

From: Denise Sica <desica1213@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:15 AM
To: Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>
Subject: letter to the Board

Please distribute this letter to the County Board of Commissioners. If possible, have it read into the public comment as I am unable to attend this meeting.
Thank you.

Letter to the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

The "prayer policy" being pushed by members of the Leelanau County Board is self-serving and oppressive. There is no reference in the duties and functions of the County Board that includes religious offerings or observances. Religious prayer is highly inappropriate at County Board meetings whose job it is to address the business of the county and where inclusivity of all community members should be guaranteed without assumptions made about their religious & cultural orientation.

Why do some people feel the need to promote their personal religious dogma at a public meeting? Is it a sign of insecurity or just abuse of power? You do it because you are in a position to make others listen? Or is it a complete lack of awareness that not everyone in Leelanau is a member of the Christian faith? And this on the agenda after all the recent discussion on the need for diversity, inclusion, and anti-bias practices.

Furthermore, why is the Board wasting time and resources on debating this petty issue? Are there not more pertinent things to address?

I urge a NO vote on prayers at meetings. Freedom of religion allows individuals to seek and practice their chosen beliefs in their homes, churches, forests or temples - not where they come to attend to community business.

Signed,
Denise Sica
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