

Code 700007
Subject Jim Edwards
Date 4/14/2010
Interviewer Ryan Humphries

Abstract Jim Edwards of Hope Community Garden describes his involvement in community outreach programs and his Whirlwind involvement with the Hope Community and Market Garden. He shares his experience and his own hopes for the future of the site and community.

Tags Jim Edwards, Hope Community Garden, Cudell, Summer Sprout Program, Ohio State University, OSU

Special Notes minutes:

biographical information: Born in Wausau, Wisconsin, Moved to Cleveland in 1969 @ 25yo

Lived in Rocky River then Fairview from 1971 to present, Building Hope in the City 1 out of Trinity Lutheran Church (W 30th & Lorain)

Revitalizing Urban Churches, Volunteered at church W89th & Madison, Saw Lots as 2 disparaging, Can a lot be revitalized and bring renewed hope to an area?

Describing Garden: Summer Sprout - City of Cleveland & OSU Cleveland Land 3 Bank

Acquiring the adjacent abandoned house for expansion; Anita Brindza Cudell 4 Improvement Corporation

Reimagining Cleveland proposal to expand, Learning for youth, 2 side by side 5 gardens

6 Relation with Block Watch, Nueva Luz and other community groups

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8 Birgit Hilliard MyCom (My Community) - youth participation

9 Goals: Meeting space, green area, enjoy the area

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11 Involvement - Meeting the people - talking about garden

12 10-12 people actually involved

13 Dangers: Theft of a few vegetables, lack of vandalism: Councilman Westbrook

14 Question of Definition of Community Garden in the community

15 Cabbages & Peppers

Community gardens help reduce vandalism and raise property values Pipeline:

16 Reimagining Money Lack of regulation Financial questions

17

18 Gardens tested for lead: Build Raised beds with re-imagining money

Selling the Products: Start small - sell on site - sell to restaurants Small number of

19 options, larger volumes

20 Money from produce goes back into the garden: Sustainability

21

Building Hope beatifying an empty lot - googled community gardens, OSU Summer

22 sprout: Morgan Tagert

Jay Westbrooks Office worked with Cleveland Land Bank - Overwhelmed, Happened quickly, Never involved with something with this much money : Neighborhood

23 Connections

24 Not part of the community- hasn't made the connection

25 Training Programs: Digging In Sponsored by OSU @ Urban Community School
26 Helpfulness of groups.
27 Cudell, block watch, Nueva Luz
28 Expectations before funding runs out
29 Next 5 Years Hope: Green House, solar panels - heating, electricity
30 Can Cleveland gardens can be part of Cap and Trade?
31 Plans for Green House -
32
33 Anticipated problems:
34 lack of connection - lots of interest by no follow thru
35 Community support -only 5-6 people with plots
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37 Semi-transient people
38 Involving West-Tech Lofts and community
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40 Targeting Youth - through MyCom; Safe 18
41 Westside Community House (93rd & Lorain)
42 Involving Community Youth
43
44 Sign Posting
45 Time at the Garden
46
47 Tool Shed
48 Security & accessibility tool shed: Water Source
49
50 Closing Thoughts: Passion of Urban Agriculture
51 End