

Reiss, David

m: Guy Smith <guygolfing@rushmore.com>
sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 9:27 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: harney peak

I think the name should remain the same. I read that the native americans make up 2% of the population. Why should we change the name of a famous landmark to an indian name? No matter the outcome, it will always be Harney Peak to me.

Guy Smith
Rapid City

Reiss, David

m: Larry <eieioran@gwtc.net>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 9:24 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

SD Board of Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations

Why not stop trying to modify history with expensive and unnecessary name changes?
Leave the name Harney Peak as it is.

Sincerely,
Lawrence McIntyre
24776 Saginaw Road
Custer, SD 57730

eieioran@gwtc.net

Reiss, David

m: Dick Kompus <dkompus@ruraltel.net>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 9:20 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak name change

No to the name change. Some people object to the carving and name of a Chief who was responsible for the killing of hundreds of American citizens. Should we also put a stop to this monster? Stop the madness. Dick Kompus

Reiss, David

m: Mark Scharn <fxrdude@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 9:12 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak name change.

YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!! If public officials in South Dakota are going to continue doing silly things like this we need new public officials. If we are going to change the name of an internationally known landmark then lets consider changing it to the Cheyenne Indian Chief American Horse who was run out of the Black Hills by the Sioux in the late 1700's and early 1800's. Black Elk and the Sioux have no more claim to the Black Hills than the Mexicans have for getting Texas back. The fact that I have to send in my opinion in to you is troubling.

Changing the name of Harney Peak will do nothing to promote race relations in this state, it will have the opposite effect. Most residents of this state already resent the flow of tax dollars to the reservations and their population. I am all in favor of giving a "hand up", but it's time to stop the "hand out". When a parent gives a child everything they want they will never learn to provide for themselves...

You want to improve race relations? Stop doing things like this!

Mark Scharn
Rapid City, SD

Reiss, David

m: Jan Matkins <janmatkins@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:45 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Comment:

The Arikara Natives were here before the Lakota natives. I think renaming Harney is reverse racism now. Many tribes have encouraged our sports teams to rename their teams, towns, streams, & etc. , which in my opinion was honoring the Natives tribes. I feel renaming Harney is more of an appeasement than an honoring. I would like to keep it Harney Peak as we should still be able to honor Harney or Arikara Peak.
Jan Matkins

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Jan Matkins

Reiss, David

From: Wrede, Don C. <WredeDC@teamtsp.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:44 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Leave the name the way it is.

Don C. Wrede, PE
Senior Civil Engineer

TSP
Architecture | Engineering | Planning

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And the people who make it personal.

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Reiss, David

From: Gmail <terryolsonsd@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:41 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name change

Sir

I will not support renaming Harney Peak. What is the reason in doing so? History should be left alone.

Thank You
Terry Olson

Reiss, David

m: Chad Krier <cpkrier@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:22 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: name change for Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reisse,

I have the following comments regarding the proposed name change for Harney Peak:

Please do not change the name of Harney Peak. History and tradition are important, and political correctness should not trump them. The people who condemn General William S. Harney do so without out cause. There is no credible evidence that Harney was guilty of massacring anyone. The fact that women and children often died in frontier battles was because women and children often fought in frontier battles.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Chad Krier

Reiss, David

m: Wyss, Patrick <patw@wyssassociates.com>
sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:18 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name Change

Changing Harney Peak name to Black Elk Peak is a great idea. I encourage you to make this change.

Thanks

Patrick Wyss
Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architect

Wyss Associates, Inc.
728 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
605 348-2268
www.wyssassociates.com

Reiss, David

m: Howard Schrier <schrierh@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 8:06 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Please do not change the name of Harney Peak. I grew up in the Black hills within viewing distance of Elk Horn Mountain and Harney Peak. The Black Elk wilderness area is a great place to hike and spend time. It stands alone and does not need any changes or additions. We do not need to change the name of Harney Peak for people to be able to spend time there and appreciate it's majestic stature and natural beauty. The Black hills are home to me and have been since 1969.

Sincerely,

Howard Schrier

Never give up.
Never give in.
Fight 'Til you lose...
Or fight 'Til you win.
Never let up.
Never let down.
Never let the frightened...
See you frown.
Wield your weapons.
Conquer your fears.
Work 'Till your sweat...
Replaces their tears.
Learn from your losses.
Savor your wins.
Prepare for the next one.
And Battle again.

Reiss, David

From: June Johnston <junej@gwtc.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 6:46 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak name change

I live in Custer. I am very opposed to changing the name of Harney Peak. That name is part of the history of this area also. Harney Peak is in the Black Elk Wilderness. I think there is room for BOTH names being recognized. June Johnston

Reiss, David

m: Mary Brenner <rmbrenner@rap.midco.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 10:40 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: HARNEY PEAK

Mr. Reiss,

Why do we have to continually change names of peaks, counties etc. to Native American names? This is America not Native Indian America. America as it is today was not because of the Native Indian Americans only, it is today what all Americans have made it. It costs extra money that is not necessary to change names on maps, signs, tourist flyers etc. It is time this nonsense is stopped and we quit bowing down to such nonsense. Very few days go by that South Dakotans are not bombarded with the Native Indian Americans whims and wants to take away from other South Dakotans and tell us how horrible we were and are to them. Some people have too much time on their hands to think of all this nonsense.

This may sound like racism and prejudice but on who's part? Native Indian Americans are not the only special people in South Dakota contrary to their thinking! Wyoming and other states still celebrate Columbus Day.

So back to the comment, my vote is no for not changing the name of Harney Peak, let it stay as named. Let some of our other forefathers be special too. The Native Indian Americans of South Dakota forget they were not blameless in all that has occurred in the past and continue to occur in the present. Enough is enough, be Americans first and special races second!

Thank you!
Mary Brenner

Reiss, David

From: ben leonard <benzart_@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 10:46 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: my comment

Dear sir,

I am contacting you regarding the proposed renaming of Harney Peak in the Black Hills of South Dakota. I have been a resident of Rapid City for 54 years, and have had the pleasure (and pain!) of hiking the numerous trails and surrounds of the peak many times, most recently taking the arduous Lost Cabin Trail to the summit just last weekend. Due to the beautiful day, and my adventurous nature, I was able to pause and reflect on my way, sensing the ancient geography and meaningful spirit of the landscape. It is a magical place, and it has its own commanding voice that silences the noise of everyday life, and instills a sense of wonder, awe, and appreciation of the enduring structures along the way.

In the eons that the Black Hills have existed I'm certain the peak has been called by many names, none of which mattered for most of the time it has stood above the plains, and none of which will probably be remembered in the far distant future. What it is named didn't matter to me on my hike, but if you say "I climbed Harney", most everyone knows what you mean. But I do remember sensing that people had been there before me (not the ones racing to the top and dropping litter on the trail as they dream of getting back down the mountain in time for their next appointment) but the ones who came to pause and know their dreams by absorbing the spirit and meaning of a very special place. I know they have come there for that, I am one of them.

It would be fitting, it would be just, and it would be the right thing to rename the peak for the respected Oglala visionary Black Elk. He is renowned and recognized worldwide as having been an eloquent and heroic spokesman and healer for his people, and for all people. I wholeheartedly support the proposal, and ask that you approve it.

Respectfully,
Ben D. Leonard
2029 Monte Vista Drive
Rapid City, South Dakota 57702

Reiss, David

m: Charlotte Pistulka <cmpistulka@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 10:49 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: I am not in favor of changing the name of Harney Peak.

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'Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Chardonnay in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming 'WOW what a ride

Reiss, David

From: Philip Hall <philiphall14@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 11:49 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name Change

David,

I support changing the name of Harney Peak to something - anything - else.

As you know, Harney made an unprovoked attack on a band of Lakota in 1854, killing many women and children. If the attack happened today, it would result in a court martial.

Harney never set foot on "Harney Peak" As they passed along the Ft. Laramie to Ft. Pierre trail, they looked west from the Badlands and "saw" Harney Peak in the distance. In my mind's ear, I can hear General Harney ordering Lt. Warren to "name that tall mountain peak for me."

In this time of continuing tension with the Lakota over one issue or another, I think that re-naming the peak for Ben Black Elk would be a nice gesture.

Sincerely,

Phil Hall

Reiss, David

m: fred carl <fkcarl@rap.midco.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 3:12 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Saw the notice in the paper—not sure many people are aware of this. I am absolutely opposed to changing the name of Harney Peak. It is a piece of Black Hills history and certainly not a derogatory term. Are we going to change the name of the city of Custer and county of Custer because someone is offended in regards to a historical event associated with that name? Changes have been made to items like Squaw Creek which is fine as it is associated with derogatory terms. But to change names because of battles between Natives and Whites seems to be quite a stretch. Is the Custer Battlefield going to be changed to? Enough already.

Reiss, David

m: david nickel <davidnickel2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Comment on proposed name change for Harney Peak.

648 Main #1
Spearfish, SD 57783
March 21, 2015

South Dakota Board on Geographic Names
South Dakota Department of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Board on Geographic Names:

I fully support changing the name of Harney Peak (in Pennington County) to Black Elk Peak. I believe that this change will make the name more descriptive of local history and give appropriate recognition to a long-time American Indian resident of the area and a great American, Black Elk.

I gained knowledge of the life of Black Elk by reading "Black Elk's Vision A Lakota Story" by S.D. Nelson 2010. I obtained the book, great for both adult and younger readers, at the Spearfish library. I learned of Black Elk's visions, his part in conflicts of the time (such as Little Big Horn and Wounded Knee), his family life and his long life on the reservation. One also learned of his time with the Buffalo Bill Wild West show.

I think that most South Dakota folks will support the change to "Black Elk Peak" who had an important and admirable life in a time of rapid change for South Dakota and for America.

Please change the name of Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Nickel

Reiss, David

From: Sheri Henry <halleyshouse@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 7:48 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Please leave the name Harney Peak as it is...Thanks, Sheri Henry

Reiss, David

From: Idaiss@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2015 10:15 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name change

I Would like to see Harney Peak changed to Black Elk Peak or Mt. Gary

Sent from my iPad

Reiss, David

From: Paul Sauser <paul.sauser@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2015 1:42 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Black Elk Peak

I am 100 percent for changing the name of Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak.

Any day we can honor outstanding Native Americans and at the same time stop honoring those who killed innocents is a good day.

Paul Sauser

Reiss, David

From: Ralph Soelzer <rjsoelzer@rushmore.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2015 1:46 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Please keep the name Harney Peak!!!!! Spearfish SD resident Joan Soelzer



This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

Reiss, David

From: Loyann Kistler <loykistler@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2015 8:25 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

I would like Harney Peak to remain Harney Peak. Harney Peak is in the Black Elk Wilderness. I don't see why the peak should be renamed to the same name as the wilderness it is in. Both names are part of our history. If the name is changed, it will still be Harney Peak to me as it has been all my life.

Reiss, David

m: Michael Hartnett <mhartnett@rushmore.com>
sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 9:51 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Black Elk Peak

I support the renaming of Harney Peak to "Black Elk Peak" as it is much more deserved and fitting tribute to a "native of SD" that held the Black Hills as sacred (and did not murder women & children)

Michael Hartnett
Registered SD Voter
Rapid City, SD