

Patricia James - Conditional Use Permit for 1394 Jackson Street - Volunteers of America

From: Terry Haug <thaug@advancecos.com>
To: <luis.pereira@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: 5/23/12 12:46 AM
Subject: Conditional Use Permit for 1394 Jackson Street - Volunteers of America
Attachments: DSC00269.jpg; DSC00256.jpg; DSC00259.jpg; DSC00260.jpg; DSC00263.jpg; DSC00264.jpg; DSC00265.jpg; DSC00266.jpg; DSC00267.jpg

Dear Zoning Committee members,

My name is Terry Haug, and I'm the President and part owner of the Advance Shoring Company that is located at 1400 Jackson Street. My sister and I own the property that is immediately to the north of the 1394 Jackson Street property that the Volunteers of America has applied for the conditional use permit that would allow them to house up to 74 convicted felons during their release back into the public. We also are leasing the property immediately to the east of the 1394 Jackson Street property. And we own the property that is immediately to the east of that lot as well. So all told, we own almost 12 acres to the north and to the east of this 1394 Jackson Street property.

My sister, who is our CEO and the majority owner (51%) of the 3 Advance companies that operate out of 1400 Jackson street spoke at the May 10th public hearing. She voiced her concern that if the CUP is granted, that we could start hearing complaints from our new residential neighbors that we may make too much noise, work too early and too late, or may create too much dust during our normal business operations. We have operated out of this facility since the early 1970's. I have worked here since 1975, back when the Norhaven Home was in operation at 1394 Jackson.

On May 10th I chose not to speak due to the late hour, and the committee was looking quite tired, and it looked like you wanted to be wrapping things up.

I have additional concerns about granting the CUP to the Volunteers of America that would allow them to house up to 74 convicted felons during their release back into the public. **This concern is safety and security, for both our employees, and for our property.**

I am sure that Volunteers of America has the most stringent guidelines that they must, and do follow for their residents or clients since they are convicted felons. My concern is not with the residents committing any crimes while they are staying at this release center, but what they may do sometime after having been released from the center. Or, what information they may share with any of their acquaintances (that may not be the most honest or reputable sorts). The residents or clients, if allowed to move in, can easily look out of the second and third story of the 1394 Jackson Street property and see what items we have stored on our property as an ongoing part of our normal business. (Please see the attached pictures showing the 1394 Jackson Street properties vantage point on looking into our property)

On our property to the immediate north of the 1394 Jackson Street property, we store all of our construction Tower Cranes and constructions Hoists that we rent out. We currently own 30 Tower Cranes and 35 Hoists. All of this equipment is electrically operated. They have electrical control cords made of copper attached to their structure, control cabinets full of copper wire, and electrical motors all wound with copper. There is a problem with people committing copper thefts and then scrapping the copper for

quick cash. It is not inconceivable that we could easily have over \$100,000.00 damage in a theft.

On our property to the east of the 1394 Jackson Street property, we store our construction Shoring and Forming equipment that we rent out, much of it being made out of aluminum. We currently own over 2 million pounds of aluminum equipment. There is a problem with people committing aluminum thefts and then scrapping the aluminum for quick cash. It is not inconceivable that we could easily have over a \$50,000.00 loss or damage in a single theft.

Before the construction downturn, we had almost 50 full time employees working at Advance. When things are busy, we have people coming and going from the property early and late. Many times during the early hours 3:00am – 6:00am, or late hours 6:00pm – 12:00am, these employees and the truck drivers are coming and leaving the property all alone. If they were to come upon a person in the act of burglarizing our property during these off hours, they could be injured or even be killed by the perpetrator trying to get away without being caught. This is a great concern of ours. Years ago, over a long holiday weekend, I caught a burglar in the act on our property. I called SPPD and they came out with their K9 and caught and arrested him. I do not want to have to start to carry a gun for protection just to come and go at odd hours for my work. I would hate to have to advise my employees to do likewise.

I am sure that the Volunteers of America are fine folks, and they do not want anything to happen to us, but they just cannot control what their residents or their clients do after they have left the program, or what their residents or their clients tell others that they may know, about what we have stored here on our property.

I thought that I heard something about how when analyzing the possibility of granting a conditional use permit, that there is a consideration on if it would impact any adjoining property owners, and their safe use and enjoyment of their own property.

Please, I beg of you to deny the conditional use permit application for the Volunteers of America on the 1394 Jackson Street property for the afore mentioned reasons.

Best regards,



Terry Haug
President
Advance Shoring Company

ADVANCE

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ADVANCE EQUIPMENT COMPANY IS CERTIFIED AS A TGB / SBE / WBE



L'Orient St

ADVANCE SHORING

GATE & DRIVEWAY

1304 JACKSON

Jackson St

Jackson St

55

55



Jackson St 55

Jackson St 55

1394 JACKSON

EQUIPMENT WITH ELECTRICAL WIRING

ALUMINUM AREA





















