

# DUNLEATH

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 1, 2017

Mrs. Stefan-leih Geary  
Mr. Mike Cowhig  
Historic District Program  
Planning Department, City of Greensboro  
PO Box 3136  
Greensboro, NC, 27402-3136

Dear Mrs. Geary and Mr. Cowhig:

I am writing on behalf of our Board of Directors to request that the City of Greensboro change the name of the Charles B. Aycock Historic District to the **Dunleath Historic District**.

Here is a brief summary of events and decisions that led to this request.

In 2017 the Guilford County School Board decided to change the name of Charles B. Aycock Middle School to Melvin Swann Middle School.

That decision affected our neighborhood, since the Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association and the Charles B. Aycock Historic District – both officially established in the early 1980s – took their name from the Charles B. Aycock School.

The renaming sparked a neighborhood-wide discussion about what to call our neighborhood. The neighborhood Board of Directors encouraged the discussion, solicited naming suggestions from all residents and property owners in the neighborhood, and held a public meeting to discuss and vote on the issue.

Invitations to the discussion and vote took 3 forms:

- Flyers created by city staff were sent to every property owner in the neighborhood,
- Neighborhood newsletters, were hand-delivered to every housing unit (including apartment units), and
- Emails were sent to every member of the neighborhood listserv (263 subscribers).

Neighbors were asked to respond the question: “what should be the name of our neighborhood be going forward” via a flyer created by city staff, via discussion on the neighborhood listserv,

via an online survey platform (waggl), and/or by attending the public meeting and speaking from the floor.

The Board also sponsored research into the history of the neighborhood, which was published online and circulated electronically and via newsletter and postcard. That research can be found here: <https://littleurbanity.blogspot.com/2016/10/names-in-aycock-historic-district.html>.

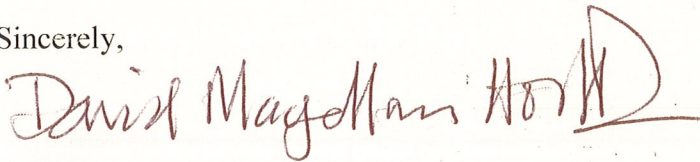
At its March 27, 2017 meeting, about 50 assembled members of the Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association voted overwhelmingly by secret ballot to adopt the name "Dunleath", which was the name of the 19<sup>th</sup> century mansion and farm which once occupied the current neighborhood's territory. Members of the Board of Directors subsequently voted unanimously that the neighborhood association should be called the **Dunleath Neighborhood Association**, and that they request that the city's historic district zoning overlay be called the **Dunleath Historic District**.

This letter serves as that official request.

I would be happy to answer any detailed questions you or City Council may have about the process used to encourage a healthy dialogue between neighbors with different views on the naming of our neighborhood and eventual voting on the neighborhood name going forward.

Finally, the Board wishes to offer you our heartfelt thanks for the help you have extended to the neighborhood as we continue to work through this process!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "David Magellan Horth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "H" at the end.

David Magellan Horth  
President, Dunleath Neighborhood Association