upcoming meeting of the NCHC. As is standard procedure, you are asked to submit your request in writing so that it may be presented in that form to the commissioners in advance of their meeting. This written request should clearly lay out your position or request, explain the rationale behind your request, and specify what action you wish the commissioners to take, if any. You may submit your request to Dr. Waters and me—both of us are copied above—for forwarding to the commissioners. We would ask that we receive anything submitted by you by no later than the end of business on Wednesday, September 10. NC Historical Commission meetings are open to the public but they are generally not forums where attendees are allowed to address the commissioners. Rather, the commissioners, having received the written materials and had a chance to individually consider the issue, will address the matter in an open meeting.

For your information, the next scheduled meeting of the NCHC is September 23, 2025. The meeting will be held at the Reynolda House Museum of American Art in Winston-Salem and will commence at 10:00 a.m. Information about the meeting, including copies of all written materials, will be available to the public on the NCHC website approximately one week prior to the meeting. That URL is <https://www.dncr.nc.gov/explore/history-culture/history/nc-historical-commission>.

Please let Dr. Waters or me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Parker Backstrom
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Office of Archives and History
4610 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699
919-814-6640