

Debra Thompson

From: Will Ware <warehouse95@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2022 8:43 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Letter of Support

Good morning,

I understand that the Borough is asking for support of Petersburg Indian Association (PIA), a Federally Recognized Tribe, for obtaining additional resources for upkeep of Papke's Landing. Although I'm not entirely familiar with the request the borough is specifically asking for, what I am astonished by is the request made of PIA. I am not a Council member, but I am a Tribal Citizen of this Tribe. I don't speak for the Council, but I will share my astonishment that the Borough would make requests of the Tribe when at no time has the Borough accepted any requests of our Tribal pursuits, i.e. Natives Without Land or the Landless issue.

Do you not find it ironic that a request is made of the Tribe, but when a request is made from our Tribal Citizens, no genuine consideration is made?. Do you find it ironic that when the Natives Without Land speakers mention the benefits to Petersburg, just as PIA has made immense contributions to this community over the last number of decades, specifically over the last 20 years that contribution is ignored when we come with a request?

Is PIA and Natives Without Land the same entity, no. However, the vast majority of our Tribal Citizens are Landless shareholders.

I keep hearing that there are still questions of the Landless. Disingenuous! We've answered every question we've been asked, even beyond what you've requested. There are no more questions, just fear that the Borough will somehow lose if your Native neighbors and citizens succeed. If I am wrong, explain how. Consider the millions that PIA has poured into this community and the potential for that to continue. Consider the millions that Native Corporations bring to our State. In all, hundreds of millions in Federal, State and Private funds from Tribal entities.

Either way, please see the irony of a request made of our Tribe when you refuse to reciprocate.

If I'm wrong and you still have questions, feel free to call me at 907-518-0001. If I'm right, acknowledge the irony. The Tribe may and probably will still support, but at least there's honor in the recognition. If my words are harsh, I've been nice and polite. It's been ignored.

Will Ware