

## Michael Stokes

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**From:** Michael Stokes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:28 AM  
**To:** XXXXXXXXXXX@herndon-va.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Zoning Permit

Good morning, Mr. XXXXXXXXXXX,

You can mark this matter closed as soon as possible.

Yesterday, when I retrieved my mail from our reception desk, the night manager returned my red folder, provided November 1st, which contained hard copy emails of attempts to communicate with XXXXX XXXXXi since October, the XXXXXXXXXXX general manager, and my signed copy of the home-based zoning permit application. He informed me XXXXX stated his requested signature was denied by XXX legal. Consequently, I will be pursuing Plan B. Thank you.

Warm regards,

Michael Stokes  
Director, Canine Concierge Corporation  
[canineconciergecorp.org](http://canineconciergecorp.org)  
571 375 5932

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**From:** Michael Stokes  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 4:19 PM  
**To:** XXXXXXXXXXX@herndon-va.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Zoning Permit



Hello Mr. Gillie,

Thank you for your reply. I will address your concerns from the bottom up of your email.

Canine Concierge Corporation is a community-based nonprofit charitable organization whose fundraising achievements through philanthropists, grants, sponsors, and donations are directed towards hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, senior citizens centers, and police stations, allowing them to reserve time with our specially trained and certified animal-assisted therapy (AAT) dogs and their handlers, free of charge.

Our therapy dogs will provide a wide range of benefits, including lowering the risk and aiding recovery from heart attacks, strokes, and seizures; reducing stress, anxiety, and fear; lowering the risk of other ailments and diseases; creating calmness and lowering blood pressure; encouraging interaction and giving companionship; aiding recovery from those who have PTSD or other trauma; providing a respite from isolation or loneliness; offering comfort and reassurance; helping individuals recover from the loss of a loved one; and creating a sense of well-being and love.

As Canine Concierge is a start-up nonprofit building its business infrastructure since February 2023, my existing hotel suite (since Oct 2021) will house the two therapy dogs and myself. Administrative tasks related to the business will be performed at home, like when I worked in an office. As I am designated "disabled" by the Social Security Administration, I can only volunteer my skills now. After their eight-month off-site training, the dogs will "work" in medical facilities, as expressed above and on our two websites: canineconciergecorp.com | canineconcierge.vip. These therapy dogs will live, eat, play, and exercise with me at home like my other dog did at this hotel before he died in September 2022; nothing different...except these dogs will be professionally certified and designated "working dogs," not pets, and likewise insured.

We do not foresee a human traffic flow at this suite, but it has been retrofitted to accommodate the occasional guest when requested or required, as explained on canineconciergecorp.com. Our staff will be work-from-home independent contractors. We are also still awaiting our 501c(3) IRS tax-exempt status, which we started in March 2023. Without it, we cannot open the doors to solicit contributions because they would not be tax-deductible to a donor unless the amount were \$250 or more. We are registered with the state of Virginia for tax administration.

The legal link on both websites extrapolates all the insurances, permits, licenses, etc., acquired thus far and what remains due to unexpected governmental delays. I have invested five figures into the business, out-of-pocket, and a year's worth of labor, so I am serious about its success.

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I will address my working from home business with Mr. XXXXX XXXXXX, the General Manager when he is onsite next week.

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The business street address shows that it falls within the Commercial Services Zoning District, which requires a Zoning Appropriateness permit. The ball is in your court on this matter. I submitted the Zoning application on June 10, 2023.

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Warm regards,

Michael Stokes  
Director, Canine Concierge Corporation  
[canineconciergecorp.org](http://canineconciergecorp.org)  
571 375 5932  
1021 Elden Street, 106 | Herndon, Virginia 20170



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**From:** mstokes michaelstokes.com <[mstokes@michaelstokes.com](mailto:mstokes@michaelstokes.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Michael Stokes <[mstokes@canineconcierge.vip](mailto:mstokes@canineconcierge.vip)>  
**Subject:** FW: Zoning Permit

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**From:** [XXXXXXXXXX@herndon-va.gov](mailto:XXXXXXXXXX@herndon-va.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 3:07 PM  
**To:** mstokes michaelstokes.com <[mstokes@michaelstokes.com](mailto:mstokes@michaelstokes.com)>  
**Subject:** Zoning Permit

Good Afternoon Mr. Stokes,

I have reviewed the Zoning Inspection Permit application that you submitted to our office and there are a couple of things that need to be addressed and remedied. The business street address shows that it falls within the Commercial Services Zoning District which requires a Zoning Appropriateness permit. Also, with the new application it will be required that you provide permission from the property owner that you are allowed to operate a business at the business street address provided. In addition, could you please clarify the exact nature of the operations that will be taking place at the proposed location.

Best regards,

XXXXXXXXXX, XXX

Community Inspector/Deputy Zoning Administrator

Community Development

703-999-9999 ext. 9999

703-999-9999

[www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov)



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