

**From:** [Michelle Crocker](#)  
**To:** [Board of Commissioners](#)  
**Cc:** [Chet Janik](#); [Alison Middleton](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment for Commissioner Meeting 9/21/ 2021  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:14:46 PM

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Dear Commissioners,  
Please see Public Comment below for tonight.  
Michelle

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**From:** Linda Engelhard <linda\_engelhard@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Commissioner Meeting 9/21/ 2021

Please add this to public comments for tonight's meeting. Thank you.

Dear Commissioners,

Recent reports indicate that you are planning to cancel the millage budget for early childhood care in Leelanau County, a millage that was voted on and passed by the voters of our county. There are at least two reasons why we expect those funds to remain in the budget.

First, early childhood care is critical for the health of young families. How we treat children is an indication of whether or not our community is a healthy, caring place to live and work. As retirees, we are grateful for the many senior services that we can access if we need them. And we want young families to feel welcome and be cared for, as well.

Second, something sinister has been growing in our democracy - the notion that the will of the voters can be called into question and cancelled by a small group of people. That threat has a name: oligarchy. Once we as a society refuse to accept election results when we don't agree with them, we have lost the bedrock of democracy.

Please reflect on what all of us want for the future of Leelanau. Support young families and their children. Support the rules of democracy.

Sincerely,  
Rev. John and Linda Engelhard  
Cedar, Michigan

Sent from my iPad