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Date: February 19, 2014, 2:52:05 PM CST
To: "fugielm@villageoflombard.org" <fugielm@villageoflombard.org>
Subject: Summer Programming: Lombard Historical Society
Reply-To: Alison Costanzo <alisoncostanzo@att.net>

Mike,

I just wanted to thank you for taking the time yesterday to talk about my idea about hosting chickens at the Victorian Cottage for our summer programming. I understand that this is still a hot topic and I appreciate your willingness to bring this to ECC. The last three summers we have hosted a series of programs called "Off the Grid" living which focuses on pioneer life skills for green living today. We shifted the series to regular series of talks last summer and would like to try the series in a different format this year. One of the biggest topics that visitors and local Lombardians have asked us about is chickens. We thought it might be interesting to focus on this topic and frame it in an educational setting. A few of our topic ideas were: *Why did the chicken cross Maple Street: The History of Chickens at the Victorian Cottage*, *"Egg to Eggs" Raising your chicken*, and *What the Cluck? What type of chicken is Right for You?*. Again these are just a few ideas, we would also like to host different speakers to come in and talk about backyard chickens and we were thinking about incorporating a cooking component as part of programming.

We would only want four chickens just for the summer (3 months) after the summer they would go to our CSA Walnut Acres Farm where they would be added to their hen population. We have cleared it with our one residential neighbor and they have no problem with it. Care and construction of an exhibit coop would be handled by a long list of volunteers who are excited by the idea and who are willing to assist in any way they can. We also have Col. Plums original coop here at the museum we currently use it for storage but had considered closing off a portion of it to house the chickens in there at night alleviating any chance of predators getting to them. There is a lock on the door and the floor is cement so no chance of humans getting to them or predators digging under a fence.

Thank you again Mike and if you or the ECC have any questions please let me know I really appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you after your next meeting.

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