

BCTDA Board Meeting | May 26, 2021

**Public Comment received via email to Reply@ExploreAsheville.com
by the May 25, 2021, 4 p.m. deadline**

From: Joe and Mary Standaert <joestand@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 2:34 PM
To: Reply @ Explore Asheville <Reply@exploreasheville.com>
Subject: Public comment for Thursday May meeting

The progress on the African-American Walking Tour for Asheville is exciting. When is the projected target completion date?

There is such rich African-American history in all of Buncombe County, it would be wonderful to see a proposal for a similar Driving/Walking Tour for areas outside of Asheville proper.. perhaps accompanied by an app with directions and commentary.

Living in eastern Buncombe County, the legacy and history of the Black community is rich- from enslavement to emancipation to community engagement..

..... a compelling story of historically based tourism... We are only one generation away from slavery. Mary Othella Burnette, born in Black Mountain, knew her grandmother well, Mary Hayden Burnette, famous herbalist, was born into slavery on the site that now houses Louise's Kitchen in Black Mountain.

Thank you ,

Mary McPhail Standaert

Author of Buncombe County Name Game.
2020 Recipient of the Griffin Award for Education
(The Asheville and Buncombe County Preservation Society)