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5/18/2023

Delegation Request

to appear before City of Spruce Grove Council

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Kylie Hennigan & Jessica Huber
SPRUCE GROVE PLAYSCHOOL SOCIETY

Name & Mandate of Organization

Spruce Grove Playschool Society (SGPS) is a nonprofit, parent-run cooperative. SGPS is licensed to provide early childhood education to upwards of 106 families within the community each year. The school has been in operation since 1976, providing early education to thousands of community members in the past 45 years. SGPS is the only Reggio Emilia based playschool in the community, the Reggio Emilia philosophy places a big emphasis on the environment being a “third teacher”, which makes the current location of SGPS detrimental to the success of the school. The natural playground, trails, field, and cabin aesthetic create a very natural environment where kids can learn through play and let their creativity take the lead.

Contact Information of Presenters

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Summary of Presentation

Spruce Grove Playschool was told that the City of Spruce Grove would be terminating our lease on the log cabin, located at 447 King Street, as of July 2024. We are requesting a delegation appointment, to speak in front of city council, so that we have the opportunity to present why our playschool is such an important organization within our community and to provide information on how the log cabin plays a big role in our organization’s success.

We are requesting this delegation, to ask that the city reconsider evicting us, as we very much wish to remain the tenant of 447 King St.

We are seeking more concrete answers as to why the school’s lease of 10+ years is not being renewed past July of 2024. We would also like to know what the city plans to use the log cabin for, once SGPS vacates the building.

Lastly, we would like to formally propose that the city allow SGPS to purchase the log cabin from the city, and for the city to have all information relevant to the sale of the building available at the council meeting.

Relevant Information

SGPS took tenancy of the log cabin, located at 447 King Street, in 2010 after the cabin sat vacant for many years. SGPS was responsible for funding the much needed renovations to the cabin, which took approximately two years to complete. The school has provided 10+ years of revenue to the city, as well as a much needed renovation, all while providing a unique early education program to the community. This log cabin is a city owned building and all information pertaining to the future use of this building should be public knowledge to city tax payers.

We are polling SGPS alumni and the community so that we might accurately convey just how large of a role our current location plays in the school's success and also so that you might see how highly our school is regarded in the community. This data, along with our formal presentation, will be provided in written form, 14 days prior to our meeting with the city, should our delegation request be approved. We will have a few speakers representing the playschool that will speak during the time allotted; this will include executive board member(s), a parent with a current student at our school, and possibly a parent who had children attend our school in the past four decades.

Thank you for considering our request,

Kylie Hennigan

and

Jessica Huber