

Exhibit B

Home Occupation Regulations Section 6-2-8

The requested variance is to allow Touch My Heart (TMH) guests to visit the TMH chickens in the backyard of the property.

TMH services people who suffer from physical, mental, and emotional disabilities as well as their families. TMH chickens have been trained as therapy animals to work with those with special needs. As the chickens live outside, visitors are taken through a program centered around the chickens housed in the backyard of the property. Program includes learning how to house, feed and maintain the health of the animals. Using the lives and needs of the chickens, TMH programming relates the hen's needs to the needs of the visitors. As an example, part of the programming includes learning the health benefits of herbs. Herbs are grown in pots where visitors can pick and smell the leaves. They are then instructed on how herbs are fed to the chickens to keep them healthy or to alleviate an ailment. Likewise, we humans enjoy herbs in our foods, but herbs also help us to remain healthy.

The TMH program is not open to the public. Visitors must schedule an appointment time with a limited number of guests and caregivers allowed on the visits. Groups range in size from 5 up to 12 plus caregivers at a ratio of 4 or 5 to 1 depending on the special needs of the guests.

A typical visit lasts approximately 2 hours roughly following the format below.

1. Welcome. Takes place on benches arranged in a circle.
 - a. Introductions are made.
 - b. Activities are discussed.
 - c. Rules are outlined.
2. Large groups are split into 3 smaller groups. Each group has a caregiver as well as guests.
3. Guests rotate through 3 stations.
 - a. Sensory – Here guests learn about herbs. Each summer we plant over 20 different herbs in pots which can be brought to the learning station to discuss. Herbs are picked, smelled, and discussed by the group. Volunteers lead the conversation about what the herb reminds us of (“Pizza!” for oregano) and what foods we can put the herb into make the dish taste better. Guests also learn of the benefits of the herb they are discussing. After the discussion, the herbs are fed to chickens.
 - b. Chickens – Learn about chicken anatomy, their homes, what they eat, how and why they lay eggs ... This takes place outside of the enclosed chicken run where guests can watch the hens take dusts baths and learn why that’s an important activity for chicken health.
 - c. Garden – Stroll the raised bed garden to learn about growing food for the chickens as well as for humans. Talk about sustainability, composting and healthy eating. In spring, guests are assisted in planting vegetables; then in late summer and fall guests harvest the berries and vegetables. Most guests have never seen how the cucumber they eat in their salads started out on a vine.

For large groups, the stations take place simultaneously.

Throughout this time, Wendy Montalbano walks around with different chickens letting

them visit the guest. Guests can pet and even hold a hen depending on their comfort level. This is the real highlight of the visit.

4. After the station rotations are complete, everyone goes back to the circle. There is a discussion about what they saw and learned. A volunteer tells Chicken jokes. Guests are served water and a healthy snack.
5. The final activity is everyone dances the chicken dance. This is a good segway to say goodbye and guest departure.

Volunteers lead the activities. One volunteer for each station with a couple of “floaters” who help guests move from one station to another.

Volunteers arrive at 9:30 AM.

Guests arrive at 10:00 AM

Guests leave at around noon

Volunteers leave by 12:30

Typically, we have 1 to 2 groups visit per week on weekdays only.

All guests are respectful and always supervised by their caregiver(s). At no time are guests allowed to wander around the property and since the back yard is fully enclosed guests do not roam onto neighboring properties.

The visits of TMH guests are small groups so as not to disturb neighbors. Additionally, the visits take place during the late weekday mornings when it is least likely to cause disruption to neighbors. Groups arrive in single transports and park in the drive thus there is no traffic interference.

The chickens are housed outside as well as the sensory garden. Group visits cannot take place inside the home since the chickens and garden are outside.

Hosting guests in the backyard of the property does not interfere with any of the neighboring properties. As explained above, guests are continuously supervised, the program itself is quiet and contained, and guests, in part by nature of their disabilities, are not boisterous.

As a result, we believe granting this variance will have no impact on our neighbors or the surrounding community.

Exhibit B

Coop screening (10-4-6:3.3.3)

Screening or fencing is intended to protect the fowl housed on the property and to protect neighbors from unsightly and smelly structures where the birds live.

The coops/runs are constructed using a combination of wood, heavy gage wiring and, during the cold months, 1/4" Thick, Clear, Lexan - Polycarbonate panels. In addition to being sturdy, great care has been given to the aesthetics including lighting and seasonal decorations. Volunteers work throughout the day cleaning the coops and runs so waste is continually being removed.

The chickens are never allowed to run freely about the property; therefore, there is never a threat of the chickens wandering onto neighboring property.

Neighbors to north of property are approximately 35 feet from outer wall of coop. There is an additional 30 feet (approximation) from the lot line to neighbor's home.

Neighbors to the east of property have large evergreens located on their property covering approximately 60% of the coops/runs. From the lot line to the neighbor's home is approximately 100 feet. (Side Note: this neighbor likes to walk to the back of their property to "visit" the chickens and to bring their grandchildren. Additional fencing would not be favorable to these visits.)

Neighbor to the south of the property is approximately 10 feet from the outer wall of the coop, and an additional 40 feet from the lot line to neighbor's home. There is a 6 foot, solid wall fence located along their lot line with no visibility to the coops from their home.

See below pictures of coops/runs:



Coop 1 is connected to Run 1.

Coop 1 sits on 4" x 4" boards and is constructed of Solid Cedar with heavy duty 16-gauge galvanized predator-proof welded wire on all exterior openings.

Coop 1 height is 90" with base footprint of approximately 12' wide and 7' deep



Close up of heavy duty 16-gauge galvanized screening used in the coops.



Coop 2 is attached to Run 1 but only open during the day for optional laying boxes.

Like Coop 1, Coop 2 constructed of Solid Cedar has heavy duty 16-gauge galvanized predator-proof welded wire on all exterior openings.

Coop 2 is approximately 34" high with a footprint of approximately 58" square



Run 1 is completely enclosed with a combination of standard chicken wire and heavy gauge rectangular wiring similar to screening used in the coops.

Run 1 and Run 2 are only open during the day. No chickens are housed in this enclosure at night.

Run 1 has a height of 6' in the front and back with middle height of 8'

Run 1 has a footprint of approximately 30' long and 5' inches deep with a 4' bump out where the door is located. This bump out is 10' long.



Run 2 is connected to Run 1 and Coop 3.

Run 2 has a peak height of 8'5" and an approximate footprint of 9' wide by 6' deep.

Run 2 can be closed off from Run 1 in the event a chicken needs to be separated from the other hens for training or illness.

Coop 3 is similar in construction to Coop 1 constructed of Solid Cedar with heavy duty 16-gauge galvanized predator-proof welded wire on all exterior openings.

Coop 3 has a height of 7' 6" with an approximate footprint of 9' wide and 8' deep.

Additional Notes:

Coops and runs have the ability to be covered with plastic drapes in the event of heavy rain during the summer.

During the winter months, the coops and runs are covered with 1/4" Thick, Clear, Lexan - Polycarbonate Panels- to maintain heat.

Exhibit B

Number of fowl (10-4-6:3.3.1)

The requested variance is to house up to a maximum of 20 chickens.

The chickens are owned by Touch by Heart (TMH) which is a not for profit whose mission is to “enhance the health, wellness and quality of life of people with disabilities, their families, and the community.” The chickens provide emotional support to this community through scheduled visits to spend time with chickens trained for therapy purposes.

Training to act as a support animal requires approximately 18 months with screening for which birds have the temperament to interact with people with disabilities. Not all chickens have the temperament to act as therapy animals. Additionally, like all creatures, there are times when a service animal cannot perform their role due to illness. Since chickens have a relatively short life expectancy and training is so lengthy, having multiple birds ready to act in a support capacity is necessary.

Wendy Montalbano has received the necessary education to train therapy animals and continues to expand her knowledge on chicken health and wellbeing. As a result, TMH, through Wendy, receives, screens and trains chickens for others. When intake of birds for others, Wendy determines which birds are suited for therapy. Any, non-TMH chickens, not suited for therapy are placed with someone who wants back-yard chickens. Any chicken suited for therapy are considered for placement in group homes. All of these chickens are temporary but necessitates the increase in the maximum number of animals for that point in time. The time for housing temporary birds is anywhere from 8 to 18 months.

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Setback of coop structure (6-2-10:1)

Currently, the distance from the back of the coops/runs is 4 feet, 6 inches. The requested variance is to allow the structure to remain 6 inches too close to the lot line.

The neighborhood has lot sizes larger than most Naperville subdivisions. Lot sizes tend to be a third of an acre or larger. The neighbor's home adjacent to this part of the lot is over 100 feet to the coops/run.

The coops/runs are constructed of wood with the intent to dismantle and move when land has been acquired by Touch My Heart to permanently house the animals. TMH is actively looking for land to create a permanent home for its facilities.

Although the structure can be dismantled and moved, to do so would be extremely expensive and would require TMH to stop providing services to those in need while this construction takes place.

If the property sold, the structure will be removed.