

Steven D. Reece

From: Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 04:50
To: 'Elaine Brown'
Subject: RE: FW: Chrzanów Update

Dear Elaine,

Thank you for your words of encouragement. You are correct. It seems like a textbook model for how we would hope that our work would unfold. It is marvelous and frightening at the same time to be involved in such a powerful and sensitive story. The driving factor behind what we are doing is God's love for his creation, his people, and us. He seeks to redeem and restore brokenness. We are agents of his redemption, and for this reason, we are on this path with Chaim.

I wish I could say that I really know what I am doing, but I do not. There is no textbook unfortunately that has the necessary steps mapped out as to how to navigate such an issue. It is God, who leads me/us and I rely upon him to show me the way in all humility and in fear and trembling I seek to serve him and people like Chaim.

Yes, he has instilled within me his heart, which is what I wish to be seen in what I am doing with Chaim. God is at work to redeem. I am just his vessel.

I look forward to working once more in Oswiecim and seeing what God has planned for us this year.

Blessings,

Steven

From: Elaine Brown <elaine.brown@matzevah.org>
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 15:28
To: Steven Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org>
Subject: Re: FW: Chrzanów Update

Steven, I know I have commented on this particular work in Poland a couple of times. What an almost seemingly "textbook" model of how we would hope much of our work would progress - to quote you "in true righteousness." I have never met Chaim or emailed with him, but I feel an odd kinship with him, and to know now that he met with someone who was witness to this terrible act upon his family and the Jewish "family" as a whole is more than moving. It is incredible and most certainly the machinations of the Lord. I thank God for you, the heart he instilled in you, and your ability to express the heart of the work we do in meaningful words and actions. I look forward to the work this year in Oswiecim with great anticipation! Thanks for continuing to share with us the story of Chaim.

Elaine

On Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 10:55 AM, Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org> wrote:

FYI, From Rabbi Schudrich.

From: Michael Schudrich <schudrich@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:52

To: sdreece@matzevah.org

Subject: Re: Chrzanów Update

Fantastic

Your good spirit guides them

On Wed, Apr 25, 2018 at 14:53 Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org> wrote:

Dear Michael,

I wanted to follow-up with you regarding the monument situation in Chrzanów concerning the 7 Jewish victims murdered by hanging for baking bread in the ghetto in 1942. As you recall, there has been some discussion of moving the monument since it is on private property.

In late March, Chaim Horowitz, whose grandfather and great-grandfather were among the victims, invited me to arrange a meeting with him and the mayor of Chrzanów. Chaim invited me to be present and to serve as his translator for the meeting. I would like to share with you four outcomes of the meeting:

- 1.The city is prepared to exchange a piece of property with the owner so that the city becomes the owner of the property on which the monument is located.
- 2.The city informed us that the owner wishes to meet with descendants (Chaim). The city advised Chaim to hear what the owner wishes to do but not to inform him of the city's solution.
- 3.The city advised Chaim to engage an attorney so that they could explain legal situation to him and so that lawyer could act on Chaim's behalf.
- 4.Following their meeting, the city will meet with both Chaim and the owner to resolve the matter by hopefully exchanging land.

Chaim employed a lawyer who contacted the owner and learned that the owner was a witness to the hanging and wished to meet with Chaim. This week Chaim traveled to Chrzanów to meet with the owner and to learn of his wishes. At some point in the summer possibly August, all parties will collectively meet to determine next steps.

In the present political environment of Poland, our meeting with this mayor and his proactive response to maintaining the integrity of the memory and its significance to Chaim and others is astounding. Chrzanów is a model of what should/could be possible for non-Jewish Poles to preserve their Jewish heritage, seek to be stewards of its memory,

and restore the relationship that once existed between them and their Jewish neighbors. In this example, I see elements of true dialogue and it gives me great hope that this matter will be resolved in true righteousness.

I will keep you posted as necessary.

Blessings,

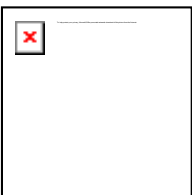
Steven



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E. Elaine Brown

Director of Development

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