

Troop 477  
Kingswood UMC  
5015 Tilly Mill Road,  
Dunwoody, GA 30338

September 21, 2015

Mayor Mike Davis  
City Council  
City of Dunwoody  
41 Perimeter Center East #250  
Dunwoody, GA 30346

Dear Mayor Davis and City Council:

Boy Scout Troop 477, sponsored by Kingswood United Methodist Church, started hosting a Community Halloween / Fall Festival at the Donaldson – Bannister Farm Property in October 2013. The event serves families with Elementary School and younger Children. This event is quickly becoming a Dunwoody fall tradition.

This event has been the only time in years that the Citizens of Dunwoody are welcome to visit this city park. The property comes to life this one day a year with well over 1000 guests having a wonderful time enjoying their property. The event includes the following:

- Spooky Historical Tour in the gardens behind the house. This year visitors will meet Ike Roberts who will be their tour guide. He will let them know all about the train that went through Dunwoody. They will also meet Mr. Donaldson and Ms. Bannister to learn all about life on the farm. There will be a number of other fun stops along the tour.
- Games and Crafts will fill the large pasture
- There will be a campfire area with s'mores
- Live blue grass music will be in front of the barn
- Concessions will be available in the small pasture beside the barn

In order to sponsor this event, Troop 477 contributes a lot of volunteer time and money to make this a safe and successful event. Items we take care of include:

- Prepare the property for safe use including putting up safety barriers to isolate unsafe areas, minimize tripping hazards (tour), and checking all fences for protruding nails.
- Arranging for off-site parking, signage directing guests to parking, and providing a shuttle van

- Renting port-o-potty's (including handicap accessible) and light towers for the event
- Put up no parking signs on neighborhood streets to make sure emergency vehicle access is maintained.
- Arrange for nursing personnel to be on site for health issues

There is no cost to the City for this event except the support of the Parks Maintenance staff who assist with normal grounds maintenance.

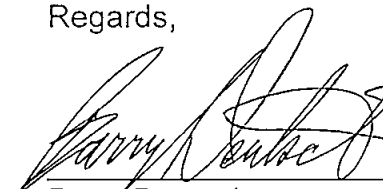
There are significant benefits as a result of this event. These benefits include:

- Safely opening the Donaldson – Bannister Park to the Citizens of Dunwoody once a year
- Educate citizens of Dunwoody about the history of Dunwoody while on the historic property
- Provide a fun community event with the feel of a country fair for the youth of Dunwoody and their families
- Provide funding for Dunwoody Scouts to be able to afford summer camp and other activities. In addition, we are able to provide scholarships for Scouts who cannot afford activities.
- We have been able to make a small donation to the Dunwoody Preservation Trust in order to help support the property.
- A significant benefit is the valuable experience our youth volunteers receive serving the public. We had almost 250 volunteer's last year with most being middle and high school students. The most common complaint from our youth volunteers is why didn't we have this event when they were younger.

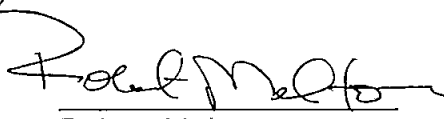
We respectfully request the City to designate our event as a Signature Event. We do not expect any additional support from the City or expect any additional costs for the City from this designation. This would allow us to be exempt from additional City fees. Beside hundreds of volunteer hours, Troop 477 accepts significant financial risk in order to sponsor this six hour outdoor community event. The event is subject to significant weather risk.

We greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with the City on this valuable community event.

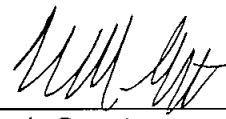
Regards,



Barry Deutsch  
Event Chair



Robert Melton  
Scoutmaster



Mark Grant  
Committee Chair