

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS TANIA FERNANDES ANDERSON, BREADON,
COLETTA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA,
WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NAME CHANGE OF THE ROXBURY LIBRARY TO THE NUBIAN LIBRARY

- WHEREAS,** On December 19, 2019, the Public Improvement Commission unanimously approved changing the name of Dudley Square to Nubian Square in lieu of the dastardly actions partaken in by Thomas Dudley, who, as governor, allowed for the passage of laws that permitted slavery, and to recognize and celebrate the fact that the square has long been home to a predominantly Black community; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Utilizing the moniker of Nubian Square allowed for the moving away from the recognition of someone who's actions helped propel systemic structures of racial supremacy as embodied by enslavement, and allowed for the recognition of an ancient Northeastern African Kingdom, hence acting to honor the African roots of a majority of the denizens of the district; *and*
- WHEREAS,** However, while the name of the Square was changed, the name of the library remained as the Dudley Square Library, until it was renamed as the Roxbury Library; *and*
- WHEREAS,** This has been a point of contention among a number of profound and powerful activists and advocates and others from the Nubian Square Coalition; *and*
- WHEREAS,** It has been observed that all Boston libraries are named after the square in which they are situated, with the exception of the Roxbury Library.; *and*
- WHEREAS,** During a Boston City Council hearing, community members passionately advocated for the proposed name change, and notably, there was no opposition voiced except from the library staff, who mentioned that only one unidentified business owner expressed opposition; *and*

WHEREAS, Recognition of the support for said name change has been acknowledged far and wide within various sectors of both the library and the administration, with the BPL President once stating “There is recognition of a strong sentiment by Roxbury residents for the Nubian Library name: ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council hereby go on record in strong support of changing the name of the Roxbury Library to the Nubian Library.

Filed on: February 7, 2024