

Code	700023
Subject	Herb Arron
Date	5/5/2010
Interviewer	Mark Fort
Abstract	Herb Arron works with the Africa Community Village Garden. He discusses the importance of having a garden and green space in communities to provide a local access to nature. The garden is a vegetable garden and the produce is distributed to the community and he hopes that any excess could be sold at farmer's markets around town. Herb also discusses the hopes of partnering with one of the local schools to allow the students to have a hands on experience with gardening. He also mentions that the garden has recently been re-named the Edwin West Garden in honor of one of the member's who passed away suddenly.
Special Notes	
minutes:	0:40:36
	0 Intro, lived and grew up in Cleveland
	1 Currently lives in Lee-Harvard area for the past 33 years.
	2 Discussing how he became involved in the community garden.
	3 Discusses when and why he wrote the grant for Re-Imagining Cleveland.
	4 Discusses the progress of the project, including lead testing of the soil. Working on getting a fence.
	5 The garden has been named the Edwin West Garden in honor of one of the members who passed away.
	6 Discusses installing a concrete ankh in the garden, the garden will primarily be a vegetable garden.
	7 The garden focuses on the community and environment, will not be using pesticides and will be organic.
	8 Talks about the impact of the garden on the neighborhood.
	9 Discusses how empty can be used to attract people to the area by making green space for the community.
	10 Talks about past involvement with the community.
	11 Discusses the needs of the garden, the grant has served most of the needs but as the garden grows more needs will crop up.
	12 Volunteers have been very helpful and come from the community primarily seniors that live in the area.
	13 Discusses the ending of funding after November 30, 2010, the grant was helpful but the garden was going to go forward with or without the funds.
	14 Talks about the plans for the next five years and would like to keep the land even after the five years.
	15 Talks about the delay in getting a monument installed for Edwin West.
	16 Describes how his current neighborhood of Lee-Harvard has changed over time since he has lived there.
	17 Moved to Lee-Harvard area while he was looking for a place to move after he got married. Didn't want to live in the suburbs due to the high tax rates.
	18 No evidence of resistance from the community to the garden.
	19 Describes other projects the non-profit is involved in. Talks about being involved with the African American garden in the Cultural Gardens.
	20 Talks about moving Black History month to June to celebrate Juneteenth.
	21 Talks about choosing busts to go into the garden and how the garden has been sitting empty since the 1970s.
	22 Discusses who he thinks should be represented in the cultural garden.
	23 Discusses the fence as a means of defending and protecting the garden.
	24 Talks about complying with guidelines.
	25 Talks about the variety of vegetables that will be grown in the garden.
	26 Discusses how the garden will effect the property value of the neighborhood.
	27 Talks about working with schools and allow the children to work with the garden as part of the curriculum.
	28 Talks about the problems from closing schools in the area.
	29 Discusses taking cues from other cities to become a successful city. Talks about the rift between east and west sides of Cleveland.
	30 Talks about the area colleges working together to improve the city and stopping the brain drain Ohio experiences.
	31 Talks about the cities resources not being used and it's effects on the city. Big city ideas with hicksville-type mentality.
	32 If the garden is successful it will be a win-win situation for the community and the city. Make changes in your own community.
	33 People will want to come to your city if you take ownership of it and it's improvement. Local gardens are a great teaching tool for kids.
	34 The garden is an ecological maze for life and will provide food and shelter for all sorts of life.
	35 Talks about changes in county government and it's effects on the city of Cleveland. Discusses regionalization.
	36 Talks about distributing food grown in community garden to the surrounding community.
	37 Discusses access to fresh produce, there are very few grocery stores in the area.
	38 If enough produce is grown they will try to sell them at markets and discusses using those funds to go back into the garden.
	39 Describes the layout of the garden and the physical description of the neighborhood.
	40 End
	41
	42
	43
	44
	45
	46
	47
	48
	49
	50
	51
	52
	53
	54
	55
	56
	57
	58

59	
60	