

Marcia Moermond - RE: 773 White Bear Ave.Turner Ltr 1-26-12.doc

From: "Diana Knobel Turner" <diana@steps2forgiveness.com>
To: "Mai Vang" <Mai.Vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, <marcia.moermond@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: 2/6/2012 10:51 PM
Subject: RE: 773 White Bear Ave.Turner Ltr 1-26-12.doc
CC: "Jack Reardon" <Jack.Reardon@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, "Steve Magner" <Steve.Mag...
Attachments: Diana Turner's Abatement Schedule 2012.docx

Greetings!

Ms. Vang, could you please make sure to forward this to Ms.Moermond in time for the 3 pm hearing tomorrow, if my attempts at her email didn't work above. I duly appreciate your assistance in passing the following message along.

After being unemployed for a while, I am excited to share, I just started a new full-time job working in the St/ Paul School District. One of my duties is to ride the bus to and from school with an autistic student. It seems I am not in the position to inconvenience anyone on the first few days of my job as it would be really hard to find my replacement on such short notice as they are understaffed for bus duty. I will not be able to attend tomorrow's hearing follow up.

I have complied with reducing the items in question by my idea of 50%. Yet if there is concern about my progress, please let's discuss your concerns and I will do my best to comply by the end of the month as asked. I'm hoping Mr. Reardon took pictures.

I am submitting the Schedule that Marcia Moermond asked me to produce for your review. Please don't hesitate to call me with any questions or if possible reschedule another follow up at any point to evaluate the progress of this attached schedule.

Once again, I really appreciate being able to work things out so smoothly. I gave high praises to the Food and Nutrition Task Force on how things were unfolding. I believe with the new zoning amendments being proposed, many of these issues should be cleared up and addressed for all concerned.

Enjoy the light upon its return!

Sincerely,

Diana K. Turner
 Verde Productions: Vibrant People, Vibrant Planet
 651.208.0362

"One can have no smaller or greater mastery than mastery of oneself."
 Leonardo DaVinci

"Having hope and trying to do something, even in the face of disappointing odds and tremendous problems, is not naive optimism. It is our best choice. It is our only choice."

~ Andrew Light, environmental philosopher at New York University

| ----- Original Message -----

Diana Turner's Abatement Schedule 2012

By February 6, 2012 as per requested, a 50% reduction of Urban Farming property in question was removed from problem areas sited by photographs.

The following is an itemized schedule to mitigate the remaining property.

More education and research needs to be happen in order to clear up grey areas around Urban Farmer's needs and storage of materials to help inspectors and other officials come into agreement on what is reasonable under the existing code, while the city works on changing the code to support the growth and development of Urban Farming.

In the meantime, I appreciate the opportunity to work with the city officials and finding win-win situations. Thanks!

Ongoingly as thaw permits: (Items frozen solid to ground)

Roll of heavy wire fencing for tomato cages brought to garage.

Bags of rock and sand for landscaping to be housed in garage.

End of February:

Bags of Leaves by compost will be used up in compost.

Small Area under Blue tarp right out back door:

Half of soil in buckets will be used in starting seeds indoors.

Trays of pots will have been brought indoors to inside potting area.

Wood stove remains to be used for Maple Sugaring collected sap in month of Feb. Other use is for outdoor cooker.

Through March and April (as weather permits):

Wood Chips under black tarp dispersed.

Bags of sawdust used up in starting new compost pile.

Second Trailer will be sold and off property. (Best time to sell on Craig's List)

Mini Hoop frames for season extension constructed on established wooden raised beds using large white plastic sheeting covering second trailer.

Transplant seedlings in spare pots and plantings and placement of container gardens and hanging baskets stored on tall wire rack.

Remaining dirt in buckets used in planting.

Cement bricks hauled out used for beehive foundation.

Most of stored Beehive boxes will be sold or another location found.

Remaining cement bricks used for elevation of water catchment on five drain spouts.

May:

Begin Application Process for Chicken Permit

Construction on proper Chicken Containment Yard begins.

Existing empty Chicken Coop moved to new location upon completion

All trellises and plant stakes built and put into place .

June:

Construction permit applied for if needed and depending upon finances.

Per New Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes due Best Case Scenario In June:

See Draft Urban Agriculture Zoning Text Amendments Feb 6, 2012 - A. Jarve (266-6567)

Construction of Barrier Fence/two sided wall to house large wire rack holding pots that meets new “screened from sight” code.

Or hoop house constructed on driveway (depending upon finances and juggling the 3 accessory structure code.)

Fence permit pulled.

Privacy fence constructed on East Entrance to Driveway to match neighbors privacy fence line, and chain link fence on the south side connecting the house to the west property line.

July:

Potting Area or Hoop House will be in use for any remaining or ongoing questioned Urban Farming property.

The last of the wood chip pile will be dispersed in completed landscaping project of converting sod in front lawn into garden beds and pathways.

Begin repairing back patio drainage problem; raise and reposition all cement pavers properly to be completed by the end of August.

This covers all the remains in the yard that would be considered unsightly or not desirable under current code.

I believe Urban Farmers have the right to have decent looking cold frames stored year round out of doors. The one I have along my garage is too flimsy to transport much. It serves it's purpose and isn't broken or unattractive.

I also need my compost bins and the accompanying piles of “browns”; leaves and hay to make compost ongoingly to layer with kitchen food stuff. This keeps the smell and flying insects at minimum.

An Urban Farmer must have a work area that they can use to store pots, plant plants, harvest produce that changes with the month's activity. Since we are attempting to gain more yields than a back yard garden, there will be more situations that come under question and need time to work out reasonable solutions.

Subject: 773 White Bear Ave.Turner Ltr 1-26-12.doc
From: "Mai Vang" <Mai.Vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: Thu, January 26, 2012 11:19 am
To: <diana@steps2forgiveness.com>
Cc: "Jack Reardon" <Jack.Reardon@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, "Steve Magner"
<Steve.Magner@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Hello Ms. Turner,
Attached please find a letter in the above matter.

Mai Vang
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