

Code	700035
Subject	Rev. Charles Cotton, Jacquelin Jacobs
Date	7/6/2010
Interviewer	Michelle Epps
Abstract	Rev. Charles Cotton and Jacquelin Jacobs work with the Community Education Enhancement Center. The group was funded for to garden and lots with a third tied up in probate. Jacquelin, the designer of the gardens, is the primary speaker in the interview and discusses her vision for the lots. The lots were chosen specifically for their attributes and proximity to the Canaan Missionary Church. The lots are a tool to educate the next generation and to beautify the neighborhood. Both Rev. Cotton and Jacquelin agree that if in five years someone wants to build a house on the property they will gladly move to another lot because they want to do what is best for the city, and what is best for the city.
Special Notes	Ambient noises due to the public location of the interview (Dunkin Donuts at 5790 Mayfield Rd.).
minutes:	0:35:08
	0 Intro, two gardens funded one still in probate.
	1 Discusses how they came to be involved with community gardens and Re-Imagining Cleveland.
	2 Talks about attending "Hill" meetings sponsored by Kaiser. Many of the people living in the community originally came from the south.
	3 Each garden is designed specifically based on the location.
	4 Garden at Tarkington designed to make the vacant lot look as if it is owned by the two surrounding houses. Looking for ways to take up vacant spaces to add to the property value of the neighborhood.
	5 Second lot is at the of a dead end street and was designed to be a meditation rose garden.
	6 Jacquelin Jacobs designed both gardens but was helped by other people in the community for guidance on choosing flowers to make the design possible.
	7 Talks about her son wanting to create the sun dial for the garden.
	8 Discusses why the lots were chosen. Mentions Healthy Lifestyles Program for their daycare.
	9 Plans for the third garden are already designed as a wedding chapel garden, but it is highly unlikely they will receive that lot.
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	11 Even if the grant doesn't go through with the third lot, they will still attempt to get the lot for another garden. Rev. Cotton talks about working with children in the garden.
	12 People have been very helpful with advice and assistance for the garden.
	13 Talks about choosing cat's mint when trying to find a replacement for lavender.
	14 Jacquelin talks about the dirt for the garden and having a worm farm.
	15 Describes what a worm farm is.
	16 Worm farm is a perfect opportunity to educate preschool age children. Talks about lead contamination in the city of Cleveland.
	17 Any time a house is over a hundred years old it is absolute that there will be lead contamination in the soil.
	18 Works with the Canaan Missionary Church but is a separate non-profit Community Education Enhancement Center.
	19 Talks about the progress of the garden and planting.
	20 Discusses access to water and intentions of watering the plants independently by bringing water to the garden instead of using fire hydrants to water.
	21 Trees already on the property so there was no need to put trees in.
	22 Found out about the grant through web searches. Grant writing came easily after the lots were chosen.
	23 Rev. Cotton discusses garden parks as an extension of the local park so people can access nature in their own neighborhood without having to travel far to get there.
	24 Discusses the impact of the project on the city of Cleveland.
	25 Talks about the uses of the lots when they are maintained by the city alone, willing to give up the garden if someone wanted to build a house on the lot to add to street.
	26 The garden is a teaching tool, if students see vacant lots occupied with gardens instead of garbage it will open up possibilities in the classroom.
	27 Discusses plans over the next five years.
	28 Talks about planting perennials intentionally.
	29 Discusses plans after the five years leasing period is up. If someone wants to build a house on the lot they would gladly give up the garden to bring in more property tax in the community.
	30 Rev. Cotton mentions that the relationship is a give and take with the city.
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	32 Talks about working with Neighborhood Progress Incorporated. Every turn they learn something new.
	33 Rev. Cotton came to Cleveland in 1974 to work as a school teacher.
	34 Rev. Cotton talks about appreciating this opportunity.
	35 End.
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