FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA

Authored on June 3, 2025 by Leonora Stefanile

Subject: Description of Donation for Roofing Materials for Barn
At the Dr. John Wilson Community Garden

Dear Members of the Town Council,

The barn at the Community Garden has needed roofing panels replaced and additional wind bracing support for several years now, since before Hurricane Helene. Helene, as far as I know, did not contribute to the damage to the roof significantly. The materials are being 100% donated to the community garden by Best Buy Metals Asheville, along with installation labor by one of their sub-contractors.

The roof repair will keep the inside of the barn much drier (the current one leaks in several places), which will benefit the community gardeners, interns, volunteers, educational program participants, staff, etc. by providing a much more effective structure should a rain and/or wind event occur in the Community Garden while people are there. A new roof that drains properly will also better ensure the building's structural integrity, as moisture that penetrates the roof can begin the rotting process of the beams, walls, foundation, etc. of the structure. Also, several panels of the current metal roof are partially unmoored, and worst case scenario, could fly off and injure someone during a high-wind event. The new roof will also ensure our sensitive supplies such as organic fertilizer, seeds, electronic tools, etc., will not be spoiled by becoming moist. Finally, by having a moisture-free environment inside the barn, we can better prevent the presence of harmful mold, which is especially important in terms of food safety, as we are hoping to install a produce-washing station inside the barn within the next year or so.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Leonora Stefanile
Manager, Dr. John Wilson Community Garden