

Steven D. Reece

From: Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 09:50
To: 'Michael Schudrich'
Subject: FW: We desperately need your help with the Przerosl project

Dear Michael,

I am extremely sorry to bother you at this important time but I wanted to follow up with you regarding Hank's email to you.

Hank is partially correct in what he shared with you regarding Monika's response. She refused to contact the Mayor of Przerosl when we spoke over the phone in March. More recently after your conversation with her, I reached out to her asking about next steps one of which was to contact the Mayor (Wójt) and begin the formal proceedings to establish the restoration project. Monika has not responded to me. I do not know why she has not.

I realize that Pesach is upon you and that you will not have time to address the matter presently.

I will not act unilaterally and initiate this project without Monika's formal support, official backing, and permission to do this project. I do not have an agenda; I am only trying to serve by facilitating this project as I have with other FODZ projects previously.

Once more, I thank you for your support and for your continued efforts to resolve this issue.

In deep appreciation and respect,

Steven

From: hankmishkoff@gmail.com [mailto:hankmishkoff@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Hank Mishkoff
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 23:15
To: Michael Schudrich <schudrich@gmail.com>
Cc: Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org>; Hatte Blejer <blejerh@gmail.com>
Subject: We desperately need your help with the Przerosl project

Rabbi Schudrich: Once again, the Przerosl project seems to have run into a snag, and once again I'm hoping that you'll be able to help.

Steven tells me that Monika is refusing to contact the Mayor of Przerosl to set up a meeting with Steven -- and although I don't want to speak for Steven, I believe that he's hesitant to launch the project unless FODZ makes the initial introductions to civic officials, which I understand is what they typically do.

The officials in Przerosl don't know anything about Hatte and me, other than that our ancestors used to live there. And they don't know Steven at all. But they know that FODZ effectively "owns" the Przerosl Jewish Cemetery, and I have to believe that they'd be much more cooperative and helpful if they knew that the project had the support of FODZ. And because the cooperation and help of local officials can be the difference between the success and failure of the project, it's frustrating that Monika refuses to make the one simple phone call that would make the project so much easier for all of us.

It's even more frustrating because we all believed that the final obstacles had been overcome. We're closing in on our fundraising goals, and cousins from the US and Israel are starting to make plans to travel to Przerosl in July to help restore the cemetery where members of their families may be buried. Steven seems to feel that, if it doesn't happen this year, it will happen next year -- and I hate to be a pessimist, but I'm afraid that if we postpone the project after raising everyone's hopes and coming SO CLOSE, the opportunity to restore the cemetery may never present itself again.

I know that you don't have any magic ability to talk Monika into doing something that she doesn't want to do, but you seem to have a good relationship with her, and I was hoping that maybe if you spoke with her you could persuade her to relent at least to the extent of setting up a meeting between Steven and Przerosl officials. That's all we need her to do, Steven can coordinate the rest of the project without imposing on her, and Hatte and I will line up the funds and the volunteers. We even have a prominent Przerosl native who's eager to help us -- but suddenly I'm fearful that there may not be anything for him to help us with.

Anyway, sorry to be so long-winded (as usual). But if there's anything that you could do to help convince Monika to make that call and let Przerosl know that the project has the support of FODZ, we would be so very grateful.

Thank you so much for your help.