



APPLICATION FOR APPEAL

Saint Paul City Council – Legislative Hearings

RECEIVED

310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Telephone: (651) 266-8585

AUG 10 2020

CITY CLERK

We need the following to process your appeal:

- \$25 filing fee (non-refundable) (payable to the City of Saint Paul) (if cash: receipt number _____)
 - Copy of the City-issued orders/letter being appealed
 - Attachments you may wish to include
 - This appeal form completed
 - Walk-In OR Mail-In
- for abatement orders only: Email OR Fax

HEARING DATE & TIME (provided by Legislative Hearing Office) Tuesday, <u>August 18, 2020</u> Time <u>3:00 p.m.</u> Location of Hearing: Room 330 City Hall/Courthouse <u>Teleconference</u>


Call between 3:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M.

Address Being Appealed:

Number & Street: 1055 Bradley St. City: St. Paul State: MN Zip: 55130

Appellant/Applicant: Heather Appert Email heatherappert@gmail.com

Phone Numbers: Business _____ Residence _____ Cell 651-253-1494

Signature:  Date: 7/28/2020

Name of Owner (if other than Appellant): _____

Mailing Address if Not Appellant's: _____

Phone Numbers: Business _____ Residence _____ Cell _____

What Is Being Appealed and Why?

Attachments Are Acceptable

- Vacate Order/Condemnation/Revocation of Fire C of O
- Summary/Vehicle Abatement
- Fire C of O Deficiency List/Correction
- Code Enforcement Correction Notice
- Vacant Building Registration
- Other (Fence Variance, Code Compliance, etc.)
Fence Variance

Comments:
See attached.

I was born on the East side of Phalen, grew up in New Hope/Marine on the St Croix, lived in Madison where I attended the university there, lived in Colorado, Idaho, Ohio, Germany, and Phoenix before I moved home to raise my daughters and St Paul was the only place for me. First Como, second Cathedral Hill, third Wheelock and Arcade and finally Cook and Bradley. I moved in knowing my neighbors across the street sold drugs, but the mom who owns the house is nice and keeps it up. It is way more of a problem than I anticipated but am hopeful her unemployed sons that still live there will be exposed and the problem will go away. I did not expect the hostility from the neighbors to my north. We are on the hill, their yard sits up 4 feet which is braced by a railroad tie retaining wall in the back and a boulder wall in the front. On top of those walls is a 4 foot red wood fence that is not in good shape. They let saplings grow unkempt, growing through, warping the wood and making our yard look disheveled. Initially I made an agreement with the man who lives there to buy 60 feet of dog ears cedar panels to match my back fence. Agreeing to pay for them, and install them using the posts they have for the red wood fence, it would have solved a lot of issues. He agreed and asked to help. After I purchased the materials, he asked his wife, who became very upset, and told us that if we did that we could claim her home. We even had an attorney draw up an agreement for non-possession. Honestly, she shut down so fast that the third time I tried to talk to her she told me to stop harassing her so obviously I stopped.

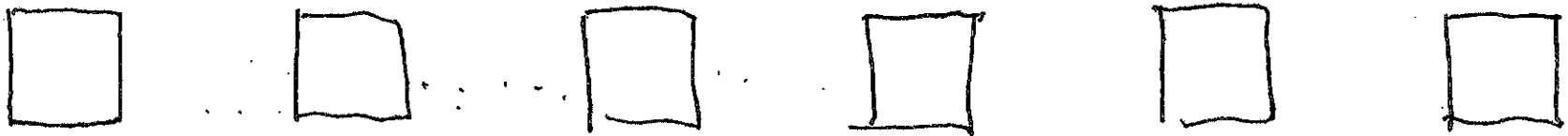
They have a 150/# pig and a 150/# great pyrenes dog that barks all the time. The pig is loud, and the yard has its smells. The pig's feces hosts white flies that get in to our house through our screens. We pay our pest control to do a specialized spray to manage it somewhat. After they told us that we could not replace the fence, the man told me they were going to put up a hog wire fence which would actually have us looking down at their yard and into the pig sty and other overgrown, unattractive areas.

One other point to a higher fence is the video camera they have pointing directly in our kitchen and backyard. We have called in but there is nothing that is being done regarding it and, we feel, it is a serious invasion of our privacy. My mother is so anxious about it that she won't sit facing it. It is not just her, it makes everyone uncomfortable to be watched nonstop like they watch us.

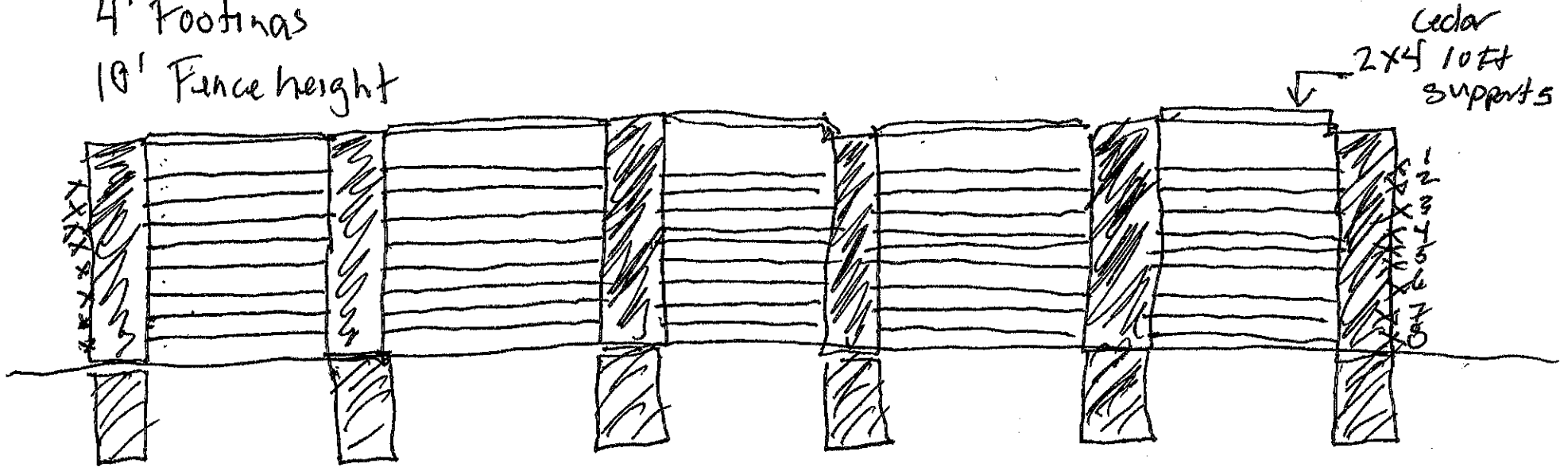
My solution is to build a living fence on the inside of the retaining wall on my property line spanning 60 feet. If we are only allowed the standard height, considering the slope of the yard, we would still be looking into their yard from our low deck. The living fence, if we were granted the variance, would be 6 4x4x10 Or 12 feet cedar timbers spaced every 10 feet. 1/8 inch decking cable would run the 60 feet every 12-18 inches and I would grow Boston Ivy up the fence. It would not be some huge spanning wall that does not assimilate to the landscape, but rather an airy, living structure that would be appealing to look at from all angles. My timbers I wish to by are 16' and we would ideally like to put them 12' high. 10' would bring us to the top of their fence line and is better than the standard fence regulations.

I bring up my story in the beginning to stress how much I love St Paul. I believe in diversity; my kids went to public schools ending up graduating from Central. Living with people from all races is important to me and always has been. However, the amount of turmoil going on right now in our cities, the stress from my neighbors on either side, I am afraid it will drive me out. My house built in 1909 is so lovely. I have done a lot of work inside and even more outside. People walk by and are so happy for the gardens and improvements. I want to stay. I am putting in \$10,000 in a deck and fence, but if I have to look at my neighbor's barnyard, and their hostility to me that has no merit, combined with the drug dealers next door, it may drive me out. I think St Paul wants to encourage people like me, single, successfully working moms, who care about their community.

Please consider the variance. Thank you for your time and effort. Sincerely, Heather Appert



14'H 4x4 cedar posts
 4' Footings
 10' Fence height



1/8" steel cable For decks/ Rails in 100' sections finished off with closing bolts -

Planted at each Footing and in between will be Virginia Creeper

