

Loudoun County, Virginia HERITAGE COMMISSION 1 Harrison Street, S.E., P.O. Box 7000 Leesburg, Virginia 20177-7000 Telephone (703) 777-0246 • Fax (703) 777-0441 • E-mail: loudounhc@loudoun.gov

April 15, 2021

Friends and Family of Mt. Sinai Cemetery and Church c/o Lovettsville Historical Society 4 East Pennsylvania Avenue Lovettsville, VA 20180

Dear Friends and Family Committee,

The Loudoun County Heritage Commission fully supports your request to be named Trustees of the Mt. Sinai Free Will Baptist Church and Cemetery in Lovettsville. The Trustee designation will ensure unfettered, legal access to the cemetery and the ability to maintain it. It will enable your group to determine if additional, unmarked burials are located within the cemetery grounds. We see no reason why your group should not be appointed as Trustees.

We applaud your efforts to bring together descendants of the small Black community that once lived in that area, worshiped in the church, educated their children in the school, and buried their loved ones in the cemetery. Although the church no longer stands, the stone foundation remains, and it serves as a reminder of its historic importance in the community.

With best regards,

Mart A. S Bellen

Robert A. Pollard Chairman, Loudoun County Heritage Commission

Alonna M. Lokanon

Donna Bohanon Chair, African American Resource Protection Subcommittee, Loudoun County Heritage Commission

cc: Board of Supervisors, Chair Phyllis Randall Heritage Commission