



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF STOUGHTON

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*Rooted in Christ we grow, in God's love,
bear fruit, and share the harvest with the world*

December 14, 2009

Tom Lynch
Stoughton Parks and Recreational Department
321 South Fourth Street
Stoughton, WI 53589

Dear Tom,

Thanks for your interest regarding the expansion of the community gardens at the Stoughton United Methodist church site. As you know, we've managed a successful program for several years now. As the city is interested in seeing the program expanded, and the church has additional land available for community plots, it was good that we shared discussion over the past few weeks. In these economic hard times, the church is interested in participating in a partnership that will allow expansion of the community gardens and enhance life for the people of Stoughton.

As a follow-up to our trustee meeting on 12/8/2009, I offer a summary of the contingencies that we discussed regarding the expansion of the present community gardens at Stoughton United Methodist Church:

- The city will provide a written agreement drafted by the city's legal counsel regarding the city's management of the community gardens at the Stoughton United Methodist Church.
- The city will determine a nominal fee for the garden plots and manage the money in a way that excess profits will be distributed to a needy cause on behalf of the city and the church.
- The city will provide a certificate of liability insurance for the use of land space at the Stoughton United Methodist Church to the church prior to expansion.
- The city will oversee preseason plowing/tilling of a space not to exceed 100' X 150' of the community gardens at the Stoughton United Methodist Church.
- The city will provide for an adequate amount of compost bins and their management at the church site.
- The city will provide for an adequate amount of water sources at the site of the community gardens. The cost of water usage for the gardens will be the responsibility of the city.
- The city will consult with the church as to adequate signage that credits the church's involvement with the community gardens. The cost will be endured by the city.

- The city and the church will agree to promotions and publications regarding the community gardens.
- The city will allow the 2009 Stoughton United Methodist Church community garden participants the right of first refusal in 2010.
- The city will provide one garden plot to the church for use by the youth of the Stoughton United Methodist Church.
- The city will provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers of community garden users to the church for the purpose of assistance to the city with complaint management.
- The city will enforce community garden parking only on the tarred surface of the church parking lot.
- The city will establish a procedure for complaint management.
- A city representative and the board of trustees of the church will complete an annual review at the end of each garden season for the purpose of improvement.

Again, this list is offered as a summary of our discussion. Please feel free to clarify or add items that would be helpful.

We look forward to joining forces with the city for the benefit of the people.

Let us know when you are ready to take the next step.

Sincerely, 

Tom Lunde
Trustee Chair
Stoughton United Methodist Church