

Debra Thompson

From: Aaron Hankins <general.hankins@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 14, 2021 6:21 PM
To: Bob Lynn; Assembly
Subject: Borough Volunteer Guidance

Hello, Mr. Lynn and Assembly

I have had a chance to review Steve's basic draft for standards and guidance for Volunteer projects that are performed on behalf of the borough. My initial thoughts are that the policy is simple, easy enough to follow and has clear concise requirements and expectations. With one exception, I wholly endorse it, on the basis of how the borough is trying to be as unrestrictive as possible (at least that is my impression).

My one thought is that forcing projects to be completed by licensed contractors might bring the costs of projects up significantly and even prohibitively. It is my understanding that a licensed contractor would not be allowed to have "volunteer help" on a "job site" without risking claims to his own insurance and possibly may even risk their own license.

That is my offhand understanding, and unfortunately, I wouldn't be able to help clarify that issue before your meeting. I do appreciate that the assembly might leave the decision to the building inspector, so there may be a work around.

I would be interested to hear how the building inspector may come to rule in favor of a licensed contractor or not. That would certainly help the volunteer groups factor the added cost into their projects early on, to help streamline an application for a project.

I understand that some projects absolutely require professional insight for safety and to ensure proper codes are followed, though I wonder if it would be acceptable if one of the volunteers was a licensed contractor themselves and was simply able to donate their time supervising a group of volunteers, vs having to bring in their own employees to meet the Building inspectors needs.

I look forward to hearing the assembly members' thoughts.

-Aaron Hankins