

Michele Smith
Alderman, 43rd Ward
City of Chicago
735 W. Wrightwood Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614

Alonzo Williams
Deputy Director of Park Services
541 N. Fairbanks
Chicago, IL 60611

Re: Better Homes and Gardens Magazine's and
Weber's Chill and Grill Festival
Event Scheduled for May 21 and 22, 2011

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for our conversation of this morning. As you have explained the situation, the Park District agreed to host the above Festival, originally assigning the location as Groves 2 and 3, located just south of the South Pond. Because of the nesting of the blue herons in that area, you agreed as an emergency accommodation that the festival be held in a location just adjacent to the Green City Market space.

Because this event had already been approved by Alderman Daley, and because of the financial commitments made to the Park District by Better Homes and Gardens and Weber, I believe I have no choice but to acquiesce in the request for tent permits that have been made of my office.

However, I want to state in as strong possible terms that I do not believe that this event is appropriate for the location for this weekend, or in the original location at Groves 2 and 3. This is a food-intensive event, which cause a great deal of stress to these sections of Lincoln Park.

Should the Park District wish to host this festival again, I will not approve permits for this event at either of these locations, and I am quite concerned about the appropriateness of this festival in the 43rd Ward at all.

Thank you for your courtesy in agreeing to arrange a meeting with my office very soon so that we can review all plans for use of the lakefront.

Very truly yours,

Michele Smith

Cc: Tim Mitchell, General Superintendent and CEO, Chicago Park District
Erma Tranter, President, Friends of the Parks
Sheli Lukin, President, Lincoln Park Advisory Council
Violette Deschamps, Hemingway House Condominium Association