

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Kretovic, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 7:44 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fw: Columbus Day

Morning Janice,

The email at the end was sent to the entire Council for inclusion in public import / consideration of Columbus Day name change.

Jennifer

Councilor Jennifer Kretovic

City of Concord, New Hampshire

Home Contact: 8 Gallen Drive, Concord, NH 03303, (603) 228-8395

jkretovic@concordnh.gov

From: Ray Pinard
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Kretovic, Jennifer
Subject: RE: Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Hi Jennifer:

Thank you for writing. Yes, you can forward the email to the city clerk.

Best regards, Ray

Ray Pinard
43 N. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-620-7500

-----Original Message-----

From: Kretovic, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Ray Pinard

Subject: Re: Columbus Day

Hello Ray,

Thank you for adding your thoughts to the discussion. May I forward your sentiment to the City Clerk for inclusion in the public hearing to be held in November?

Councilor Jennifer Kretovic
City of Concord, New Hampshire

Home Contact: 8 Gallen Drive, Concord, NH 03303, (603) 228-8395
jkretovic@concordnh.gov

From: Ray Pinard
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 11:32:52 AM
To: jpbouley@comcast.net
Cc: Bouchard, Candace; chamby@comcast.net; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; Kenison, Linda; Kretovic, Jennifer; Matson, Gail; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com; Nyhan, Keith; pierce4council@comcast.net; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; Werner, Robert; ray@raypinard.com
Subject: Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe] Dear Mayor and council members:

I would like to register my displeasure regarding some of the comments made, and the tone of the debate, regarding Columbus Day. First, the negative comments made regarding Christopher Columbus were inaccurate and uncalled for. Second, when you remove all the other holidays we celebrate, this allows for about 350 other days we can select to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day. Failure to select another day strongly indicates that some councilors merely have an axe to grind against Christopher Columbus, are pushing a personal agenda, and are displays a negligence to recognize our true history.

Under Mayor Bouley's leadership Concord is a well-run city. I suspect there are many other important issues the Mayor and Council can address other than Columbus Day.

Respectfully, Ray

Ray Pinard
43 N. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-620-7500

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Councilor Erle Pierce <perce4council@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 2:34 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Re: Columbus Day Holiday name change?

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Hello Madam Clerk.

Would you share this with the rest of the Council and keep it for the record of public comment please?

Thank you.

Erle

The above memo represents my opinion and actions only. Unless otherwise stated, it does not represent the opinions or actions of the Concord City Council. Please feel free to contact me anytime at: perce4council@comcast.net or on my mobile at 603-496-1665. Thank you.

----- Original Message -----

From: Kevin Foss
To: Councilor Erle Pierce
Date: 09/24/2021 11:18 AM
Subject: Re: Columbus Day Holiday name change?

Dear Councilor Pierce,

Honestly Councilor? Doesn't the City Council have anything better to work on besides falling to the pressures of political correctness? I really can't believe the Council is waisting tax payer's time and money discussing this issue. Columbus was in fact a historical figure with several flaws and so is every other historical figure including you and me. You might as well rename Martin Luther King Jr. day as well. Enough is enough. Leave it alone and stop trying to rewrite history. Please focus on more important issues regarding Penacook like paving roads, especially Primrose Lane. And while you're at it, street lights in Primrose Lane would greatly improve safety. Also, why not focus on a secondary cable company that might make it as far as Penacook and not just Concord? Comcast is exploiting us because of the lack of competition.

Bottom line Councilor, let's stop caving to political correctness by leaving Columbus Day as is and focus on real issues that affect all the residents of Penacook. Please feel free to share my comments to entire City Council.

Regards,
Kevin Foss

On Sep 24, 2021, at 10:44 AM, Councilor Erle Pierce <perce4council@comcast.net> wrote:

Good morning.

You may have recently read in the local newspapers that Ward 10 Councilor Zandra Rice-Hawkins has proposed changing the name of the Columbus Day Holiday to Indigenous People's Day.

The City Council voted to introduce the ordinance on October 12 at our regular scheduled meeting and will likely vote to set a public hearing on November 8, with the majority of Councilors wanting to hear citizen's thoughts on the issue.

As one of those Councilors, I would very much like to hear your thoughts on this issue.

Your voices at the November 8 Public Hearing will also be most valuable.
If you would like to send me an email with your thoughts and comments, I will read it, respond and pass it on to the City Clerk for distribution to the Mayor and Council.
If you would rather I not share your email, please let me know that too.
I look forward to reading your thoughts and opinions'

Thank you and stay safe.

Erle Pierce

Ward 2 City Councilor

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Bonenfant, Janice

From: Councilor Erle Pierce <perce4council@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 2:40 PM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Keep Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Hi Again.

Please distribute to other Councilors and save as public testimony on this issue.

Thank you.

Erle

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----- Original Message -----

From: Ed <edd666666@gmail.com>

To: City council <perce4council@comcast.net>, Theresa Smith <theresa.smith3@gmail.com>

Date: 09/24/2021 11:02 AM

Subject: Keep Columbus Day

Please vote to keep the Columbus Day Holiday name, instead of changing it to Indigenous People's Day.

Thank you for asking our opinion on this.

Ed and Theresa Smith

145 River rd.

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Councilor <perce4council@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 8:51 AM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Columbus Day Holiday name change?

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Good morning Janice.

Please distribute this email from Mr Kleiner to the Mayor and Council and make it part of public testimony on this issue. Thank you.

Erle Pierce
603-496-1665

Begin forwarded message:

From: R k <robert.m.kleiner@gmail.com>
Date: September 25, 2021 at 07:23:08 EDT
To: City council <perce4council@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Columbus Day Holiday name change?

Yes you may.

I hope you are enjoying your weekend.

Rob

On Sat, Sep 25, 2021, 7:11 AM City council <perce4council@comcast.net> wrote:

Thank you for your thoughtful answer Rob.
May I share this with the rest of the City Council?
Enjoy the weekend.
Erle

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 24, 2021, at 16:31, R k <robert.m.kleiner@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Erle,

I think this is a three part question. First, Should we do away with Columbus Day? Second, Should we have a holiday called Indigenous Peoples' Day? Third, should we replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day. I think each should be addressed as separate issues. Not simply as just a replacement or "name changing" of a holiday.

First- Should we do away with Columbus day? It has never made sense to have a holiday for a singular person, Columbus. Holidays for a singular person are quite an odd phenomenon since even presidents do not get their own day but share it as Washington's birthday/presidents day. However, one must also consider the history surrounding this day as a celebration of Italian Americans. We can not simply be nearsighted to disregard the history of this day or we will be doomed to repeat those atrocities. Singlar people are fallible. You may point to a particular president or person and find their flaws. Those flaws can be quite terrible when magnified to such a lofty position as a day unto yourself. I do believe that celebrating a singular person on the calendar should be a discontinued practice. However, to replace a holiday that was born to celebrate a marginalized segment of the population with another holiday to celebrate a marginalized segment, will doom us to repeat it again. Since this holiday is in the code of ordinances of Concord, it does need to be addressed. I suggest removing Columbus Day as we have no other days that celebrate singular nationalities as a state or city holiday.

Should we have an Indigenous Peoples' Day? Yes. This is a simple answer. Yes we should. The Abenaki, Pennacook, Sakoki, Pigwacket, and Micmac nations in New Hampshire have had a significant impact on our state. However, it does not need to be a city recognized holiday with a day off because as noted above, we have no other days that celebrate singular nationalities as a state or city holiday. There are 1000 holidays that the city doesn't recognize with a day off. Numerous disenfranchised or discriminated populations also have holiday's that are not celebrated and recognized by the city; Juneteenth, and many more. If the city has the bandwidth to include Juneteenth and Indigenous Peoples' Day, I would be more inclined to add each to the holiday list. However, if we are not inclined to add both, we should not add just one unless there are plans for future expansion of holiday's of this nature.

We should not simply replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day. No we should not. We should remove Columbus day from the code of ordinances and have the city remain open. If we are concerned about this as an HR issue with payment consequences, perhaps have a floating holiday that employees can take when they wish.. effectively an additional 7.5 hours of PTO.

What we ultimately are asking is, should city offices be closed on October 11? The answer is, the city should be open. Trash is collected this day as I should be able to register my dog.

Thank you,
Rob Kleiner

On Fri, Sep 24, 2021 at 10:44 AM Councilor Erle Pierce <pierce4council@comcast.net> wrote:

Good morning.

You may have recently read in the local newspapers that Ward 10 Councilor Zandra Rice-Hawkins has proposed changing the name of the Columbus Day Holiday to Indigenous People's Day.

The City Council voted to introduce the ordinance on October 12 at our regular scheduled meeting and will likely vote to set a public hearing on November 8, with the majority of Councilors wanting to hear citizen's thoughts on the issue.

As one of those Councilors, I would very much like to hear your thoughts on this issue.

Your voices at the November 8 Public Hearing will also be most valuable.

If you would like to send me an email with your thoughts and comments, I will read it, respond and pass it on to the City Clerk for distribution to the Mayor and Council.

If you would rather I not share your email, please let me know that too.

I look forward to reading your thoughts and opinions'

Thank you and stay safe.

Erle Pierce
Ward 2 City Councilor

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Bonenfant, Janice

From: City council <perce4council@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 8:00 AM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Columbus Day Holiday name change? Comments to share

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Good morning Madam Clerk.
Please share this email with the Mayor and Council and make it part of the public record regarding this issue.
Have a great week!
Erle

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Wayne Wheeler <wadowheels@icloud.com>
Date: September 26, 2021 at 09:48:23 EDT
To: Councilor Erle Pierce <perce4council@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Columbus Day Holiday name change?

Yes without spelling mistakes.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 26, 2021, at 9:29 AM, Councilor Erle Pierce <perce4council@comcast.net> wrote:

Thank you Wayne.

Would you like me to share your comment with the rest of the City Council?

Regards.
Erle

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On 09/25/2021 1:33 PM Wayne Wheeler <wadowheels@icloud.com> wrote:

Hi Erle,

I have no objection to changing the name of the holiday to Indigenous People's Day, but I would ask that a request be made to the State to change the name of the Baker River to Asquamchumauke River based on the following:

Known to Indians as Asquamchumauke, the nearby river was renamed for Lt. Thomas Baker (1682-1753) whose company of 34 scouts from Northhampton, Mass. passed down this valley in 1712. A few miles south his men destroyed a Pemigewasset Indian village. Massachusetts rewarded the expedition with a scalp bounty of £40 and made Baker a captain.

I read that the Town of Warren tried to have it changed, but an 2021 article vote failed.

Thanks,
Wayne

On Sep 24, 2021, at 10:44 AM, Councilor Erle Pierce <pierce4council@comcast.net> wrote:

Good morning.

You may have recently read in the local newspapers that Ward 10 Councilor Zandra Rice-Hawkins has proposed changing the name of the Columbus Day Holiday to Indigenous People's Day.

The City Council voted to introduce the ordinance on October 12 at our regular scheduled meeting and will likely vote to set a public hearing on November 8, with the majority of Councilors wanting to hear citizen's thoughts on the issue.

As one of those Councilors, I would very much like to hear your thoughts on this issue.

Your voices at the November 8 Public Hearing will also be most valuable.

If you would like to send me an email with your thoughts and comments, I will read it, respond and pass it on to the City Clerk for distribution to the Mayor and Council.

If you would rather I not share your email, please let me know that too.

I look forward to reading your thoughts and opinions'

Thank you and stay safe.

Erle Pierce
Ward 2 City Councilor

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Bonenfant, Janice

From: george churchill <geochurchi@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 8:07 AM
To: * City Clerk
Cc: Brent Todd
Subject: Change the name of Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Good morning, I would like to oppose any thoughts for changing the name of this holiday, there is already to much of our history being removed, ie statues.

Thanks

ALL LIVES MATTER!

Geous

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Patrick Peick <patpeick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 8:41 AM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Columbus day name change and Atlantic Broadband input

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

1. Do not change the name of Holiday. If some group of people think the historical record of Columbus believe him unworthy of recognition, that is the question. Vote to remove the holiday itself as a recognized holiday. The holiday is a recognition of a discovery, not the first, of an new context of the known world at that time. I guess we could have named it Westward Expansion of European People's day which is more emblematic of what Columbus started. Perhaps we discuss the side effects of Columbus's discovery and that he was a flawed human causing a lot of harm as a result? That would have some value to a fuller appreciation.

What is next, renaming Memorial Day to Innocents Day in honor of those killed and maimed by our selfless veterans because War, rightly or wrongly was reacted to (Hitler's commencing WWII) stop aggression. We can change the lens of perception all day long, you can not change what happened. There are no perfect people in history. History is offensive and any close inspection will find horrible events as collateral effects to very positive events. That is tragic.

Pasting some name over someone else's does not educate anyone. Let's use the day as a focal point to talk about history in all of it's tragic and positive benefits.

2. If Atlantic cable is going to compete with Comcast, that is great. Vote them in, I am tired of the Comcast's indifference to the customers of the cable system.

Thank you,
Pat